**SCC – Honors Contract Proposal**

An Honors Project is designed to allow students to explore content at a higher level. This may mean learning more about a particular course concept, or exploring new topics related to the course using research outside of class. Proposed Contracts must be relevant to the subject of the course, provide evidence of college-level academic rigor, and go above the normal scope / workload of the course. Students work collaboratively with a faculty mentor, who will assist in developing the proposal and serve as mentor through the project’s completion.

*Honors Projects show research, critical thinking, and analysis that exceed normal course expectations.* A variety of formats can be used to display new found knowledge, including papers, formal presentations, websites/databases, evaluation of complex scientific or mathematical problem sets, poster presentations, creation of art, music or other cultural artifacts, or often a combination of these methods. Creativity is encouraged, and you are welcome to submit other formats. Still, remember that whatever format you choose, your project should be representative of the course objectives and content.

**Submission Guidelines:**

* Students must present a research topic / area to their faculty mentor by the third week or fifteenth weekday of the semester.
* Students must submit a signed copy of the Honors Contract Proposal to Bethany Emory (Dean of Teaching and Learning Support) by the sixth week of thirtieth weekday of the semester (see website for specific dates).
* All necessary information is included using appropriate academic writing standards (Complete paragraphs and sentences are included, at a minimum).
* The application is typed (handwritten applications will be returned).
* Proposals must be approved by the Honors Committee for the student to receive Honors Credit. At this point the proposal becomes a contract and will be in its final form. Whatever goals you set for yourself in the contract must be met by the end of the semester, to successfully earn Honors Credit. In addition, participants must earn a final grade of A or B in the course.
* Successful completion of the project is determined by the Faculty Mentor, and communicated to the Dean of Teaching and Learning Support by the final day of the term.

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| **Project Information** | |
| **Student’s Name:** | **Project Title:** |
| **Student’s College ID#:** | **Faculty’s Name:** |
| **Student’s Telephone #:** | **Faculty’s Department:** |
| **Full Course Name** (ENG-111-WC1, for example)**:** | **Term:**  **Year:** |

**Using prompts in the following fields, fully describe your project. Include additional pages if extra space is required. The committee's decision will be based solely upon this document, so be as thorough as possible.**

1. **Briefly describe your topic, what you hope to explore about it and how it goes above and beyond the expectations of the course.** In your response, be sure to respond to the following questions:

* What new content area does the project focus on, and how does it relate to your class?
* What questions do you hope to answer?
* What additional time will you spend at a job, clinic, or community service?

*(Remember the committee may not be as familiar with your course as you are, so be specific.)*

1. **Describe how you will research your topic, remembering that you will need to seek information outside of your class requirements. In your response, be sure to respond to the following questions:**

* What types of resources will you use?
* Will you interview experts in the field?
* Will you need to survey or interview students on campus or in the community?
  + If so, you will need to seek IRB approval. (See <https://www.southwesterncc.edu/institutional-review-board> for further information)
* How will you locate those resources?
* How will you know they are quality resources?
* How many resources will be expected (at a minimum) to ensure you have researched thoroughly?

1. **Describe as clearly as possible the product you will produce. In your response, be sure to respond to the following questions:**

* What format will it take? (paper, presentation, other format, etc.)
* What is the expected length or size?
* How will you share your final product? Only with instructor? With your class? With others? (Be specific.)

1. **How will your faculty mentor assist you in developing your project? For example, you may want to answer the following types of questions:**

* How often will you plan to meet?
* What timeline have you established for the project? (For example, what date would a bibliography (perhaps annotated), a draft of the project and the final draft of the project be submitted?)
* Will your mentor be able to connect you with resources (research sources, experts, mentors), or will you be responsible for finding them on your own?