

Guide to Honors Theses for Faculty Mentors, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020

Completion of an Honors Thesis is a requirement for students pursuing the Distinguished Honors College Scholar Award or the Advanced Honors College Scholar Award (for transfer students). This guide provides information about thesis research and important dates for supervision of projects that will be completed during the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 semesters.

About Honors College Thesis Projects

Project Scope	A thesis project is an extended piece of independent student research. The student is responsible for all aspects of the project's planning and execution. Projects must draw on scholarly resources and follow the conventions of research/creative activity in their discipline.
Project Length	Completion of a thesis is a multiple-semester process that includes development of a thesis proposal, at least 1 semester (3 credits) of thesis work, and a thesis defense.
Supervision	During the semester in which the student is enrolled for thesis credit, they should meet regularly with their faculty mentor. The faculty mentor provides guidance as the student completes the project.
Project Submission and Evaluation	Students should plan to defend their theses at the Honors College Thesis Day during the semester in which they are enrolled for thesis credit. The thesis committee and the Associate Dean of the Honors College must agree that the work meets standards for Honors thesis credit. If either finds the project inadequate, the student will not receive Honors thesis credit.

Thesis Deadlines for Fall 2019 and Spring 2020

	Fall 2019	Spring 2020
Thesis proposal due to the Honors College prior to enrollment in a thesis credit course (4951). Student must have a completed thesis proposal approved by their faculty mentor, the mentor's department chair, and the Honors College to enroll for Honors thesis credit. If the student's project requires IRB approval, a copy of a completed IRB application must accompany the proposal.	Monday, August 26	Monday, January 13
Completed thesis draft due to committee members. Students submit a completed draft of their thesis to their committee. Committee members review the project and may require revisions.	Friday, November 1	Friday, April 3
Faculty mentor approves project for defense. A student cannot defend a thesis without approval from their faculty mentor.	Friday, November 15	Friday, April 10
Thesis defense at Honors College Thesis Day The Honors College hosts defenses in Sage Hall between noon and 5:00 pm on Thesis Day. Alternative defense dates will be scheduled if faculty mentors are unavailable on Honors College Thesis Days.	Friday, November 22	Friday, April 17 and Friday, April 24