Honors Enrichment Contracts

The primary purpose of the Honors Enrichment Contract is to give students and faculty the opportunity to interact about challenging academic issues. Students and faculty should feel free to design an agreement in addition to general course expectations that is tailored to the specifics of their interaction, the expected work, and the course. Both faculty and students should be able to benefit from the honors enrichment contract work. Please see the FAQs below and contact your Honors advisor if you have any additional questions.

Some examples of past Honors Enrichment Contracts include:
– Conduct an individual research project or assist with faculty research
– Create, test, and/or evaluate a software program
– Prepare and present a class lecture
– Complete a small group project with other honors students
– Produce a research paper
– Choreograph a dance
– Critique an exhibit
– Extend course knowledge to community outreach
– Design and test a lab project

Contract Requirements

What kinds of projects can be completed for a contract?

Appropriate contracts vary by discipline, but here are just a few ideas:
– Conduct an individual research project or assist with faculty research
– Create, test, and/or evaluate a software program
– Prepare and present a class lecture
– Complete a small group project with other honors students
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Do any classes count for automatic honors credit?

Yes, some classes have been designated for automatic honors credit and there are also honors sections of classes. For a full list visit the Barrett Signature Courses page and select the semester class list on the right. Additionally, in-person graduate classes count for automatic honors credit.

Do online graduate classes count for automatic honors credit?

Hybrid graduate classes will count for automatic honors credit. However, online only graduate classes do not count for honors. Barrett may award honors credit for online graduate coursework
if students complete at least 8 hours of face-to-face work with the professor. Direct contact with faculty is an essential component of all honors work. Students may forward an email from their professor to their honors advisor confirming completion of the meetings for honors credit to be awarded.

**Can I do an honors contract in an online class?**

Students can receive up to 6 Honors credits for Honors Enrichment Contracts in online courses. Students are still expected to meet with faculty beyond the already-established course guidelines, just as with a face-to-face class.

**Do contracts have to be for classes inside my major?**

No, Honors Enrichment Contracts can be completed in any discipline, no matter your major. However, you should be treating this experience as an opportunity to connect with faculty and network within the department. Often times, great Honors Contracts can become great starting points for the Thesis/Creative Project, making faculty support for the project simple.

**Which faculty members are eligible to supervise honors contracts?**

Honors enrichment contracts may only be completed with regular ASU faculty, not with graduate teaching assistants, faculty associates, staff, or adjunct faculty. If you have a class with a non-faculty member and want to complete a contract for that class, you should find a faculty member willing to support you in this supplementary project. There is a section in the contract that will allow you to designate a different faculty member from the instructor of that particular course.

**Getting Started**

**How are contracts approved?**

Contracts are initially approved at the time of submission by the faculty to begin the work for the project. Your professor will complete this step through the course roster.

**How will my professor be notified about my contract?**

Professors initially will be e-mailed after the contract deadline is passed. They can view the contract at any time through their class roster on myASU.

**How do I know if a contract is available for my class?**

In some cases, professors will make a notation in the ASU Course Catalog that contracts will be offered to students. If not stated in the ASU Course Catalog, a contract may still be an option. You should discuss this with your professor directly.
Earning Honors Credit

How many contracts are recommended each semester?

Honors students should complete 9-12 Honors credits each academic year. If you are not completing other Honors credits through Honors-only courses, research or Study Abroad, you should be pursuing contracts to stay on pace.

How many credits is the contract worth?

Honors credits for an Honors Enrichment Contract will be the equivalent of the number of credit hours for the course (i.e. if a contract is completed for a 3-credit course, you will receive 3 Honors credits). Earning credit for your Honors Enrichment Contract also involves receiving a "C" grade or higher in the course.

Is there a limit to how many contracts I can do for honors credit?

There is no limit to the number of honors contracts you can complete.

Responsibilities and Deadlines

What I am responsible for in the contract?

Students - Attend regular meetings with your professor, ask how you will be evaluated by your professor, and make sure you understand what you are required to complete. Submit your work on time.

Faculty - Give clear expectations of required work, check in on progress of the student, initially approve contracts and give final approval or deny the contract at the end of the semester.

What happens if I cannot finish my contract?

An Honors Enrichment Contract is a binding agreement between a student and a faculty person that provides the opportunity to enrich the course experience. Do not register for a contract if you are not sure you will complete it. Faculty members invest time in designing Honors Enrichment Contracts, and expect a commitment from you as well. In the contract, there is a section that states what should occur in the event that the contract is unfulfilled. You will be subjected to any consequences outlined in this section. If for any reason you cannot complete the contract, you should speak with your professor as soon as possible to discuss these consequences.

What if I miss the deadline to submit a contract?

If you miss the deadline to submit the contract, but a professor has agreed to work with you on a project, you should contact your Barrett Advisor to discuss your options for submitting the contract.
When should I be completing the contract?

All work for Honors Enrichment Contract credit must be completed during the semester in which the student has registered for the course. Unless otherwise specified by the instructor, the final day to complete the project is the last day of classes for the term. If an extension to this timeline needs to be implemented, you and your professor should contact your Barrett Advisor directly.