

<p style="text-align: center;">Guidelines for Individual Honors Contract Courses University of Delaware Honors Program</p>
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The Honors Program is interested in promoting a genuine Honors experience in all of its courses. Students report that the most satisfying Individual Honors Contract experiences are when faculty incorporate an Honors component throughout the entire semester. They are very dissatisfied with an Honors component that is merely an end-of-the-semester paper or project, or assignments that seem to just be extra work, without a real tie-in to the course content. The Honors component should enrich and deepen the course experience, and not just be extra assignments for their own sake. Grading for the Honors sections needs to be clearly articulated, independent of the regular section. Students who are enrolled in the Honors section must understand that they are to be graded for their work as a whole in the Honors course in which they are enrolled. It is necessary to specify in advance how these assignments will figure into the final grade for the Honors course. Honors assignments should be factored into the total grade and not treated as extra credit work.

In addition to the standard requirements for the course, the Honors component must include several of the following:

- **Strongly recommended:** Regular meetings with the students throughout the semester, in addition to the standard class meeting times. Faculty interaction with students is a key element of the Honors experience. This time can be used to discuss the Honors component with the students. NOTE: For Online courses the Honors component must include regular in-person meetings with the faculty member in addition to other Honors assignments.
- Two to three short writing assignments in addition to a final paper. These short assignments can lead up to a final writing assignment or can be assignments on other topics introduced during the semester.
- Additional readings and oral presentations. Having students do extra reading followed by an oral presentation to the class enables all the class to benefit from the additional readings.
- Additional lab work with accompanying readings and discussion.
- Attendance at one or two graduate class meetings in a graduate class on the same topic, and either write a response paper or discuss the course content with the professor.
- Attendance at outside of the classroom enrichment activities. For example, students might be required to attend a theater production, a trade show, or a museum and write a short response or report back to the professor or class about the experience.
- Require a journal that leads up to a final project or paper, and check the journal periodically to evaluate progress toward the final paper or project.
- Additional components not included above may be included upon approval of the Honors Program.

DEADLINE: 5:00 PM one week from the first day of classes of the fall or spring semester. For Winter and Summer Sessions, Individual Honors Contracts are due before the 1st day of classes. For Study Abroad courses, Individual Honors Contracts must be completed and submitted BEFORE leaving campus for the overseas program.

The completed Individual Honors Contract form, with all required attachments, must be submitted to the Director of the Honors Program, 2nd floor Elliott Hall. Revisions may be necessary. If your request is denied, you will need to make alternate plans. Late requests will not be accepted.

No more than 3 total Individual Honors Contracts or Honors Independent Studies may be counted toward completion of the 30 Honors credits necessary for the Honors Degree.

We agree to the proposed honors work as provided in the description and have discussed the guidelines.

Student Signature

Date

Faculty Signature

Date

Director, University Honors Program Signature

Date

August 2009