



Honors Travel
Honors Contracts
Honors Research

Today's Agenda

► Your Honors Facilitator presents:

Honors Learning Experiences

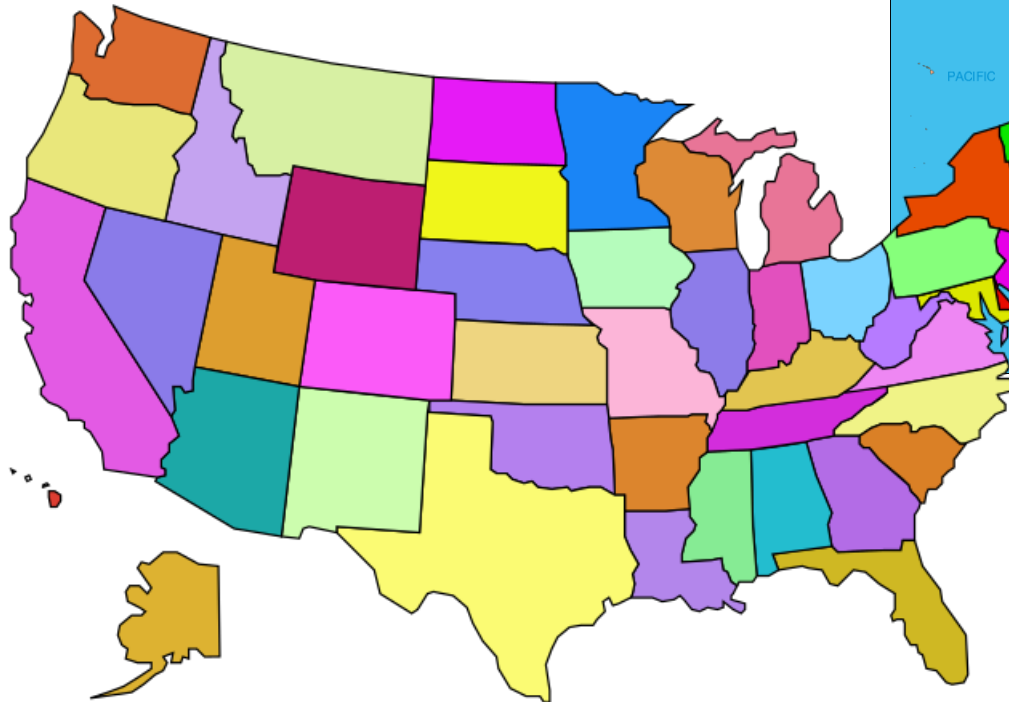
- **Honors Travel**
- **Honors Contracts**
- **Honors Research**



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Honors Travel



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Honors Travel: Honors Study in the States

- ▶ 3 Pre-trip meetings
- ▶ Travel: Friday, March 5 – Sunday, March 14, 2027
- ▶ Application deadline: November 1
- ▶ Trip highlights
 - Camping
 - Glass bottom boat tour
 - Manatee snorkeling tour
 - Service with Florida Trail Alliance





Honors Travel: Study Abroad

- ▶ Travel over Spring Break or mid-May
- ▶ Honors Travel Components:
 - Mandatory pre-trip meetings
 - Travel = 8 – 12 days
 - Honors Section Options = HON 250 or HON 299
 - Spring Break = Spring HLE
 - May = Summer HLE



