

**Application for Admission to and Contract for Participating in the
UMD Political Science Department Honors Program**

Name (Please print or type): _____ **ID #** _____ **Date** _____

1) APPLICATION

<p>Admission Criteria:</p> <p>Political Science Major:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Political Science (UMD) GPA:</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Proposed honors research:</p> <p>Topic of honors research: _____</p> <p>Supervisor: _____</p> <p>Second reader: _____</p> <p>Third reader: _____</p> <p>Anticipated date of completion: _____</p>
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Work must be submitted by the 10th week of the semester in which you graduate. The readers will review the manuscript within two weeks of its completion. Any changes they request in the paper must be completed and approved by the 14th week of the semester; final evaluation determined by the end of the 15th week of the semester.)

Current policy (see reverse) effective Fall 2005

***** Please attach a copy of your current transcript or APAS report. *****

I have received, read, and understood the Department's requirements for admission to, continuation in, and completion of the Honors Program.

I hereby give the Honors Committee access to my transcripts for the purpose of judging my Honors Application and for their consideration of my eligibility for awards sponsored by the Department of Political Science.

Applicant Signature *Date*

Permanent mailing address: Street: _____ Apt: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

2) RESEARCH

<p><i>We have discussed the proposed research with the applicant and concur in its feasibility and potential for an honors-quality study.</i></p> <p>Signatures:</p> <p>_____ Supervisor Date</p> <p>_____ Second Reader Date</p> <p>_____ Third Reader Date</p>	<p><i>The individuals below have read the applicant's honors research paper and accept it as honors quality.</i></p> <p>Signatures:</p> <p>_____ Supervisor Date</p> <p>_____ Second Reader Date</p> <p>_____ Third Reader Date</p>
<p>Department action: Honors granted: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p align="right">_____ <i>Supervisor signature</i> <i>Date</i></p>	
<p>Final semester GPA in Political Science courses: _____</p>	<p>Francis H. de Groat Award Recipient: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Student Grant/Scholarship/Fellowship Payments form submitted:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p align="right">_____ <i>Signature</i> <i>Date</i></p>	

Copies: Applicant
Honors Committee Supervisor
Departmental Honors Program Contact, Tom Powers (2007-08)
Political Science Department Office

Revised September 2007

Honors Program Policy and Structure for Students

- Purposes of the Political Science Department's Honors Program:
 - Recognize excellence in our students
 - Create a cadre of student leaders
 - Expose students to professional political science research
 - Encourage and inspire students to work up to their potential
- Requirements for entry and continuance in Honors Program:
 - Honors students must be Political Science majors
 - Additional majors are permitted
 - Students who receive less than a B+ in Pol 3910 cannot continue with the Honors Program.
- Requirements for admission into Pol 3910 (and thus into the Honors Program):
 - Sophomore status (30-59 semester credits taken prior to the semester the course is offered) or Junior status as provided below.
 - Pol Sci GPA of 3.10 or above at time of registration. If this criterion cannot be met during the semester prior to 3910, student can be admitted if/when that semester's grades result in its satisfaction.
 - Number of Pol Sci courses taken or in progress at time of registration for 3910: 3 (average of one course each semester).
 - Students cannot retake Pol 3910, even if only to make up a grade.
 - Students may enroll for Pol 3910 during their Junior year (60-89 semester credits taken prior to the semester the course is offered) only under the following circumstances:
 - During the prior year's offering of Pol 3910 they were UMD students on a study abroad or exchange program
 - During the prior year's offering of Pol 3910 they were UMD students who were prevented from registering for the course by circumstances that were both unanticipated and unavoidable. Scheduling conflict with other courses does *not* constitute such a circumstance.
 - Students may not enroll for Pol 3910 after their Junior year (90+ semester credits taken prior to the semester the course is offered)
- The student's Honors Committee
 - Each student has h/her own Honors Committee
 - There must be at least three members (including the Committee Chair)
 - All members must have a faculty appointment at UMD
 - UMD Pol Sci faculty must constitute at least 50% of the committee
 - Faculty from other departments must have regular (i.e., tenured or tenure-track) faculty appointments and must have expertise bearing directly on the topic of the student's honors paper. Faculty from other departments may not be added simply to provide the student with additional vote(s) on the committee.
 - The Chair of the Honors Committee must have a regular Political Science faculty appointment.
- The student's honors paper
 - Must be approved by a majority vote of the Honors Committee. A paper is not guaranteed approval.
 - May be revised and resubmitted only once.¹
 - Can be either a seminar paper or an independent study paper.
 - "Honors quality" is determined solely by a majority vote of the student's Honors Committee. However, the department believes that "honors quality" means a paper that both
 - would receive a grade of A in a senior-level Pol Sci seminar;² and
 - is a researched paper (i.e., cannot be exclusively student's thought; must substantively involve consideration of reliable external sources).
- Summary of requirements for student being awarded Political Science Honors:
 - Is a Political Science major when other honors requirements are completed
 - Completes Pol 3910 with a grade of B+ or above
 - Has a 3.10 Pol Sci GPA at time of graduation application
 - Honors paper is approved by student's Honors Committee

NOTES:

1. This is not to prevent the student from getting informal feedback from h/her Committee beforehand.
2. The grading standard is that of a regular seminar course; it is neither raised nor lowered for honors students.