

**YALE UNIVERSITY**  
Honorary Degrees

The Honorary Degrees awarded annually at Commencement are intended to be the most significant recognition conferred by the Yale Corporation to signal pioneering achievement in a field or conspicuous and exemplary contribution to the common weal.

An Honorary Degree is not awarded in every discipline in every year.

**THE FOLLOWING DEGREES ARE AVAILABLE FOR AWARD:**

<b>DISCIPLINE</b>	<b>CRITERIA</b>
<i>Divinity</i>	Clergy, scholars in the areas of religious studies
<i>Engineering and Technology</i>	Engineers/applied scientists/technologists who have achieved high distinction by reason of accomplishing technological innovation, and /or producing transformative applied or basic research while making science useful; and/or exercising exceptional and visionary administrative or institutional leadership in engineering/applied science/technology
<i>Fine Arts</i>	Artists with careers in painting, sculpture, drama, architecture, photography, dance, graphic arts, design; on rare occasions administrators in these areas have been included
<i>Humane Letters</i>	Persons who have made contributions to society and do not fit other categories
<i>Humanities</i>	Scholars in the humanities
<i>Laws</i>	Jurists, legal scholars, diplomats, public statesmen
<i>Letters</i>	Writers (fiction, poetry, drama), editors, journalists
<i>Medical Sciences</i>	Scholars in biomedical sciences; practitioners of health sciences; health care administrators/policy makers
<i>Music</i>	Musicians (performers, conductors, composers)
<i>Science</i>	Scholars in science fields other than medicine; science administrators
<i>Social Science</i>	Scholars in the social sciences; administrators in related fields