

Petition for Honors Credit forms are due to the Honors College office

## **HONORS CONTRACTS and PETITION FOR HONORS CREDIT**

### POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of both the Honors Contract and the Petition for Honors Credit is to provide the opportunity for the Honors student to earn Honors credit in a class from his/her degree plan that is not ordinarily offered as Honors. Whereas the Petition for Honors Credit is offered by the professor on an ongoing basis **for any course level** and normally involves several students, the Honors Contract is student-initiated and highly individualized **and is reserved for 3000-4000 level courses**. Petition opportunities normally will be listed with course offerings in any given semester.

The expectation **for contracts and petitions** is that the student will complete an additional and meaningful component of work beyond the requirements of the regular course syllabus. This may be accomplished in many ways, including (but not limited to) the following:

- Investigating an area of the discipline not covered in depth in the regular course.
- Investigating how the student's major area(s) of interest connect with this discipline.
- Applying the information/expertise learned in the course in a creative way.
- Participating in an appropriate and relevant faculty-initiated research project.
- Devising and carrying out a clearly delimited original research project.
- Monitoring and analyzing "current events" associated with the course topic.
- Performing a literature survey in a collateral area of the course topic.

The Honors component may entail a standard research paper, a bibliographic essay, a classroom presentation, or other product as appropriate to the course material.

Normally, an Honors College student may earn no more than a cumulative total of 15 hours of Honors Credit through any combination of Independent Study, Honors Contracts, and the Honors Thesis. Honors College students normally may not earn more than 6 hours of Honors Credit through the Honors Contract option. **Failure to complete satisfactorily a contract will disqualify a student from further contracts unless the Honors College Dean determines that there is a compelling reason to permit a contract.** Under exceptional circumstances and with approval of the Honors College Dean, a student may undertake a "Petition for Honors Credit" in a core curriculum class during a summer term.