

Honors Contract Overview, Procedures and Form

DEADLINE: Requests and accompanying documents must be submitted by the H (Honors) Grade Mode deadline at 11:59PM per the Office of the Registrar Drop/Add Refund & Deadline Calendar (<https://www.purdue.edu/registrar/calendars/index.html>)

An honors contract is a binding agreement between a student and faculty member that enrolls a student in an honors version of a standard course. Students should expect to produce additional or alternative work, to produce high-quality work, and to meet regularly throughout the semester with their faculty instructor. Students may not undertake an honors contract with a graduate student instructor.

The course work assigned to a student with an honors contract contributes to the student's final course grade. When an application for an honors contract is submitted, the completed contract form must be accompanied by both the regular course syllabus and a revised syllabus showing the additional and/or alternative work assigned to the student, along with the deadlines for that work and the revised grading scheme for the course.

PLEASE NOTE: The honors contract enrolls a student in an honors course and therefore cannot be cancelled after the final deadline to modify a course. Failure to complete the contract will be reflected in the course grade.

Directions: Please supply the information requested below. Attach the standard course syllabus and a revised honors syllabus showing additional/alternative work and deadlines, along with the modified grading scale. Once this form and the syllabi are submitted, please request an H (Honors) Grade Mode Change using the Scheduling Assistant. **All steps must be completed by the H (Honors) Grade Mode deadline at 11:59PM per the Registrar Drop/Add Refund & Deadline Calendar.**

Student: Please certify these statements by checking each box:

☐ I qualify for honors coursework at Purdue (3.0 G.P.A or above) ☐ I am working with a professor

Honors Contract Course for (please circle one) FALL / SPRING / SUMMER semester, 20____

Subject_____ Course Number_____ Section_____ CRN(s)_____

Student and Faculty: I hereby agree to the attached honors syllabus, grade scheme, and deadlines.

Student Signature

Faculty Signature

Student Name (please PRINT) and **PUID**

Faculty Name (please PRINT)

_____.@purdue.edu

_____.@purdue.edu

Student E-mail

Faculty E-mail

(765)_____

Student Telephone No.

Faculty Telephone No.

.....
(OFFICE USE ONLY)

Approval Signature/ Date (from College offering the course)

SUBMIT THIS FORM —signed by student and faculty member—to the honors unit or honors representative of the college offering the course being contracted. (See back for locations by college.)

College of Agriculture

Dr. Christine Wilson, Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs
Agricultural Administration Building, Room 121, wilson1@purdue.edu

College of Education

Dr. Tara Johnson, Associate Dean for Learning
BRNG 6130, tarastar@purdue.edu

College of Engineering

Dr. Timothy Whalen, Associate Director of Engineering Honors
Engineering Honors Office, A.A. Potter Engineering Center, 322, whalen@purdue.edu

Entrepreneurship Courses

Dr. Nathalie Duval-Couetil, Director, Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship, MRGN 220E, natduval@purdue.edu

Exploratory Studies

Mary Beth Lencke, Assistant Director
Young Hall (YONG), 6th floor, mblencke@purdue.edu

College of Health and Human Sciences

Sanjana Dey, Senior Academic Advisor
Matthews Hall, Room 117, dey9@purdue.edu

School of Information Studies

Dr. Clarence D. Maybee, Associate Dean for Learning
HIKS G941, cmaybee@purdue.edu

College of Liberal Arts

Yuliya Boesch, Senior Academic Advisor
BRNG 1114, ybachyla@purdue.edu

Mitch Daniels School of Business

Dr. Kelly Blanchard, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs
KRAN 128, khb@purdue.edu

College of Pharmacy

Dr. Patricia Darbishire, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
RHPH 104, darbishi@purdue.edu

Polytechnic Institute

Dr. Stephen Elliott, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs
KNOY 467, elliott@purdue.edu

College of Science

Kristy Brewer, Executive Assistant
kbrewer@purdue.edu

Purdue Systems Collaboratory

Kat Burkhart, Senior Program Manager
Grissom Hall, caburkha@purdue.edu

College of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Wendy M. Townsend, Associate Dean for Academic Success
Dean's Office, Lynn Hall, townsenw@purdue.edu

ALL CONTRACT DOCUMENTS GO TO THE COLLEGE OFFERING THE COURSE BEING CONTRACTED

Honors Contract Procedures

Honors grade mode requests and contract paperwork are due on the H (Honors) Grade Mode deadline day at 11:59PM per the Office of the Registrar Drop/Add Refund & Deadline Calendar (<https://www.purdue.edu/registrar/calendars/index.html>). Paperwork is processed **within the college offering the course being contracted**—not the Honors College or the home college of the student undertaking the contract.

