Students graduating with a B.A. or a B.S. degree in physics may also qualify for departmental honors. Students interested in this designation must consult with the department chair one year or more before graduation. All requirements must be met one month before graduation.

- Complete 4 credits in 400-level physics research or the equivalent research experience
- Prepare a written thesis in the format of primary literature
- Defend the thesis before a panel composed of a thesis director who serves as the committee chair, two additional UST physics faculty and one UST faculty member outside of physics.
- Achieve a final cumulative grade point average in physics department courses of 3.50 and 3.50 overall.
- Present their research at a scientific meeting beyond the St. Thomas community.