My name is Bethany Emory, and I am the Dean of Learning Support, including the Honors Program here at Southwestern Community College.

So what is the Honors program, you may ask. The Honors program allows students who want to challenge themselves academically to pursue research and practical projects while taking courses here at SCC. By design, the Honors Program was created to expand the expectations of your traditional college courses to strengthen your critical thinking skills, communication skills, and your academic research abilities.

Each semester, eligible students have the opportunity to create honors projects with the support of a faculty mentor. Together you will decide on a project that may serve to broaden or deepen your learning.

To be eligible for SCC’s Honors Program, recent High School graduates in their first semester at SCC must have:

- A high school weighted GPA of 4.00 or higher, or
- A high school class rank in the top 10%, or
- An SAT of 1875 or an ACT of 30 or higher

In addition, other SCC students will need:
- A 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA
- At least 12 semester hours of college coursework
As you develop and complete honors projects, you may qualify as a graduate of the Honors Program here at SCC. By completing projects in a minimum of 12 hours of classes, you will be acknowledged at graduation as an Honors Program graduate.

As you complete your projects, you will also reap a number of other benefits, including:

- An Honors designation on your SCC transcripts for each project you complete
- Examples of work to show potential future employers
- Enhanced transfer opportunities for those of you who are considering a 4 year degree following your time here at SCC.

We currently have Honors Program partnerships with:
- Western Carolina University
- Appalachian State University
- UNC Charlotte
- NC State
- UNC Wilmington
- UNC Greensboro
- Mars Hill
- UNC Asheville
- UNC Pembroke
- North Carolina A&T State University
- Lenoir Rhyne University
- Lees McRae College
- Greensboro College
- Gardner Webb University
- University of Mount Olive
- and Johnson and Wales University.
and we strive to increase these opportunities each year.

Finally you will receive an Invitation to honors luncheons with Where you can share your experiences with other Honors program participants as well as key members of SCC’s leadership team.

If you have any questions regarding Southwestern’s Honors Program, do not hesitate to give me a call at 339-4261 or e-mail me at b_emory@southwesterncc.edu