Galapagos Islands



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Honors Travel May 2027

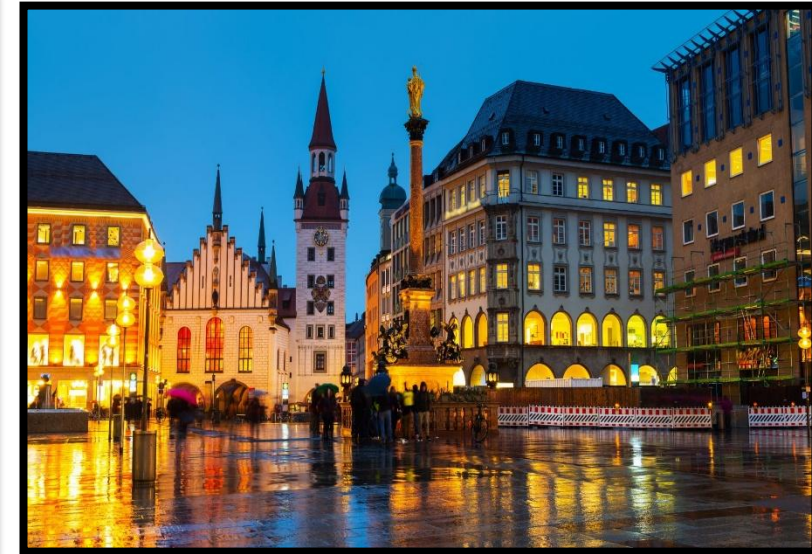
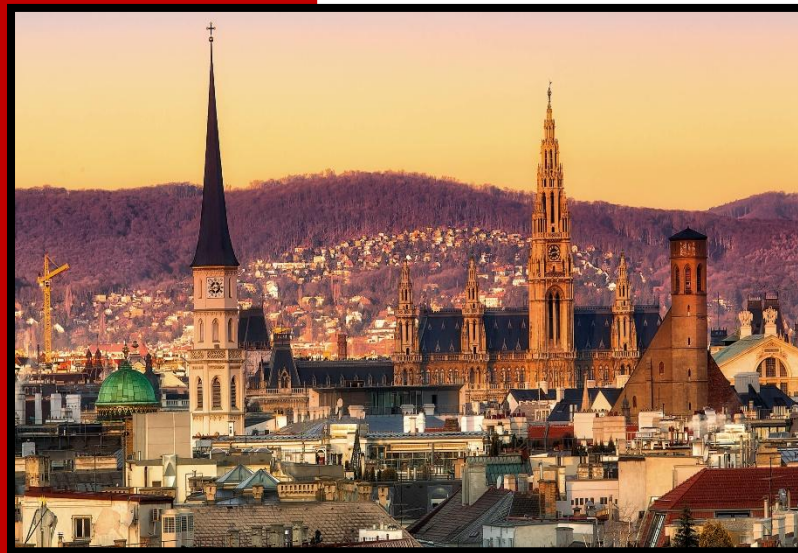
- ▶ **Germany, Switzerland, and Austria**
 - Application deadline: November 1
 - Pre-trip meetings in Spring 2027
 - Summer 2027 Class:
 - HON 250 – Gen Ed Language in the Humanities, or
 - HON 299



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Honors Travel May 2027





Honors Contracts



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STATE
 YOUR HONORS.

Exceptional Honors Contracts involve engaged participants who collaborate to develop a compelling plan, guided by a recommended process, to support the creation of a product that could be shared with an audience. A successful Honors Contract should represent approximately 15 hours of work beyond regular course requirements, which equates to about 1 additional hour per week throughout the semester.

Review the guidelines for Honors Contracts on the Honors Program website and investigate the electronic form and its required fields.

Look for topics in syllabi that are of interest and/or identify an instructor with whom to collaborate.

Take initiative to approach the instructor with one or more ideas around which to base an Honors Contract.

Complete the electronic form with a description of the topic or focus of the Honors Contract and the anticipated product or outcome.

Meet with the instructor throughout the semester to seek feedback and guidance, as well as to communicate progress to date.

Submit final product/evidence of completion to the course instructor.

Complete Honors Contract
reflection via the electronic form.

Review the expectations for Honors Contracts on the Honors Program website.

Meet with students who share an interest in completing Honors Contracts to discuss the required fields of the electronic form (topic/focus; anticipated product/outcome; check-in date(s); completion date).

Email notifications will automatically be sent to course instructors when students submit forms to complete Honors Contracts. Contact the student if the information submitted is not what was agreed upon in advance.

Meet with the student(s) throughout the semester to serve as a resource and to provide feedback or guidance.

Review the student's final product.

Complete the electronic form to assess the student's level of completion of the Honors Contract.

STATE

YOUR HONORS.

HONORS LEARNING Experiences:
Honors Contracts

As you review your course syllabi...

What sparks your curiosity?

What topic(s) could be explored further or extended in some way?