Honors contract process: step-by-step

1. Student approaches faculty instructor to request honors contract course. Faculty member is under no obligation to agree.
2. Student and faculty instructor decide upon honors elements and create honors syllabus, which must include specific assignments, deadlines, and grade scheme.
3. Student submits grade mode change request via the Scheduling Assistant using instructions below to request H grade mode. (<https://www.purdue.edu/registrar/currentStudents/students/GradeModeChanges.html>)
Requests must be submitted on the H (Honors) Grade Mode deadline day at 11:59PM per the Office of the Registrar Drop/Add Refund & Deadline Calendar.
4. Student and faculty member complete the honors contract form. Student submits contract form, standard syllabus, and edited syllabus to the appropriate Honors Coordinator college contact listed on page 2 of this document (ex. if contracting an Economics course, submit to Dr. Blanchard in the Mitchell E. Daniels Jr. School of Business). **Honors contract form and documents must be submitted to the Honors Coordinator on the H (Honors) Grade Mode deadline day at 11:59PM per the Office of the Registrar Drop/Add Refund & Deadline Calendar.**
5. Honors Coordinator approves or denies contract and enters their approval or denial via the Registration Workflow. **The deadline for Honors Coordinators to enter their decision into the workflow is the last day to drop a course with a “W” with only advisor authorization at 11:59PM per the Office of the Registrar Drop/Add Refund & Deadline Calendar.**
6. The approval of the H grade mode will insert “Honors” into the title of the course when the final course grade is filed. Students should check course status in myPurduePlan beginning one week after approval of the H grade mode change.
7. Student completes honors contract course.
8. Faculty member evaluates contract work and assigns grade for the course.

Honors Contracts: FAQ

What is an honors contract?

An honors contract is an agreement between an undergraduate student and a faculty instructor that allows the student to turn a standard course into an honors course. Submitting an honors contract form and an H grade mode request in the Scheduling Assistant represents a commitment by both the student and the faculty instructor.

How is an honors contract course different from a standard course?

A student enrolling in an honors contract course may do more work (e.g. the addition of an honors project to a standard syllabus) or alternative work (e.g. a different set of assignments). In general, honors contracts allow the student to go beyond the material of the regular course and to produce more sophisticated work. A student may, for example, delve more deeply into methodology, structure, theory, or application; perform additional or alternative research; develop a service project; or present findings in some format. The intention is for the work to contribute to the outcomes associated with the Honors College pillars (see front page).

How much work is involved in an honors contract?

Work load varies depending on design, but it should remain within a reasonable minimum and maximum. One rule of thumb is the time it takes to research and write a 10-page paper (minimum) or a 20-page paper (maximum)—or the appropriate disciplinary equivalent. A student should expect to spend more time on an honors contract course than the standard version of the course.

What is expected from the partners in an honors contract?

Student and faculty partners are expected to develop an honors syllabus with clearly outlined expectations, deadlines, and grading scale. Students are also expected to plan regular meetings with the faculty instructor throughout the semester to review and discuss the honors elements of the course.

Is honors contract work part of the course grade?

Yes. Course work assigned to a student with an honors contract contributes to the student's final course grade.

Can an honors contract be dissolved?

Students may dissolve an honors contract by completing a Grade Mode Change via Scheduling Assistant to revert a course to its original grade mode (<https://www.purdue.edu/registrar/currentStudents/students/GradeModeChanges.html>). The request must be fully approved by the add/drop/modify deadline at 11:59PM per the Office of the Registrar Drop/Add Refund & Deadline Calendar (<https://www.purdue.edu/registrar/calendars/index.html>). University rules and regulations regarding schedule revisions apply to honors contract courses.

Who may offer an honors contract course?

All regular Purdue faculty members may offer a contract course. Visiting faculty and continuing lecturers holding the terminal degree in their field may do so with the approval of their department head and/or disciplinary college. Graduate student instructors may not offer honors contract courses.

****See list of examples on next page.****

EXAMPLES OF HONORS CONTRACTS

- Planned an herb garden for the new Purdue Student Farm location, working with a landscape architecture professor and the student farm's manager. Design was presented in class. Student taught half of one class period on the uses and medicinal qualities of four herbs.
- Created electronic study aids (e.g., electronic mortality tables, a tool to generate annuity tables) to be used by future students in the class. Met with faculty member each week to review work and discuss next steps.
- Revised/Expanded a Wikipedia article on Shear Flow, a topic covered in the course. This included creating diagrams and examples, as well as several phases of review.
- Worked closely with faculty member to develop and write two 5-page research papers on topics related to the course material and/or to scholarly project. Met regularly with faculty member to discuss ideas and progress.
- Met weekly outside of class for a 50 minutes long honors segment. Sight-read ancient Greek from the New Testament. Utilized skills from regular class interactions and was exposed to and learned new language concepts not covered in the regular class.
- Piloted a series of experiments with an instructor. Summarized the results of each lab session and documented problems encountered. Offered possible suggestions for improvements.
- Completed extra homework assignments for each unit (normally bonus). Completed a company financial statement project that required looking at a selected company's annual report, performing calculations, and writing up a financial analysis.