

Honors Independent Project Proposal

The Honors Independent Project is designed to serve as an outlet for the student's scholarly and creative talents. Under the supervision of a project sponsor, students will design, execute and evaluate a project belonging to one or more of the following categories:

- An independent research project, either field-based or library-based
- Independent creative performance or studio activity
- Community service learning project
- Leadership project, either on-campus or off-campus
- Study abroad/intercultural experience
- Other, as approved by the Honors Committee

Honors students are encouraged to work in groups on their independent projects; however, each student in the group must have a clearly defined role.

Instructions for the Student:

1. Choose a sponsor for your project. If your project is of an academic nature, your sponsor should be a member of the faculty.
2. Think about which category of project you would like to pursue, and brainstorm with your sponsor for possible project ideas in the category you have selected. If your category is in the "Other" category, obtain Honors Committee approval before proceeding!
3. Once you and your sponsor have agreed on a project idea, make sure that your project is manageable in scope and duration. For purposes of evaluation, your project will be expected to last approximately one academic year. Your project should also be an Honors-level project – that is, it should exceed ordinary standards for similar projects of the same type.
4. Finally, prepare a formal proposal on the project that you would like to create. The proposal should be between 1000-1500 words and should follow the style guide most appropriate for your major. Your proposal must contain the following information:
 - a. The goals and expected outcome(s) of the project
 - b. The rationale for executing the project
 - c. A detailed explanation of how the project is to be executed
 - d. An estimated budget for project expenses
 - e. A plan for evaluation of the project
 - f. If a group project, the specific role(s) in which each student will serve
 - g. How this project constitutes Honors-level work
5. Attach the cover sheet (below) to the proposal, sign, and submit the proposal to your project sponsor.

Instructions for the Project Sponsor:

1. Work with the student to develop an Honors project idea that will be an authentic product of the student's talents, yet will also be manageable in duration and scope.
2. Once the student has submitted a draft of the project proposal, review it with the student and suggest revisions as necessary.
3. Once both you and your student are satisfied with the proposal, sign the cover sheet and submit to the Honors Committee.

Revised 2/21/07

Timeline:

Sophomore year:

January-February: Student should choose a project sponsor and brainstorm with his/her sponsor on project ideas

March: Narrow project idea to a manageable size, begin work on formal proposal

April 15: Submit first draft of proposal to project sponsor for review

May 15: DEADLINE for submission of project proposals to the Honors Committee

June 1: Honors Committee will evaluate proposals, recommend changes, and/or give final approval by this date.

Begin the project!

Junior Year

January-March: Conclude project and evaluate the project according to the goals that you laid out in the project proposal

May: Present your project at a professional meeting such as the Spring Symposium (strongly encouraged but not required)

June 1: DEADLINE for submitting the Honors Independent Project Summary Report to the Honors Committee

Honors Independent Project Proposal Cover Sheet

Project Title:

Honors Student	Honors Project Sponsor
Name:	Name:
Signature:	Signature:
Date:	Date:

Honors Independent Project Summary Report

On a separate piece of paper, and in consultation with your project sponsor, please summarize the project and answer the following questions:

1. Did you meet the goals that you laid out in your proposal, either in part or in full? How were the goals achieved? If there were goals that were *not* achieved, what might have been done differently in order to achieve them?
2. Did you experience any problems in your execution of the project? If so, how did you overcome these problems?
3. Did you present the results of your project at a professional meeting such as the Spring Symposium?

Accepted	Rejected
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Date: