

K J Somaiya College of science & Commerce,

Vidyavihar, Mumbai 400 077

Autonomous institution affiliated to University of Mumbai

KJSSC Honors' Program 2017-2018

Our goal is to develop leaders and scholars who are well prepared to take intellectual, cultural and social challenges of the 21st century. Honours programme will provide interdisciplinary and experiential exposure to academically outstanding students along with their regular undergraduate programme.

Intake capacity: Maximum 15 students each in science stream and commerce stream.

Eligibility: Honours' program is recommended to students with Inspire Scholarship / or any other equivalent scholarship .Student who aspire for Honours' program must have outstanding academic records and impressive extracurricular activities.

Admission Process: The primary pathway by which students enter Honour program is through their college admission to any Undergraduate programme .

Application for the Honours Program must be submitted **separately**. Applications will be screened by the Honours Program Committee. The committee will identify brightest applicants and interview them for Honours' Program. After interview, the students will be assigned a mentor preferably in the area of interest of the student.

The program:

All Honours students will complete **Ten Credits** during their three year undergraduate studies which will involve following courses

- a. Interdisciplinary courses: Four Courses of interdisciplinary nature during first four semesters.
- b. Experiential learning: Four additional Honours Experiences, chosen by the student during winter and summer vacations could be significant community service, creative teaching, or leadership projects, river rejuvenation project/ eco restoration, development of biodiversity theme parks ,village improvement program, biodiversity conservation or cancer patient services
- c. Research experience : Two Honours Core Courses dealing with experimentation ,collection of data and interpretation, in-depth reading in any area of interest during fifth semester and preparation of report in the form of thesis and presentation in sixth semester.

Honours experiences may be divided into three levels. Moving through these levels will allow students to gradually build up mastery of the skills and abilities deemed as crucial for success by major employers and leading educators.

Level One: Laying the Foundation

In their first year students choose from experiences such as introductory seminars organized in the college campus/ other eminent institutions, being a volunteer in a research lab, joining a faculty-sponsored book review club or film appreciation group, international / national /local summer workshops and being a volunteer for a community service program.

Level Two: Defining Your Journey

In their second year, students take advantage of opportunities such as participation in seminar/ workshop organization/ presentation, short term certificate, diploma programs, research through the Undergraduate Summer Scholars Program, joining a faculty-led research team, professional internships and/or becoming a peer advisor in the Honors Program

Level Three: Owning Your Education

In their third year, students begin to create their own experiences like working on an independent short term research project, attending seminars on advanced topics at national institutions like TIFR/BARC etc, study abroad programs/ training programs, plan and implement a community service project, presentation at a national conference, complete a traditional thesis, serve as a consultant for a local business and/or participate in a national competition on innovative research.

Research areas could be in Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health, Engineering and IT and Business.

- **Research may be done in these program areas:**

- Biological sciences
- Biology & society
- Entomology
- Environmental science
- Information science
- Landscape studies- RSGIS
- Natural resources
- Nutritional sciences
- Physical sciences
- Plant sciences
- Commerce

- Business management

Evaluation:

- All Honours students must keep an on-going portfolio of their work that demonstrates their progress toward their learning goals and meet their academic advisor regularly during each semester.

At the end of each semester, students will present their experiences in a public seminar comprising of Honours' faculty, colleagues, students, and administrators from Somaiya Vidyavihar campus .The committee will recommend for selection or rejection for the next course after the seminar.

A faculty member who agrees to supervise the student's Honours'/research program in any field of selected program areas is appointed as mentor for that semester.

The topics of Honours program offered by each department are interdisciplinary and vary each year.

- Successful completion of the program requires a thesis written in the style of a master's thesis or professional journal article in that area of research. Original honours research may be published in a professional journal.
- They should achieve a 3.5 G.P.A. or higher at the time of graduation for University Honours to be noted on official university transcripts and recognition at graduation.

Restrictions:

Honours courses may not be used to satisfy the electives or internal evaluation project work. In essence, honours' coursework represents a depth of work that is well beyond the minimum requirements needed to fulfil the Major courses.