

HON 4V87: Honors Thesis

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COURSE SEQUENCE

(Specific expectations and deadlines are provided to enrolled students
in a semester-specific syllabus each term.)

PREREQUISITES & COURSE REQUIREMENTS

On a typical thesis timeline, Honors Program seniors enroll in HON 4V87 for two credit hours during the final two semester before graduation. (HON 4V87 is a variable hour class, so the student must specify the number of credit hours for which they are enrolling.) In this manner, the Honors Program senior submits a major portion of the thesis project, viz., half the thesis during each term. (See “Thesis-Chapter Submissions,” below.) In most every case, students officially beginning this sequence of Honors Thesis courses should have already completed:

- Honors Colloquium (HON 3200);
- at least one upper-level Honors contract/unit (usually via an Honors course contract in a 3000- or 4000-level class);
- both Advanced Readings & Research courses (HON 3100 and 3101); and therefore
- the formal thesis proposal (one of the requirements for HON 3101).

During the penultimate semester, then, students will generally submit two complete chapters (or an equivalent proportion) of the Honors thesis. Though these submissions are subject to further revision, they must be more exacting and more polished than mere first drafts.

During the graduation semester, students write and submit the remainder of the chapters/portions of the thesis. The full-draft version of the thesis is often due (at the latest) around Spring Break for May graduates. This final draft of the thesis must be polished and submitted to a faculty committee for an oral defense. After the successful defense, the student then submits a final, properly formatted thesis to the Honors Program for binding. (Other, smaller-scale requirements will be announced and explained in the relevant syllabus each semester.)

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF MAJOR SUBMISSIONS

While not a legalistic requirement, the following outline will be followed by nearly all students working on an Honors thesis. Variations to this timeline will be outlined in the

thesis given to the Honors Program senior at the start of the semester. **The deadlines in that semester-specific syllabus always trump those in this general outline.**

FOR STUDENTS STARTING THEIR HONORS THESIS

<p>1. Fri., 2nd week of class:</p>	<p>For all enrollees: Submit any outstanding or updated thesis proposals to the Honors Program (HP) at thesis@baylor.edu</p>
<p>2. Mon., 9th Week of class:</p>	<p>For those enrolled in two HON 4V87 hours (most students): Submit one completed thesis chapter both to faculty mentor and to thesis@baylor.edu</p>
<p>3. Fri., 9th Week of class:</p>	<p>One-paragraph thesis abstract due via e-mail to Dr. Beck, Albert.Beck@baylor.edu</p>
<p>4. Varies; Spring Term only:</p>	<p>-Honors Week: May, August, & December Honors Program graduates present fifteen-minute overviews of their Honors thesis projects to the Honors College community. - Honors Banquet: All May, August, and December graduates and their faculty mentors will be honored at the Honors Program banquet in the Bill Daniel Student Center.</p>
<p>5. Last Day of Class:</p>	<p>For those enrolled in two hours of HON 4V87 (most students): Submit a second completed thesis chapter both to faculty mentor and thesis@baylor.edu For those enrolled in only their first HON 4V87 hour (rare): Submit one completed chapter both to faculty mentor and thesis@baylor.edu</p>

FOR STUDENTS FINISHING THEIR HONORS THESIS

<p>1. Mon., 5th Week of class:</p>	<p>For those enrolled in the final three hours of HON 4V87 hours (very rare): second complete chapter due to faculty mentor and to HP office; or if enrolled in the final two hours of HON 4V87 (most): third complete chapter/section due only to faculty mentor</p>
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2. Mon, 9th Week of class:	final body chapter/section due only to faculty mentor
3. Mon., 3 Weeks Prior to Honors Week (spring term); or Mon., 11th Week of class (fall term):	three items due: 1. One-paragraph thesis abstract due via e-mail to Dr. Beck, Albert.Beck@baylor.edu 2. Draft of complete thesis project due to faculty director and thesis@baylor.edu 3. Thesis Defense Scheduling Form due
4. Varies; Spring Term only:	- Honors Week: May, August, & December Honors Program graduates present fifteen-minute overviews of their Honors thesis projects to the Honors College community. - Honors Banquet: May, August, & December graduates and their faculty mentors will be honored at the Honors Program banquet
5. Mon., Three Weeks before Last Day of Classes:	last day to distribute complete & polished drafts of thesis to examining committee (i.e., one week before thesis defense)
6. Mon., Two Weeks before Last Day of Classes	last day to formally to defend thesis project before examining committee
7. Friday before Last Day of Classes:	Priority deadline to submit approved and formatted final copies to the Honors Program and receive credit for HON 4088 (exit review)
8. Last Day of Class:	Thesis submitted after this day will not be accepted under any circumstance.

CHAPTER SUBMISSIONS

Most students who plan to graduate from the Honors Program in a future semester (rather than the current one underway) will register for two credit hours of HON 4V87 this semester and then for another two credit hours of HON 4V87 next semester. The standard assignment for the first two hours of HON 4V87 credit is to complete two major sections or chapters of the thesis (one for each hour of credit), or about half of the thesis by the end of the term. Students in many disciplines aim for each chapter to be at least fifteen double-spaced pages long, set in a 12-point font. Thesis directors may certainly modify, as necessary, the expectations for chapter submissions in consultation with thesis writers and the Honors Program office.