

Navigating the Nest Mentors

Fall 2026

About Navigating the Nest

Navigating the Nest is a peer-to-peer mentorship program designed to help first-year students acclimate to life in the Honors College at UNT. The program features program-wide events designed to foster group connection and individualized check-in support from mentors. Our mentors are experienced upper-class Honors College students who support their mentees as they navigate their new academic home (the “nest”).

Mentor Responsibilities

First, thank you for agreeing to mentor our new Honors College students. Your time, energy, and enthusiasm will significantly impact the first-year members of our community. Below is an outline of the Navigating the Nest Mentor responsibilities that will allow us to have a successful program this semester.

1. Welcome Message during Week 1

- a. Connecting with your mentees during their first week of classes will go a long way toward helping them feel supported in the Honors College community. We ask that you contact your Mentee during Week 1 to say hello, introduce yourself, and welcome them to campus. During Week 1, you should also discuss a potential first meet-up (or call/conversation) with your Mentee.

2. Bi-Weekly Mentee Communication

- a. We ask that you connect (or at least try to connect) with your mentees bi-weekly. This will look different for each Mentor, as your relationships with your mentees are all different. It may be an email, a text, an in-person meet-up, an offer to provide support, attending an event together, etc.
- b. Discuss preferences and shared expectations with your Mentee to ensure this bi-weekly connection benefits your mentoring relationship.

3. Social Activity/Event Contribution

- a. Senior Mentors will host multiple program-wide events throughout the semester. These activities/events will be shared with Mentors and Mentees to ensure accessible, meaningful opportunities to connect with mentoring community members.
- b. You are expected to attend at least one program-wide event and encourage mentee attendance.
- c. You will sign up to help host one program-wide event (including planning, set up, hosting, and clean up after the event).

4. Bi-Weekly Mentor Training

- a. Plan to attend your assigned bi-weekly training session. If you cannot attend your regular session, please let us know which other timeslot you will join to make up your training. Making up your session during one of the other meeting times will grant you attendance credit for that week's meeting.
- b. We will meet during the following weeks:
 - i. Mtg 1: 8/25-27; Mtg 2: 9/8-10; Mtg 3: 9/22-24, Mtg 4: 10/6-8; Mtg 5: 10/20-22; Mtg 6: 11/3-5; Mtg 7: 11/17-19; Mtg 8: 12/1-3
- c. We will meet in the following location:
 - i. Mondays, 2:30 - 3:20 PM Lang 214
 - ii. Tuesdays, 3:35 - 4:25 PM Curry 210
 - iii. Wednesdays, 4:20 - 5:30 PM Matthews 115

Navigating the Nest Honors College Credit

You are enrolled in a section of HNRS 4200Z. This is a 1-credit course that will award you Honors College credit toward an Honors Award. Please double-check your assigned section to be sure it matches the day you are attending bi-weekly training. We will use the following three criteria to evaluate the successful completion of the HNRS 4200Z credit:

- Attend at least 75% of bi-weekly meetings (6 out of 8).
- Attend and volunteer for at least one Navigating the Nest event (full participation expected).
- No major issues reported by your Mentees.