

**ÖZYEGİN UNIVERSITY**  
**PRINCIPLES FOR IDENTIFYING HONOR / HIGH HONOR STUDENTS and VALEDICTORIANS**  
(Senate Date: 13.10.2020; Senate No: 2020/15)

**REQUIREMENTS TO GRADUATE WITH HONORS**

As per Article 35 of the [Rules and Regulations for Undergraduate Programs](#) at Özyegin University, students who qualify to receive an undergraduate diploma will be awarded academic distinctions of honor and high honor as per the following principles and procedures, effective the 2020-2021 Fall semester.

- 1.** Students who graduate from an undergraduate program with a graduation grade point average (GGPA) between 3.00 and 3.49, or 3.50 and better, are considered "Honor" and "High Honor" students, respectively, so long as they satisfy the following conditions:
  - a) To have a clean disciplinary record,
  - b) Not to have received a grade F or U for any of the courses taken,
  - c) To graduate in the 10th semester at the latest, including transferred semesters,
  - d) If graduating in the 10th semester, not to have attended the summer session.
  
- 2.** Students who graduate from their second majors with a graduation grade point average (GGPA) between 3.00 and 3.49, or 3.50 and better are considered "Honor" and "High Honor" students in their second majors, respectively, so long as they meet the following conditions:
  - a) To have a clean disciplinary record,
  - b) Not to have received a grade F or U for any of the courses taken,
  - c) To graduate from their second majors within at most 2 semesters from their graduation from their primary majors,
  - d) Not to have exceeded 12 semesters since their matriculation to their primary majors, including transferred semesters,
  - e) If graduating at the end of the maximum period of study stipulated in clause c and d of this Article, not to have attended the summer session.
  
- 3.** Graduation with Honor or High Honor from the second major is not contingent upon graduation with Honor or High Honor from the primary major.
  
- 4.** Students who graduate with Honor or High Honor are awarded Honor or High Honor certificates at commencement.
  
- 5.** Students who leave their undergraduate programs with an associate's degree diploma are not awarded academic distinctions of honor/high honor.
  
- 6.** Students who qualify to receive a minor certificate are not awarded academic distinctions of honor/high honor when they graduate from their minors.
  
- 7.** Exclusively for students who graduate in the 2020-2021 academic year, students may satisfy the aforementioned grade point average requirements with their cumulative grade point average (CGPA) in lieu of graduation grade point average (GGPA). However, these students must satisfy all of the other requirements.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS RANKING:**

### **PROGRAM VALEDICTORIANS**

#### **ARTICLE 1 –**

1. Program valedictorians are determined from among Fall and Spring semester graduates combined.
2. Among students who have a clean disciplinary record, have never received a grade F or U for any of their courses, have completed a minimum of 150 ECTS credits, which are counted towards their graduation, while enrolled in the University, and have completed their studies and qualified for graduation within their regular period of study, the student with the highest graduation grade point average (GGPA) is named as "PROGRAM VALEDICTORIAN".
3. In the event of a GPA tie, multiple valedictorians are announced for the respective program. In the event of an unforeseeable class ranking, the final decision is made by the University Executive Board.
4. Secondary major graduates are also eligible to be valedictorians in their respective secondary majors. In order to be a valedictorian in a secondary major, students must graduate from their secondary majors within at most 10 semesters from their matriculation to their primary major, including transferred semesters. In order to qualify to be a valedictorian in a secondary major, the student must have never been subjected to any disciplinary action, have never received a grade F or U for any of their courses, have completed a minimum of 150 ECTS credits, which are counted towards his/her graduation from his/her second major, while enrolled in the University. Being a valedictorian in a secondary major is not contingent upon being a valedictorian in the primary major.
5. Program valedictorians are determined at least 4 business days before the commencement ceremony in the respective academic year. Grade amendments completed after the announcement of program valedictorians do not change the ranking.
6. Class ranking (the practice of identifying a valedictorian) is not applicable to minor programs.

### **FACULTY/SCHOOL VALEDICTORIANS**

#### **ARTICLE 2 –**

1. Program valedictorians are grouped by their faculties and schools, and the student with the highest graduation grade point average (GGPA) in the respective faculty/school is identified as FACULTY / SCHOOL VALEDICTORIAN.
2. In the event of a tie of GPA tie, multiple valedictorians are announced. In the event of an unforeseeable class ranking, the final decision is made by the University Executive Board.

### **UNIVERSITY (UNDERGRADUATE) VALEDICTORIAN**

#### **ARTICLE 3 –**

1. The student with the highest graduation grade point average (GGPA) among faculty/ school valedictorians is identified as UNIVERSITY (UNDERGRADUATE) VALEDICTORIAN.
2. In the event of a tie of GPA tie, multiple valedictorians are announced. In the event of an unforeseeable class ranking, the final decision is made by the University Executive Board.