

HONORS OPTION CONTRACT

Honors education is characterized by in-class and extracurricular activities that are measurably broader, deeper, or more complex than comparable learning experiences typically found at institutions of higher education. Honors experiences include a distinctive learner-directed environment and philosophy, provide opportunities that are appropriately tailored to fit the institution's culture and mission, and frequently occur within a close community of students and faculty.

The Honors Option Contract allows *eligible students to earn honors credit in courses not specifically designated as "Honors." It is activated when a student and an instructor draw up an agreement specifying work the student should do to earn honors credit. The student, instructor, and honors director approve the contract, and upon successful completion, the student receives an "Honors" designation for the course on his or her transcript. Honors Option courses count toward the five courses required to graduate in the Honors Program.

The Honors Option Contract is submitted on a form supplied by the Honors Office (see reverse). At the end of the semester, the director asks the instructor to confirm that the project has been completed. If the agreement has been satisfied, the director informs the registrar's office that the student should receive honors credit for the course. This designation will appear on the student's transcript midway through the next semester.

In addition to successful completion of the honors option project, a grade of no less than B for the regular course work is necessary to earn the honors designation. The project should not be included in determining the final grade for the course, and, in cases where the contract is not fulfilled, the student can still receive regular credit for the course.

The honors option should allow students to pursue their intellectual interests and gain more knowledge about topics related to the course while fostering one-to-one interactions among faculty and students. Some examples of course enrichment for Honors Options are listed below. In addition to these, there are many other possibilities.

- A research paper
- A persuasive or reflective essay
- Additional experiments in a laboratory
- Written reviews of books or professional journal articles
- An oral presentation to the class or another appropriate audience
- A video, website, or web-based presentation
- Additional creative artistry
- A service-learning activity that is connected to the course's academic content
- A design project

In each case, the project should culminate in the production of some sort of "deliverable" that consists of - or is accompanied by - at least 1500 words of writing and appropriate academic documentation.

The deadline for student to submit the completed Honors Option Contract form to the Honors Office is the end of the fourth week of the semester.

*One of the following requirements must be met to enter the Honors program:

- 3.0 GPA at Delgado or other college
- ACT 22 or SAT 1100 or higher
- High School GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Evidence of exceptional leadership or service

HONORS OPTION CONTRACT

This form is due in the Honors Office (1-221E) by 4:30 PM on Friday of the fourth week of the semester. Please read the reverse side before approaching your instructor to propose a contract. It is your responsibility to meet with the instructor during office hours or by appointment and talk about the Honors Option and how it works. Remember that no instructor is obligated to take on this extra work and your courtesy and diplomacy may be a factor in whether or not an instructor is willing to work with you.

STUDENT NAME _____ LOLA ID # _____
PLEASE PRINT (Last, First)

STUDENT EMAIL _____ PHONE # _____

COURSE TITLE _____ SEMESTER: F S YEAR: 20__

COURSE PREFIX _____ COURSE # _____ SECTION # _____ CRN # _____
(ENGL, MATH, etc.)

*INSTRUCTOR NAME _____
(Last, First)

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL _____ PHONE # _____
**Is this instructor adjunct (part-time) faculty? YES / NO If YES, approval of Dept. Chair is required.*

*Dept. Chair Signature: _____ Date: _____

WHAT MUST THE STUDENT DO TO EARN HONORS CREDIT IN THIS COURSE?
If more space is needed, attach a separate sheet.

Note: The project should produce some sort of "deliverable" including at least 1500 words of writing, or the equivalent.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Instructor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Honors Director Signature: _____ Date: _____

Once processed, copies of this form will be emailed to the student and the instructor, and kept on file in the Honors Office. At the end of the semester, the Honors Director will ask the instructor to confirm that the student has satisfied the agreement. If so, this will be communicated to the Registrar to add the Honors designation to the course on the student transcript.