

HONORS COLLEGE

COURSE CONTRACT PROPOSAL FORM

Instructions: Please complete and submit to the Honors Blackboard by the fifth class day.
Contact us if needed at 936-294-1477 or HONORS@SHSU.EDU

Please print legibly.

Student Information:

Name: _____ SAM ID: _____
SHSU Email: _____ Subject/Course (EX: POLS 2301): _____ Section: _____
Course Title: _____ Semester: Fall Spring 20____

Instructor Information:

Name: _____ E-mail: _____
Department: _____

Contract Information:

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

When do you plan on meeting with your instructor? (Must be at least bi-weekly):

- I agree to enroll in and complete this course for Honors Course Credit by meeting the regular course requirements and fulfilling the following additional requirements as set out above by the instructor.
- I 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" in the course.
- I understand that should I need to cancel this course contract, I must notify my professor immediately and notify the Honors College of the cancellation.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Instructor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approved proposals will be reviewed by Department Chairs

Department Approval:

Honors College Dean Signature: _____ Date: _____



HONORS COLLEGE COURSE CONTRACT FACTS

Honors Courses

The Elliott T. Bowers Honors College 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 Honors College 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 College Office. It must be signed by the student, instructor, department chair, and the Honors College Dean. At the end of the semester, the instructor completes the Honors Course Contract Certification form and sends it to the Honors College Office. If the students 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.