

DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

GUIDELINES FOR HONORS THESIS

Majors in Spanish who are part of the honors program can opt to write an Honors Thesis in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Theses may be written in Spanish, Portuguese, or English. The Department highly recommends that students take a one-credit course offered by the Honors Program (Honors Thesis Boot Camp) to help honors students in their junior year through the process of developing an honors thesis project, the goal being a completed thesis prospectus in May.

GPA requirements

- In order to graduate with high Latin honors (*magna cum laude* and *summa cum laude*), students must have a 3.6 cumulative GPA, 3.5 in the major, and complete the Honors Thesis and other requirements of the Honors Program.
- In order to graduate *cum laude* with departmental honors, students must have a 3.4 cumulative GPA, 3.5 in major, and write an Honors Thesis.
- Students must have a 3.4 overall and 3.5 in major in order to qualify to write the thesis.

Honors Thesis Committee

- Students will choose a thesis **director** with the assistance of the Director of Undergraduate Studies or Department Chair.
- Theses must be directed by a **tenure track or tenured** professor in the department of Spanish and Portuguese.
- Students should only contact the prospective director once they have chosen a topic, sketched out a research project and drafted a proposal. It is recommended that students produce a brief outline (2 pages) of their topic, develop a basic hypothesis, and compile an initial bibliography before seeking approval from a professor.
- Lecturers and adjunct faculty are **not** eligible as directors.
- Students will choose a **second reader** within the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and a **third reader** from a different department.
- Advisors who are asked to help a student form an Honors Thesis Committee may introduce them to appropriate faculty or refer them to the Director of Undergraduate Studies or the Department Chair.
- Faculty members may choose not to participate on an Honors Thesis Committee; if so, the faculty member should refer the student to the Director of Undergraduate Studies or the Department Chair for advice on how to proceed.

Registration

- Honors Theses are researched and written during the course of the **senior year**.
- Students need to enroll in SPAN 4990 (3 credits) in the fall, **and** in SPAN 5000 (4 credits) in the spring of their senior year **only**.
- only the spring semester may count as credit toward the Spanish major as a 6000 level course, but only **if** the student successfully completes the thesis.
- **double majors** who are writing an honors thesis in area that crosses both majors must enroll in H 4990 in the fall semester in one department and in H 5000 in the spring semester in the other department. The order does not matter.

For additional information please review the general guidelines of the Honors Program
<http://honors.tulane.edu/web/default.asp?id=TheHonorsThesis.txt>