Is there a related topic that "seems to be missing" or could potentially connect to the course content?

Could a deeper understanding of a certain topic or creation of a unique product support your career goals?

Taking a Single Topic Further:

"I reviewed the syllabus and see we are spending # classes on this topic. I am very interested in this topic and would like to complete an Honors Contract to explore it further.

- If you had the time in class and could take this topic further, what would you do?
- What additional resources would you use? Are there scholars of this subject that I should know?
- Would you be willing to help me develop a plan?"

"I see in the syllabus that we are studying this topic. I am very interested in learning more about how this topic relates to that topic by completing an Honors Contract.

- Are you aware of research that has already been done connecting these two topics?
- In what ways could I connect these two topics that could help me understand both more deeply?

"I am a(n) _____ major. I would like to apply the topics we are studying by developing a (name of a product) that I could use when I am a (career role) by collaborating with you to complete an Honors Contract."

"I am interested in _____. I would like to connect this course topic with this interest by pursuing an Honors Contract. Would you be willing to work with me to focus this idea?"

"One of my talents is _____. I would like to connect this course topic with my talent by completing an Honors Contract. Would you be willing to collaborate with me?"

 Honors Contracts: Potential Product Ideas

Products that Leverage Auditory and/or Verbal Skills	Products that Utilize Visual Skills	Products that Maximize Tactile-Kinesthetic Skills
Advice column Assessment tool Audio recording Autobiography Blog Book/booklet Book review/critique Commentary Critical paper Debate or panel discussion Dialogue Documentary Editorial Essay Experiment Family tree Finding patterns Glossary Interview Journal Lesson plan/unit Letter Magazine article • Primary or secondary language Monologue Newspaper article/edition Oral report/review Parody Pattern and instructions Petition Podcast • Fictional, informational, satirical, etc. Position paper Questionnaire Reading Scavenger hunt Scenecast Script/screenplay Song lyrics Speech Story or poem Survey Teaching a lesson TED talk Written report	Advertisement Animation Billboard Blueprint Book jacket Book trailer/movie trailer Brochure Collage Comic book/comic strip Costume Diagram Drawing or painting Flow chart Flyer Glog Graphic organizer Infographic Illustrated manual Illustrations Marketing proposal Magazine Map Multimedia product • PowerPoint, Prezi, etc. Mural Pamphlet Photo biography Picture dictionary Pinterest board(s) Political cartoon Portfolio Poster Rebus story Scrapbook Timeline Travelogue Video Website WebQuest Word cloud Wordless book	Activity plan Book talk/poetry slam Bulletin board Character sketch Coding Composing music Dance Data collection/entry Demonstration Dramatization Exhibit Experiment Field experience Flip chart Flip chart Game • Concrete or digital How-to book Invention Jigsaw puzzle Manipulatives Mobile Model Newspaper Papier-mâché Performance • Reader's Theater, recital, etc. Photograph Play or skit Pop-up book Prototype Reader's Theater Rhythmic pattern Scale drawing Scavenger hunt Sculpture Set design Simulation Survey Televised broadcast

Adapted from <http://www.susanwinebrenner.com> and <http://www.engine-uity.com>

 Mapping a Meaningful Honors Contract Experience
This form has been provided to help you pace and track your progress. Completion of this form is optional.

Date	Hour Count	Progress Toward Product (Record of Tasks Accomplished)	Questions, Notes, etc.
<i>Contract Proposal Development</i>			
			Instructor Approval
			Instructor Check Point
			Instructor Check Point
			Contract Completion Consider whether your final product be shared with a wider audience

- ❑ Make a copy of (or document) the product created to fulfill the Honors Contract.
- ❑ Provide evidence of the completed contract to the course instructor no later than the last class before final exams.
- ❑ Submit evidence of your completed contract using the web address provided in an email from the Honors Program.



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Honors Contracts

What *IS* an Honors Contract?

