

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

## Academic Research

Students wishing to broaden their individual learning experiences may participate in academic research by utilizing the independent study option offered. This format allows students to study a topic in greater depth or to study a topic not currently offered at NHTI. Please refer to the Independent Study Policy. Financial Aid does not cover credits earned via Academic Research or Independent Study.

## Dean's List/Scholastic Honors

A Dean's List is published at the end of each semester. It includes the names of all matriculated full-time students whose Grade Point Average (GPA) for that semester is 3.3 or higher. Students who achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or higher graduate with high honors, and those who achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.3 to 3.69 graduate with honors. Cumulative GPA is calculated using all courses completed at NHTI.

## Honors Courses

Honors courses offer academically strong, highly motivated students the opportunity to learn in smaller classes with a stimulating and creative environment that promotes active engagement with subject matter, and allows for a rigorous and individualized approach to learning. Each course which offers an honors section is identified in the Course Description section in the catalog. Student qualification for honors courses is based on a variety of criteria which may include prerequisite grades, NHTI assessment test scores, and/or scores on nationally recognized standardized tests.

Students who successfully complete honors courses receive an honors designation on their transcript. This designation may strengthen transfer to other colleges or candidacy for competitive programs at NHTI, such as Nursing, Dental and Radiologic Technology programs.

If you register yourself on the Student Information System, be sure the class carries the Honors designation. Please check schedule of course offerings on the Student Information System, as not all courses are offered every semester.

## Phi Theta Kappa - International Honor Society

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest International Honor Society in American higher education with more than 2 million members and over 1,200 chapters internationally. The Alpha Upsilon Omicron Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa has been established to provide opportunities for scholarship, leadership, service, and fellowship for Phi Theta Kappa students at NHTI, while providing an intellectual climate for continued academic excellence.

Academic excellence is the primary hallmark of Phi Theta Kappa. To be eligible for membership consideration, a student must complete a minimum of twelve credit hours of associate degree course work and earn a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher at the college eligible students are invited to join Phi Theta Kappa honor society each semester, and inductions ceremonies are held each Fall and Spring Semester. Once inducted, students must maintain a high academic standing of 3.3 cumulative grade point average throughout their enrollment in the college, which allows them to retain a lifetime membership in Phi Theta Kappa.

## Vice President's Award for Academic Excellence

The vice President's Award for Academic Excellence is presented each year at the May Commencement to the student(s) achieving the highest overall cumulative grade point average in the graduating class. The following criteria apply for this award:

1. A minimum of 48 credit hours must be used in the calculation of the cumulative GPA.
2. All students are eligible for the award, including those who have exercised Academic Amnesty, those who have changed programs and those who have previously graduated from an NHTI program.
  - For the purposes of this award, students who have previously graduated from an NHTI program will have their GPA calculated using courses taken in the new program and any prior courses that may be applicable to the new program.
  - Students who have exercised the Academic Amnesty option will have their GPA based only on courses taken after the option has been exercised. No previous courses will be used.
  - Students who have changed majors will have their GPA calculated on the basis of all courses taken at NHTI and not just those in the new program.

Revised: Jan. 4, 2013