

Honors Contract Instructions and Guidelines

An honors contract is an agreement between a student, a faculty member, and the Honors Program at Southern Utah University that awards honors credit for the listed course at the completion of the contract. The honors contract creates partnership of mutual benefit to the student and faculty member. For the honors student, the contract should involve a project or activity that takes them deeper into the course subject and results in an experience highly relevant to their preparation as a professional. For the faculty member, the contract work should be an opportunity to try innovative or professionally interesting projects or activities that would be difficult to do for an entire class. Above all, the honors contract should never feel like "busy work" for either the student or the faculty member involved.

1. Any student enrolled in the honors program may negotiate an honors contract with a faculty member to earn honors credit for a non-honors course. If the proposed course is available as an honors section, the honors director must give special permission before the contract can be approved. Faculty members engage in honors contract on a voluntary basis and have the right to decline an honors contract proposal.
2. The contract should state explicitly the work that the student will undertake to earn the honors credit. The honors student's engagement with the course material should be more in-depth than that expected of the other students in the class. Some examples of work worthy of honors credit include: utilizing primary sources for research, conducting original research, connecting course content to other disciplines, utilizing creative ways of demonstrating learning, disseminating learning to other populations, and more. The contract should also state specifically how the work proposed by this contract is different from that required of the other students in the course. For example, a description such as "Michele will write a research paper" will not merit approval. The description should detail the work to be done and how it differs from the general course: "For honors credit, Michele will write a 10-page research paper on a theory of ethics not covered in class. This assignment is not part of the regular workload for this course. This writing assignment will require Michelle to use at least one primary source, and to apply in-depth research methods and critical thinking."
3. Students must identify what they will learn as a result of completing the honors contract by selecting one of the listed learning outcomes and detailing how the learning outcome will be addressed.
4. Once the contract has been negotiated and signed by both the faculty member and the student, the student will bring the original contract to the honors office no later than the last day the student can drop a class with an automatic grade of "W". Should the honors director have any questions or reservations about the contract, they will first discuss these with the student and if necessary with the faculty member.
5. The student must earn at least a B- in the course to receive honors credit for the completed contract.

At the end of the semester, the professor will sign the completion portion of the contract if the student has completed the contract to the instructor's satisfaction. The student should then return the signed form to the honors office no later than study day. The honors office will inform the Registrar who will then add the honors designation to the student's transcript for the appropriate course.

Questions regarding the nature of a specific contract are welcome, and directed to the Honors Office (865-8451).

HONORS CONTRACT- Please type, no handwritten forms accepted

Student's Name: _____ Canvas Username: _____

Semester: Fall Year: _____ TNumber: _____

Spring Course Title: _____

Summer Course ID: _____ CRN: _____

Instructor: _____ Instructor Email: _____

Please provide a detailed description of what you will do for this honors contract. You must include what you will produce as a result of the contract (paper, poster, presentation, website, piece of art, etc.).

What learning outcome(s) will be addressed through this honors contract?

- Problem Solving:** designing, evaluating, and implementing strategies to answer open-ended questions or achieve a certain goal.
- Creative Thinking:** combining or synthesizing existing ideas, images, or expertise in original ways, as well as thinking, reacting or working in an imaginative way.
- Integrative Learning:** making connections among ideas and experiences to synthesize and transfer learning to new and complex situations within and beyond campus.

How will you demonstrate the selected learning outcome(s) and how will this enhance your learning/experience in this course?

Approximately how much time will the student spend completing this honors contract (in hours)? _____

Approximately how much time will the student spend with the professor, outside of class, completing this honors contract (in hours)? _____

We, the undersigned, hereby agree to pursue the honors contract detailed above during this semester. As a result of the successful completion of this work, an honors designation will be affixed to the above named course as it appears on the student's official transcript.

Approval Signatures

Completion Signatures

Student Date

Student Date

Instructor Date

Instructor Date

Honors Office Date

Honors Office Date