Turn a regular section of a class into an Honors Learning Experience

- Extend your knowledge of a class topic
- Connect class topics to your major or a passion
- Expand on a class assignment
- Collaborate with faculty



Honors Contracts

Honors Contracts

Completed in a class you are already taking

Establish at the beginning of the semester

15 hours over the course of the semester; 1 hour per week

Contract does not impact grade in class

General Education/Major/Minor/Your choice



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Honors Contracts

**With an Honors Contract,
you can:**

- ▶ Showcase your Creative Productivity
- ▶ Demonstrate learning beyond a paper
- ▶ Experiment with a new tool or technology



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Honors Contracts: Potential Product Ideas

Products that Leverage Auditory and/or Verbal Skills	Products that Utilize Visual Skills	Products that Maximize Tactile-Kinesthetic Skills
Advice column Assessment tool Audio recording Autobiography Blog Book/booklet Book review/critique Commentary Critical paper Debate or panel discussion Dialogue Documentary Editorial Essay Experiment Family tree Finding patterns Glossary Interview Journal Lesson plan/unit Letter Magazine article • Primary or secondary language Monologue Newspaper article/edit Oral report/review Parody Pattern and instructions Petition Podcast • Fictitious, informational, satirical, etc. Position paper Questionnaire Reading Scavenger hunt Screencast Script/screenplay Song lyrics Speech Story or poem Survey Teaching a lesson TED talk Written report	Advertisement Animation Billboard Blueprint Book jacket Book trailer/movie trailer Brochure Collage Comic book/comic strip Costume Diagram Drawing or painting Flow chart Flyer Glog Graphic organizer Infographic Illustrated manual Illustrations Marketing proposal Magazine Map Multimedia product • PowerPoint, Prezi, etc. Mural Pamphlet Photobiography Picture dictionary Pinterest board(s) Political cartoon Portfolio Poster Rebus story Scrapbook Timeline Travelogue Video Website WebQuest Word cloud Wordless book	Activity plan Book talk/poetry slam Bulletin board Character sketch Coding Composing music Dance Data collection/entry Demonstration Dramatization Exhibit Experiment Field experience Flip book Flip chart Game • Concrete or digital How-to book Invention Jigsaw puzzle Manipulatives Mobile Model Newscast Papier-mâché Performance • Reader's Theater, recital, etc. Photograph Play or skit Pop-up book Prototype Reader's Theater Rhythmic pattern Scale drawing Scavenger hunt Sculpture Set design Simulation Survey Televised broadcast

Adapted from <http://www.susanwinebrenner.com> and <http://www.engine-city.com>



Honors Contract Examples

Samantha Lopatowski

- Fashion Design & Merchandising major
- FCS 122: Apparel Product Development I
- Created a 13-minute video teaching beginning hand-sewing techniques to combat fashion waste



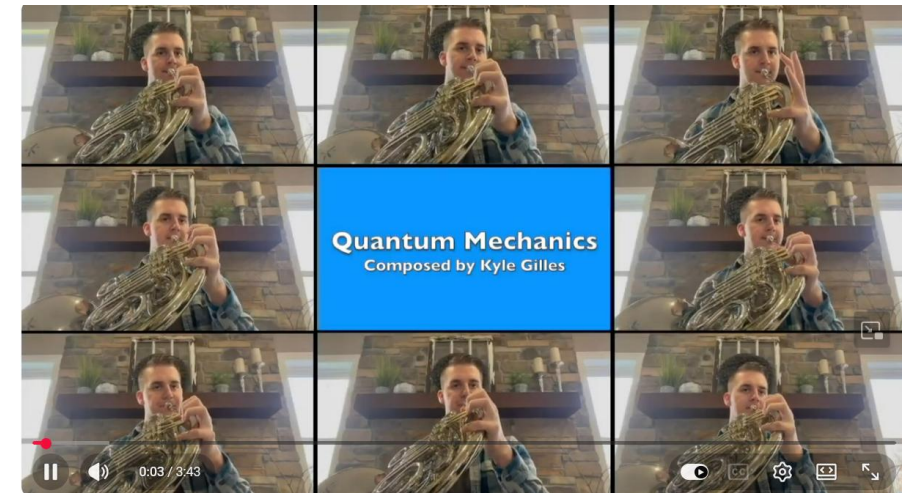
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Honors Contract Examples

