

Elliott T. Bowers Honors Program

Honors Course Contract

(Instructions: Please complete and submit to the Honors Office by the Twelfth Class Day)

Student: _____ SAM I.D. # _____
(Print name)

Course Title: _____ Course Section # _____

Instructor: _____ Department _____
(Print name)

Semester: Fall _____ Spring _____ Year _____

I agree to enroll and complete this course for Honors Course Credit by meeting the regular course requirements and fulfilling the following additional requirements as set out below by the instructor. These additional requirements may include, but are not limited to: reading extra assignments, completing a research project, assisting in labs, tutoring other students, teaching one or more class periods, etc. I also agree to participate in frequent meetings, at least bi-weekly, with the instructor. I understand that in order to receive Honors Course Credit, I must earn a grade of "A" or "B".

Please describe in detail the additional requirements that must be completed in order to earn Honors Course Credit:

Please describe in detail how frequently (at least bi-weekly) the instructor and student will meet during the semester:

Signatures:

Student: _____ Date: _____

Instructor: _____ Date: _____

Print Instructor's Name: _____

Department Chair: _____ Date: _____

Honors Program Director: _____ Date: _____

Honors Course Contract Information

Honors Courses

The Elliott T. Bowers Honors Program at Sam Houston State University offers enhanced educational opportunities to its participants, including organized freshman and sophomore level courses in English, History, Political Science, Kinesiology, Integrated Sciences, and Psychology. Four Honors Seminar classes are offered providing a course content that is often challenging and integrates in-depth papers and oral presentations in an effort to provide students with research experience.

Students also have the option of contracting courses in order to receive honors credit, which is particularly beneficial to transfer students or those entering the Program at the sophomore level and have completed their core curriculum requirements. Contracting allows students to receive honors credit for upper level courses within their major and minor.

Contracting

In order to contract a course for honors credit, the student and the professor decide what requirements, in addition to the regular course work, should be fulfilled to earn honors credit. Typically, the student is expected to more actively participate in the class, i.e. read extra assignments, teach one or more class periods, complete a research project, assist in labs, tutor other students, etc. The possibilities are unlimited. The additional expectations are left entirely to the discretion of the professor.

Our basic objective with honors contracting is that students have an “honors experience” in the course. The student’s experience should go beyond the normal course requirements to provide either a broader or deeper understanding of the course content. In other words, the student should have a more intense educational experience than would normally be the case. The student would also be expected to interact more closely with the professor. In many ways, our current campus practice of allowing graduate students to take a 400-level course for graduate credit serves as a model for the honors contracting idea.

Certification

The *Honors Course Contract* form is used to formalize the agreement between the instructor and the student. After the form is completed, it is kept on file in the Honors Office. It must be signed by the student, instructor, department chair, and the Honors Program Director.

At the end of the semester, the instructor completes the *Honors Course Contract Certification* form and sends it to the Honors Program Office. If the student successfully completed the contracted requirements and received an “A” or “B” in the course, the student’s achievement will be noted on the transcript by an “H” following the appropriate course (e.g. PHL 372H).

Elliott T. Bowers Honors Program Honors Course Contract Certification Form

To the student: To receive Honors Contract Credit, you must ask the Instructor to complete this form and return it to the Honors Program Office, Box 2479, AB 4, Room 105, by the end of the semester.

Student: _____ **SAM I.D. #** _____
(print name)

Course Title: _____ **Course Section #** _____

Instructor: _____ **Department:** _____

Semester: Fall ____ Spring ____ Summer I ____ Summer II ____ **Year** _____

To the Instructor: Please complete the following information and return to the Honors Program Office, Box 2479, AB 4, Room 105, by the end of the semester.

The student successfully completed all the requirements to fulfill this contract?

Yes ____ No ____

If No, which requirements did the student fail to meet?

The student consistently participated in frequent meetings, at least bi-weekly, with the instructor?

Yes ____ No ____

The student received the following grade in this course:

(please circle) A B C D F IP X Q

Overall, how would you rate this contract project as an "honors experience" for the student?
(please circle)

Excellent				Average				Poor
7	6	5	4	3	2	1		1

Instructor's signature: _____

For Honors Program Office Only:

Grade Reported to Registrar: A B C D F IP X Q

Honors Contract Credit Earned: Yes ____ No ____