

Latin Honors FAQ:

Starting in May 2009, all graduating seniors are eligible for Latin honors designations on diplomas and transcripts if his/her complete academic record shows at least 54 calculable credits at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and meets one or more of the following criteria:

New Latin honors for all students:

- If a student's GPA places him/her among the top 5% of the graduating class of his/her school or college, then he/she will receive the degree *summa cum laude*.
- If a student's GPA places him/her among the top 10% of the graduating class of his/her school or college, but not among the top 5%, then he/she will receive the degree *magna cum laude*.
- If a student's GPA places him/her among the top 25% of the graduating class of his/her school or college, but not among the top 10%, then he/she will receive the degree *cum laude*.

NOTE: For all students, including Commonwealth College, admitted Spring 2009 or earlier and who graduate within 5 years, *cum laude* will be based on a 3.200 GPA and 45 calculable credits. Students admitted after Spring 2009, *cum laude* will change to the top 25% GPA as above.

- At the start of the fall semester, the Registrar will post on their website the GPA needed to secure a place in the top 5%, 10%, and 25% in each school or college, based on the average of the previous three years' graduating classes (see below).

For Commonwealth College students:

- See Commonwealth College (www.comcol.umass.edu) for the criteria for Departmental Honors and for these new distinctions:

Commonwealth College Honors with greatest distinction

Commonwealth College Honors with great distinction

Commonwealth College Honors with distinction

Commonwealth College Honors

(You may also call 413-545-2483 for an advising appointment.)

NOTE: For Commonwealth College students, admitted by Spring 2009 or earlier and who graduate within 5 years *magna cum laude* will be based on a 3.500 GPA and *summa cum laude* will be based on a 3.800 GPA. Students admitted after Spring 2009, will be subject to the new Latin honors as stated above. If a Commonwealth College student meets both criteria they will receive the degree with honors of both types—for example, "B.A. *magna cum laude*, Commonwealth College Honors with greatest distinction."

Latin Honors GPA's For Graduates Admitted Spring 2009 or Before/for September 2009, February 2010, May 2010 Conferrals			
		Magna	Summa
School/College	Cum Laude	Cum Laude	Cum Laude
College of Engineering	3.200	3.783	3.866
College of Humanities & Fine Arts	3.200	3.842	3.916
Isenberg School of Management	3.200	3.736	3.831
College of Natural Sciences	3.200	3.809	3.898
School of Nursing	3.200	3.927	3.970
School of Public Health & Health Sciences	3.200	3.767	3.873
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences	3.200	3.793	3.891
BDIC, UWW, BGS	3.200	3.793	3.891

Latin Honors GPA's For Graduates Admitted After Spring 2009/for September 2009, February 2010, May 2010 Conferrals			
		Magna	Summa
School/College	Cum Laude	Cum Laude	Cum Laude
College of Engineering	3.469	3.783	3.866
College of Humanities & Fine Arts	3.656	3.842	3.916
Isenberg School of Management	3.508	3.736	3.831
College of Natural Sciences	3.556	3.809	3.898
School of Nursing	3.806	3.927	3.970
School of Public Health & Health Sciences	3.483	3.767	3.873
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences	3.524	3.793	3.891
BDIC, UWW, BGS	3.524	3.793	3.891