Kyle Gilles

- Music: Media Composition major
- MUS 231A20 Applied Music
- Composed a piece for 8 French Horns and self-produced a multitrack recording & YouTube video



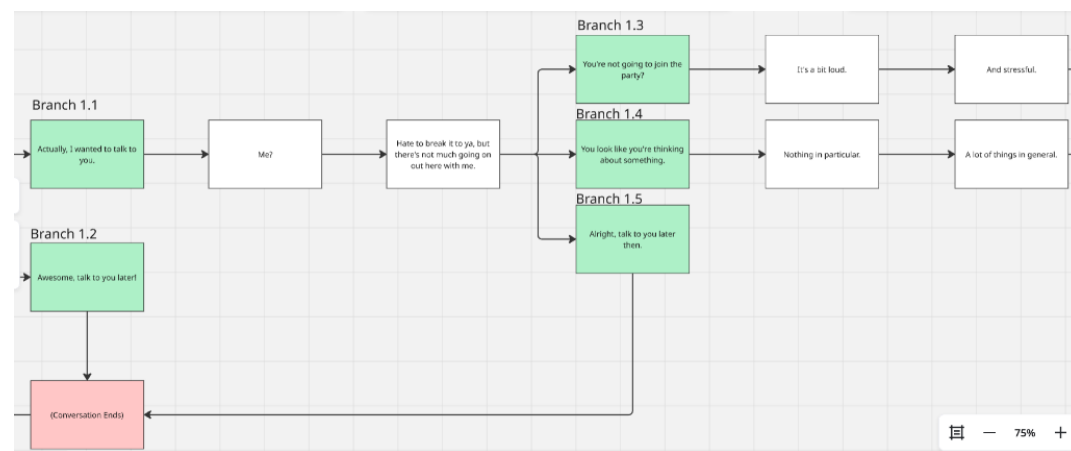
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Honors Contract Examples

Sarah Wierschem

- Creative Technologies:
Game Design major
- ENG 247A02 Intermediate
Creative Writing
- Created 6-7 dialogue trees
for 3 characters of a video
game





Keys to Honors Contracts

Form



Deadline





Honors Contracts

Planning Your Contract

1. Pick a class

- Review your syllabi to identify possible topics for a contract.
- Are there any skills you want to learn?
- Is there a specific instructor?





Honors Contracts

Planning Your Contract

2. Meet with your instructor

- Start early and set up a meeting
- Share Honors Contract resources
- Suggest an idea unique to your interests
- Finalize your plan based on the instructor's feedback and suggestions





Honors Contracts

Planning Your Contract

3. Submit the Honors Contract Form

- Be aware of the deadline
- Submit the form with your instructor
- Be specific
- No news is good news





Honors Contracts

Be aware of the deadline.

January

2027

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Week 1	Classes Start					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Week 2	No Classes, Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Week 3						
31						

February

2027

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Week 4		Honors Contract Deadline 11:59 pm				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						



Honors Contracts

End of the semester

Students	Instructors	Honors Program
Submit final products to instructors.	Evaluate final products.	Final week of classes-contact instructors.
Keep a copy of the contract for future reference.	Confirm completion of Honors Contracts.	Note Contract courses as “Honors” on transcripts.





Honors Contracts

Resources:

[Honors Program website](#)

Resources

[Contract Examples](#) 

[Honors Contract Form](#) 

[Process Overview](#) 

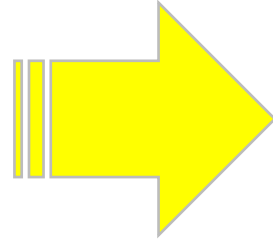
[Honors Contract Presentation](#) 



