

PFORZHEIMER HONORS COLLEGE

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Honors College



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HONORS THESIS

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What is the Honors Thesis?

- ❖ Is a **2-semester Research Program** (a course in research methodology + a semester of research and writing)
- ❖ The research is guided and supervised by a Pace faculty member (Thesis Advisor)
- ❖ A thesis is **required** for freshmen entered in **Fall 2013** and beyond
- ❖ A thesis is **strongly Recommended** for others

Timeline

The thesis process normally consists of two semesters:

“Research Preparation” course (HON499) , to be taken in Junior year (preferably in Spring)

“Departmental capstone” course, during which the thesis is written, to be taken in Senior year (preferably in Fall)

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What is the “Research Preparation” course?

Usually **HON499 (1 Cr.)**

Student is expected to:

- Learn the methods, principles, and steps necessary to establish a rigorous research program
- Come up with a solid and well-defined research proposal.
- Connect with a Pace faculty member (Thesis Advisor) and plan to conduct research under the supervision of that advisor the following semester.
- Make a series of short in-class presentations about his/her research project as the course progresses.

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What is the “Research Preparation” course?

**For Nursing Program:
Possibly: Nursing 298**

- We are working on this now!
- The main requirement is that each individual student must come up with a well-defined and concrete proposal to be developed and written during the following semester.

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What is a “Capstone” course?

- Springboard Course (Often called a Capstone Course or Senior Seminar)
- Most departments offer this course for majors.
(For a list of approved Springboard course see the Honors website)
- Independent Study course (If there is no Capstone course in student’s major)

Thesis!

- Must be an original and high quality work so it can be presented as a sample of the student's best scholarly work in his/her field of study
- Must be a minimum of 25 pages unless an exception is granted by the Director.

Further requirements...

- May be completed in any field but is most commonly in the student's major.
- There are a range of acceptable topics, including those that involve laboratory research (sciences); critical analysis of works of literature, philosophy or art (humanities); research using original sources or field work (social sciences, marketing); original programming (computer science); analysis of business practices, laws or standards (accounting, finance, management); or a creative piece of work (art, poetry, prose, theatre).

For Business Honors students

- Take Business HON 499 **AND** one of the following thesis courses:
- FIN 495
- ACC 495
- MGT 495
- MAR 495
- ACC 692Q (BBA/MBA students only)
- FIN 692Q (BBA/MS students only)

Thesis Advisor

- Students may choose to work with more than one thesis advisors (co-advisors).
- Students who choose to work with an adjunct professor must also have a full-time Pace faculty member as a co-advisor.
- Students may work in a group with the same advisor on a large project that has different components. Each student is required to write a distinct thesis and defend it separately.

Thesis Defense Presentation

- By the end of the senior year each student must present his/her thesis formally at a thesis defense presentation.
- The defense committee consists of the thesis advisor and other faculty and students from the department.
- Q&A session
- Possible Revision Request

Thesis Defense Presentation

- Student must pass their thesis defense to graduate from the Honors College
- If any revision to a thesis is requested student has one week to apply the necessary changes and resubmit
- The revised thesis will be reviewed by the thesis advisor for the final approval
- The student must submit a printed and bound copy of the final thesis to the Honors College office one week after the defense.

Research Grant Opportunity

- Honors College Research Grant (\$1000 for equipment, travel to conference presentation etc.)
- Undergraduate Student-Faculty Research Program
 - <http://www.pace.edu/office-student-success/undergraduate-research-initiative>
- Other Research Opportunities
 - <http://www.pace.edu/office-student-success>

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Questions/Comments?

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