Admission to the Honors College is based on prior academic performance and students are admitted in one of two ways. First-year students are invited to the Honors College based on the strength of their application for admission to the university; no additional application is required. Approximately 225 first-year students comprise each year’s class. The Honors College recognizes and encourages academic excellence; it also welcomes applications for sophomore admission from students who were not in the Honors College in the first year, and are among the top performers as first-year students at UVM. Sophomore admission requires an application form, a 3.40 grade-point average at the end of the first year, a letter of recommendation from a UVM faculty member, and a brief essay. More than 100 sophomores are admitted annually. Students transferring into the first or second year at UVM should contact the Honors College office to express their interest.