

HISTORY OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT

HONORS THESIS CONTRACT

Student:

Faculty Sponsor:

Term in which the student is enrolled:

Anticipated Graduation:

Topic or Title:

- Please provide a summary of the research question or project that will form the subject of the thesis on an accompanying sheet. (This is your Initial Abstract.)
- Please provide a brief initial bibliography on an accompanying sheet.

Please stipulate the faculty sponsor's expectations regarding individual meetings in the space below. Are there deadlines in addition to those listed below to which the student must adhere?

Please read the departmental expectations and criteria below, including the departmental deadlines. If you agree to these terms, the student and faculty sponsor should sign the contract where indicated.

- The purpose of the senior thesis is to enable the student to engage in a significant research project of scholarly promise that is of interest to him or her, and to work closely with a faculty member in the production of a research paper outlining the results of this research.
- The research paper should be at least 15 pages in length, with footnotes and an relevant bibliography.
- It is understood that the student's paper is to present research that addresses the question in an original manner. The interpretive work articulated in the paper is to be the student's own. The student will adhere to University regulations regarding plagiarism. (See the student handbook for clarification.)
- The faculty sponsor, in agreeing to supervise the project, will be available for independent meetings with the student on a regular basis throughout the semester. (See above for estimated frequency of meetings.)
- The student should NOT be expected to serve as a research assistant for the faculty member's own project, and will not be asked to engage in research queries or administrative duties that are not immediately connected to the completion of the student's own research and writing.
- The faculty member will provide assistance to the student at each stage of the project:
 - Finding a suitable topic
 - Conducting successful research on a particular topic through the development of a bibliography
 - Refining the research question through successive abstracts
 - Reviewing the pertinent material in a critical fashion, developing one's own critical voice
 - Crafting the research material into a draft
 - Revising the draft for clarity of argumentation and grammar.
- The student will submit work to the faculty sponsor in a timely fashion (following the departmental deadlines outlined below).
- The student may be asked to present their research at the end of term in a colloquium or at a reception for honors majors.

- The department has financial resources available to students pursuing independent research (Friends of Fine Arts Research Awards) which can be used for travel or to purchase necessary supplies. Applications are accepted in October and January each year. A single student can apply for a maximum of \$1500. Honors Thesis faculty mentors will be expected to assist the student with the application and write a letter of support if they choose to pursue the award.
- The faculty sponsor will write a short (100-150 word) description of the student's research achievement, to be read out at the department's annual commencement ceremony in spring when our Honors Students are formally recognized. The commencement ceremony coordinator will request these paragraphs after the theses are due and shortly before the event in April.

DEPARTMENTAL DEADLINES: The following items must be submitted to the departmental advisor (whose mailbox is located in room 104) no later than 5pm on the Friday of the specified week of the semester:

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| 1. Senior Thesis contract | end of prior semester |
| 2. Abstract and initial bibliography | end of prior semester |
| 3. Annotated bibliography and revised abstract | week 3 of semester |
| 4. First draft of thesis | week 7 of semester |
| 5. Final draft | week 14 of semester |

The department will approve extensions to these deadlines only under extenuating circumstances, following the request of the student's individual faculty advisor.

Student signature

Email address and phone number

Faculty sponsor signature

Email address and phone number
