

Departmental Honors Application—Individual Option

Department of Law, Societies, & Justice

LSJ majors only, must have a 3.5 minimum cumulative GPA to apply

Student Information

Full Name _____ Student ID# _____

UW Email _____ Intended Quarter & Year of Graduation _____

Procedure

- Meet with an LSJ Adviser to discuss your interest in honors, whether departmental honors requirements fit in your degree plan, and the process for applying.** Come prepared to discuss potential thesis topics so an Adviser can assist you in determining which faculty may be best suited to serve as your Faculty Supervisor.
- Write a project proposal of no more than two pages.** This proposal should include a discussion of the research question you hope to answer and the data you envision gathering to answer that question. Please also explain how you became interested in the question and why you think it is important. This proposal is not intended to be a fully-developed research proposal, but a preliminary outline of what you anticipate trying to accomplish.
**Students are encouraged to develop honors projects from previous work completed as part of a course assignment. In deciding whether to supervise your honors thesis, faculty will look at whether you have taken classes that support your research. The project proposal is meant to demonstrate to your prospective faculty supervisor that you are ready to do independent research of this caliber.
- Select and print a copy of a research or analytical paper** that you think best represents your writing, research, and analysis skills.
- Print a copy of your unofficial UW transcript.**
- Set up an appointment with an LSJ faculty member who you believe would be the best fit to supervise your Honors Thesis.** Bring this application, your project proposal, your sample research paper, and your unofficial transcript to your meeting. Be prepared to discuss your readiness for pursuing honors-level independent research, why this project is of interest to you, the feasibility of your project, and why you want to work with this particular faculty member on this project.
- If the LSJ faculty member approves your project, ask them to sign in the box below.** Make a plan with your faculty supervisor about next steps for your project. Discuss potential faculty to server as your Faculty Reader and determine what role the Faculty Reader will serve in your project.
- Set up an appointment with any UW faculty member (graduate students are ineligible) who you believe would be the best fit to serve as your faculty reader.** Be prepared to discuss your goals for the project and the support role you'd like a reader to provide.
- Ask your faculty reader to sign in the box below.** Make a plan with them for how they will support your project.
- Bring this completed and signed application, along with all supporting materials listed above, to the LSJ Advising Office in Smith 253. ***Completed applications must be received by 4pm on the first Friday of the quarter in which you plan to enroll in the LSJ Honors Sequence.***
- An LSJ Adviser will enroll you in LSJ 489, the first quarter of the Honors Thesis Sequence.

Honors Thesis Information

Which two quarters will you be writing this thesis? _____

Thesis Topic: _____

Required Faculty Signatures

Faculty Supervisor Name (Printed)*: _____

Faculty Supervisor Signature: _____

Faculty Reader Name (Printed): _____

Faculty Reader Signature: _____

Faculty Reader Department: _____

****Your faculty supervisor must be one of the following LSJ faculty:*** Katherine Beckett, Rachel Cichowski, Ann Frost, Angelina Godoy, Steve Herbert, George Lovell, Jamie Mayerfeld, Michael McCann, Stephen Meyers, Arzoo Osanloo. Your faculty reader must be a UW Professor but may be from any UW Department or Program.

Important Details

Questions faculty are likely to consider when determining whether to supervise your thesis:

- ✓ Does the topic relate well enough to LSJ as a whole and to the courses you've taken?
- ✓ Does the student have a strong enough grasp of the material to take this project to fruition?
- ✓ Is the scope of the research question too broad? Too narrow?
- ✓ Is there enough usable data to do this research?
- ✓ Can the research project be completed in two quarters by this student?
- ✓ Will the faculty be available for consultation during the two quarters you have selected?
- ✓ Can the suggested faculty member support a student with this particular project/topic?
- ✓ Based on the faculty knowledge of the student's abilities, can the student complete this project successfully and in the given amount of time?

Grading:

The LSJ Honors Thesis is completed over two quarters, with 5 credits of LSJ 488 in the first quarter and 5 credits of LSJ 489 in the second quarter. The two quarters must be consecutive. These two classes are graded with decimal grades (not CR/NC), but the grade for both quarters is only assigned after completion of the second quarter, at which time the student receives the same grade for both quarters.

Registration

The LSJ Adviser will register you in LSJ 488 after receiving your completed paperwork. Please email the LSJ Adviser during your registration period for the second quarter course (LSJ 489) to request to be enrolled.

Student Signature

I have completed this application in its entirety and agree to complete the LSJ Honors Thesis per the guidelines above and the plan I've arranged with my Faculty Supervisor and Faculty Reader.

Student Signature _____

Date _____