

Psychology 499: Honors Thesis

Minimal Requirements for the Honor Thesis:

1. There must be a written proposal. This proposal will consist of any introduction and methods section. These sections should be written in APA style and should be similar to a standard journal publication introduction and method in terms of length and detail. There should also be a brief section which details the analyses that will be completed. This is a minimal standard, and individual faculty advisors may require a more detailed literature review, more consistent with the area paper required from graduate students.
2. A discussion of ethical issues. This may be accomplished by having the student submit the proposed project to the IRB for approval. If the project is already covered under a protocol submitted by the student's advisor, an informal discussion of the issues and IRB procedures should occur.
3. A written thesis, containing an introduction, methods, results, and discussion sections. This should be in APA format and comparable to a manuscript which one would submit for publication.
4. An oral presentation. This may occur as part of the colloquium series, be an oral presentation at the Red River Psychology Conference, or several Honors Theses may be presented together at a special session.
5. Grading will be on a letter-grade basis.

General Information Pertaining to the Honor Thesis:

1. Students should have completed Psych 350 and 351.
2. It is recommended that the student plan on taking Thesis credits for a full year. The student should sign up for 1 credit for every 3 hours that will be spent on the project per week.
3. We have attempted to make some estimates for how much time a student might expect to spend on each part of the thesis.

Literature Review and Introduction	2 months
Methods	1 month
IRB approval	1 month
Data Collection	2-3 months
Data Analysis	1 month
Write-up	1 month

Remember, these are only estimates. They are provided to emphasize the fact the Honor Thesis demands a considerable commitment of effort and time over the better part of an academic year.

Completing an Honor Thesis will fulfill the requirements for a Capstone Experience.