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Honors Contracts



Honors Research

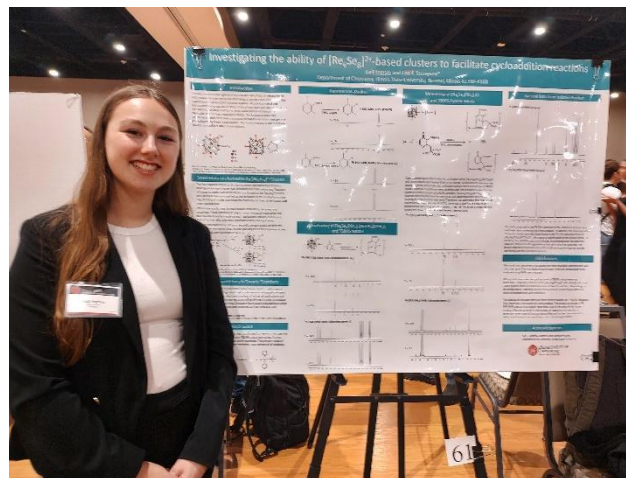
A meaningful Honors Contract experience might set the foundation for future Honors Research.



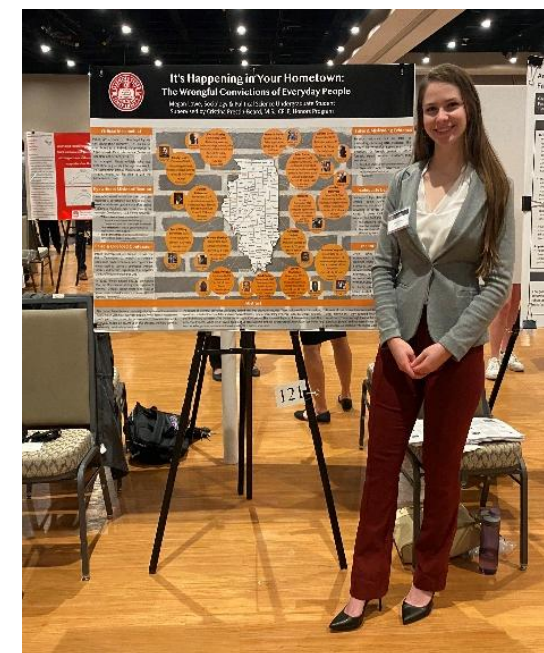
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Honors Research



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial a} \ln f_{a, \sigma^2}(\xi_1) = \frac{(\xi_1 - a)}{\sigma^2} f_{a, \sigma^2}(\xi_1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\xi_1 - a)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$
$$\int_{\mathcal{R}_*} T(x) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x, \theta) dx = M\left(T(\xi) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \ln L(\xi, \theta)\right) \int_{\mathcal{R}_*} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \ln L(x, \theta) \cdot f(x, \theta) dx = \int_{\mathcal{R}_*} T(x) \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \ln L(x, \theta)\right) \cdot f(x, \theta) dx = \int_{\mathcal{R}_*} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \ln L(x, \theta) \cdot f(x, \theta) dx = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \int_{\mathcal{R}_*} T(x) f(x, \theta) dx = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \int_{\mathcal{R}_*} T(x) f(x, \theta) dx = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \int_{\mathcal{R}_*} T(x) f(x, \theta) dx$$



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Research



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Honors Research

Honors Research

Additional credit hours you register and pay for

Establish during registration OR at the beginning of the semester

Submit the Honors form to receive permission to register

1 credit hour = average of 3 hours/week; 45 hours total

Earn a grade

Typically major related



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Honors Research

- ▶ 3 types of Honors Research
- ▶ Be sure to register for the Honors version of research

Research Opportunities

Honors Undergraduate Research >

Gain experience in research methodology and benefit from one-on-one interaction with faculty.

Honors Independent Study



Investigate a topic of personal interest within your discipline under the guidance of a faculty member.

Honors Thesis >

Construct an independent research project in preparation for graduate-level study or publication.



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Honors Research

Registration Process

1. Meet with faculty supervisor to develop a plan.
2. Submit the appropriate Honors Research form by the deadline.
3. Register for the appropriate credit hours after notification of the override.



