Honors Options – FAQ's

The purpose of an Honors Option is to allow Honors students to challenge themselves beyond what is required in a traditional Drexel class by completing an additional assignment. We understand that you, as the Faculty mentor, play an important role in this process. Below are answers to frequently asked questions, but please also feel free to contact us with any additional questions or concerns.

Q: What is the Process to request and approve an Honors Option?

A: Within the first three weeks of the term, students are expected to meet with you and discuss the opportunity to request an Honors Option for your course. If you agree to the terms, the student completes the Honors Option Request Form, obtains your signature, and submits the form to the Honors Office before the end of week 3 of the term.

Throughout the term, the student is expected to work on and complete the extra Honors Option project. Prior to the end of the term, the student must submit his/her work to you for review. If the project is evaluated as a high-quality project, the student collects your signature on the Completion Form and submits it to the Honors Office before the final day of the term. All Completion Forms are held until after grades have been submitted. At which time, the student's grade for the course is reviewed, and assuming he/she earns a B- or higher for your course, he will be awarded Honors credits for your course.

Q: Am I Required to Approve an Honors Option at a student's request?

A: Instructors/Professors reserve the right to decline a student's request to create an Honors Option project for any course, for any reason including: late requests from students, lack of available time to assist the student or grade extra material, any other personal or professional reasons.

A professor is expected to sign off on the Honors Option only after discussing the extra Honors project with the student, agreeing that the Honors Option project is worthy of Honors credit, and agreeing to review and/or grade the Honors Option project after it is submitted to you before the end of the term.

Q: What is considered "Honors Worthy" and what type of projects are acceptable?

A: The Honors Program gives each professor the authority to determine the level and quality of work needed to denote "Honors Worthy" work because the professor is the one who will ultimately be reviewing and grading the Honors Option Project. The project can involve research, a written essay, a creative project, or any other type of project work that continues to build learning from the course objectives. We recommend that the Honors Option project should equate to about an extra 10% of work for the course (consider the amount of work you require for 1 of the 10 weeks in a term).

Q: Should the Honors Option affect the Student's final course grade?

A: The Honors Option should <u>not</u> have any effect on the student's final course grade. The student should be graded on your course assignments and requirements alone. The Honors Option should simply be an extra project in addition to the work completed for your course.

Q: What are the Deadlines?

5:00pm Friday of Week 3:

The STUDENT must submit a signed Honors Option form to the Honors Office.

Weeks 9-10 of the Term:

The STUDENT must complete the agreed upon Honors Option project and submit to you, the Instructor, for review.

Weeks 10-11 of the Term:

The INSTRUCTOR must review the Honors Option Project. If the Instructor approves of the quality of work completed by the student, the Completion Form should be signed.

5:00pm Friday of week 11:

The STUDENT must submit the signed Completion Form to the Honors Office.

Q: Are Exceptions or Extensions ever granted to students?

A: Because we are conscientious about placing any undue hardships on you, the instructor, we do not grant any extensions or exceptions for students' Honors Option work unless it is requested directly by you. Additionally, students who complete Honors Option work for your course but did not submit the Request Form will **not** be granted an exception to receive Honors credit.

Questions or Concerns?

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