# PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT HONORS PROGRAM

**FOR STUDENTS WHO WISH TO UNDERTAKE A MORE INTENSIVE AND EXTENSIVE PROGRAM OF STUDY**

## OVERVIEW

Students who wish to undertake a more intensive and extensive program of study, including seminars and independent work, are invited to apply for the honors program during winter quarter of their junior year. Admission is on the basis of the student’s grade point average (GPA), whether or not he or she has demonstrated ability in philosophy, and progress towards satisfying the requirements of the major.

The length of the honors essay may vary considerably depending on the problem and the approach; usually it falls somewhere between 7,500 and 12,500 words. The honors essay may use work in previous seminars and courses as a starting point, but it cannot be the same essay that has been used, or is being used, in some other class or seminar. It must be a substantially new and different piece of work reflecting work in the tutorials.

The honors essay is graded by an advisor together with a second reader, chosen in consultation with the student. The student will also provide an oral defense of the thesis at a meeting with the advisor and second reader late spring quarter. The essay must receive a grade of “A-” or better for the student to receive honors.

The Philosophy Department also participates in the Summer Honors College each September. Participation in Honors College requires an additional application, submitted during spring quarter of the student’s junior year. If accepted, you will attend writing workshops and a seminar taught by one of the professors in the Philosophy Department in the three weeks prior to fall quarter of your senior year. Stanford will provide you with room and board in a dorm, and you may be eligible to receive funds for research materials if you have not already received a major grant from the URP. The College is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other honors student in your own program as well as a range of other programs, and communicate with them about your projects.

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<th>AUTUMN</th>
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<td><strong>JUNIOR</strong></td>
<td><strong>Submit Honors Program application</strong></td>
<td><strong>Enroll in Junior Honors Seminar (PHIL 199)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SENIOR</strong></td>
<td><strong>Participate in Summer Honors College in September.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Enroll in Senior Tutorial Units (PHIL 196)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Enroll in Senior Tutorial Units (PHIL 196)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Submit Second Reader Form by the end of the second week.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Submit 3 copies of completed thesis to 70-71K by the end of the first week in May.</strong></td>
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* Students must take at least 5 units of Senior Tutorial during Autumn and/or Winter quarter(s) of his or her senior year. In the quarter preceding the tutorial, students should submit an essay proposal to the Philosophy Director of Undergraduate Studies and the Advisor Form. Senior Tutorial units may not count towards the 55-unit Philosophy major requirement.
PERMISSION TO ENTER THE PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT HONORS PROGRAM

NAME: __________________________________________ DATE: __________________________

LOCAL MAILING ADDRESS: ____________________________________________________________

SUNET ID: ______________________ YEAR OF EXPECTED GRADUATION: __________

EMAIL: ______________________ PHONE: ______________________

THESIS ADVISOR: ______________________ OTHER MAJOR(S): ______________________

I request the permission to enter the Philosophy Honors Program. I understand that students applying for honors enroll in PHIL 199: Junior Honors Seminar during the spring quarter of the junior year. I will complete five units of PHIL 196: Senior Tutorial during autumn and/or winter quarter(s) of my senior year. In the quarter preceding the tutorial, I will submit an essay proposal to the department office in 70-71K, along with the name of my advisor. The deadline for the name of the second reader is the end of the second week of the spring quarter of the senior year.

Attached is my transcript, my intended plan of study for the remainder of my junior and senior years, and a brief (one-page) statement of interest.

Three copies of my thesis (one for the advisor, the reader, and Tanner Library) will be submitted to the department office in 70-71K early in the quarter in which I plan to graduate. I understand that for June graduation the official deadline for submitting the complete essay is the end of the second week in May. I realize that essays will be accepted after this date, but in that case, the department cannot guarantee that the essay can be considered for a Golden Medal and that the grade from both readers will be submitted in time for graduation in June.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: __________________________ DATE: ________________

APPROVED BY: __________________________ DATE: ________________

(PHILOSOPHY DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES)

DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES
Ray Briggs
rbriggs@stanford.edu
Office Hours: e-mail for appointment
Office: Bldg 100, Rm 102F
HONORS PROGRAM ADVISOR FORM

DESCRIPTION OF HONORS ESSAY
The topic of the Honors Essay in Philosophy should be on some philosophical problem and of some special and lasting interest to the student. The length may vary considerably depending on the problem and the approach; generally the length is between 7,500 and 12,500 words depending on the number of senior tutorials taken by the student. The essay may use work in previous seminars and courses as a starting point.

EVALUATION
The essay is read by the student’s honors advisor who will grade the student’s work in producing the essay as well as the final essay, and a second reader who will be responsible for evaluating only the finished essay. (Either the advisor or the reader need to be an academic council member.) The advisor and reader will confer and agree upon the grading. To receive departmental honors, the student’s essay should receive a minimum grade of “A-.”

DEADLINE
This signed form should be submitted to the Undergraduate Student Services Administrator in 70-71K when the student’s essay proposal is due (the quarter prior to enrolling in PHIL 196)

I, ____________________________, agree to be the advisor for

______________________________________________________

(STUDENT’S NAME)

______________________________________________________

(HONORS ADVISOR SIGNATURE)

APPROVED BY: ____________________________ DATE: ________________

(PHILOSOPHY DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES)
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DEADLINE
This signed form should be submitted to the Undergraduate Student Services Administrator in 70-71K by the end of the second week of spring quarter.

I, ____________________________, agree to be the second reader for

______________________________________________________

(STUDENT’S NAME)

______________________________________________________

(SECOND READER SIGNATURE)

______________________________________________________

(THESIS ADVISOR SIGNATURE)