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Honors Research

Resources:

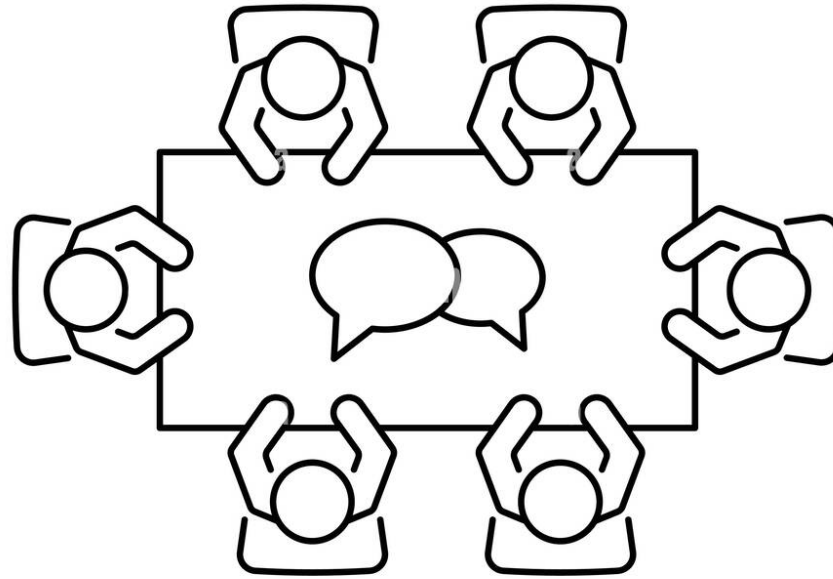
Honors Program Website

- Examples of research in almost all Departments/Schools
- Expectations for hours of work per week
- Link to tuition and fees calculator



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Honors Learning Experiences Review



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HLE Question 1

- ▶ What are the two keys to an Honors Contract?
- ▶ **Form**
- ▶ **Deadline**



HLE Question 2

- ▶ What do Study in the States and Honors Study Abroad have in common?
- ▶ **Required pre-trip meetings**
- ▶ **Honors Travel experiences**



HLE Question 3

- ▶ True or False? I can register for any section of Honors Research.
- ▶ **False**



HLE Question 4

▶ True or False? The required outcome of an Honors Contract is a paper.

▶ **False**



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HLE Question 5

- ▶ Honors Sections and Seminars are full.
What are your other options for a spring Honors Learning Experience?
- ▶ **Honors Contract**
- ▶ **Honors Exploration**
- ▶ **Honors Research**
- ▶ **Honors Travel (Study in the States)**
- ▶ **Use banked experience**

Honors Peer Mentor Spotlight



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Honors Learning Experiences

Honors students choose one of the six Honors Learning Experiences each semester to customize their education and add value to their degree.



Honors Sections >

These interactive courses emphasize deep exploration of content, as well as hands-on experiences that encourage application of course topics.



Honors Contracts >

Collaborate with an instructor to turn a regular course into an Honors Learning Experience.



Honors Seminars >

These courses are grounded in one or more of the Dimensions of Honors Learning, address special topics, and facilitate the development of the Honors community.



Honors Research >

Initiate research or independent projects in all disciplines. Hone investigative and critical thinking skills under the guidance of a faculty member.



Honors Explorations >

Examine topics with an Honors facilitator and other Honors students.



Honors Travel >

Experience learning in real-world settings beyond the campus.

Honors Advising

Fall 2026

- ▶ Honors Advisor remains available

Spring 2027

- ▶ Primary Advisor = Honors
- ▶ Advising appointments begin in early February
- ▶ Summer registration is in late February
- ▶ Fall registration starts on March 22



Academic Advising

Honors Advisor

- ▶ Honors Learning Experiences
- ▶ Honors Program Opportunities
- ▶ Involvement

Major Advisor

- ▶ Long-term academic planning
- ▶ Summer classes/transfer credit
- ▶ Study abroad

Honors Student Leadership Team

- ▶ Paid positions with a variety of roles
- ▶ Spring application process
- ▶ Info announced in weekly Honors email



Upcoming Honors Events

► Paint and Sip

- Tuesday, November 10th
- 6 – 8 pm, Escalante Room



► Graham Cracker Challenge

- Wednesday, December 2nd
- 7 – 9 pm, Honors Program Building



Announcements for Next Week

- ▶ Read the pre-class reading and post your pre-class assignment
- ▶ Peer Mentor will cover the next Dimension of Honors Learning: Leadership Development
- ▶ The next group will lead an activity on Leadership Development

