Course Description

Every Honors College student must complete an acceptable Honors Research Project. The Honors Research Project in Art is an integral part of the UA Honors experience for Myers School of Art students seeking degrees in fine arts, graphic design, art education, and art history. Interdisciplinary, creative projects are encouraged. Your project may be one of the following types:

- Research Thesis (Art History) - original scholarship investigating a significant question. This thesis must follow the standards of The Chicago Manual of Style and include an abstract of 200 words or less, a narrative of at least 25 pages, and a bibliography.
- Research Report (Art Education) - a formal written presentation of technical, laboratory, or investigative research. This report must follow the standards of The Chicago Manual of Style and include an abstract of 200 words or less, a narrative of at least 25 pages, and a bibliography.
- Artistic or Creative Performance or Production (Fine Art and Graphic Design) - an exhibition of at least 10 original works, completed independently of all other course work, or equivalent (given diversity in media, individual projects will have to be negotiated with the honors project advisor). A written thesis addressing content, media, working methodology, craft, and the historical and contemporary context for the project must also be submitted. This thesis must follow the standards of The Chicago Manual of Style and include an abstract (artist’s statement) of 200 words or less, a narrative of at least 10 pages, and a bibliography.
- Research Thesis (Art History) - original scholarship investigating a significant question. This thesis must follow the standards of The Chicago Manual of Style and include an abstract of 200 words or less, a narrative of at least 25 pages, and a bibliography.
- Research Report (Art Education) - a formal written presentation of technical, laboratory, or investigative research. This report must follow the standards of The Chicago Manual of Style and include an abstract of 200 words or less, a narrative of at least 25 pages, and a bibliography.

The project must meet high standards of scholarship. The student must also meet any additional department or college requirements for this project, such as prerequisite coursework or experience, qualifying examination, or oral presentation. Study abroad or field experience may be accepted, with the approval of the student’s honors faculty advisor, as part of the project.

The student must have attained senior standing or approval of the proposal from one of the deans of the Honors College and the approval of your honors faculty advisor before enrolling in Honors Project in Art for credit. The credit hours allowed for the Honors Research Project will depend on the nature of the project and the policies of individual departments. Usually students enroll in two-three hours per semester up to a total of six hours. The minimum number of credits is two. The proposal for the research project is due during the semester in which the student completes 96 credits.

Upon completion of the Honors Project in Art, students will produce a print-on-demand book from an online vendor (Blurb, MagCloud, etc.) and submit one copy to the Honors College. The Myers School of Art will purchase a copy. This book must include the following:

- title page,
- Honors Research Project signature page,
- Honors Research Project abstract or artist’s statement,
- narrative,
- bibliography,
- visual documentation of all visual works created, and
- visual documentation of exhibition or equivalent presentation of the work.

For additional information, see the Honors College Honors Research Project webpage:
http://www.uakron.edu/honors/curriculum/honors-research-project-curriculum.dot

Frequently Asked Questions about the Honors Research Project:
http://www.uakron.edu/honors/curriculum--frequently-asked-questions.dot

A database of Honors Research Projects from previous UA Honors students is accessible through this link:
http://www.uakron.edu/honors/honors-projects/students-honor-projects.dot

Rationale

The Honors Project in Art demonstrates a student’s ability to independently pursue her/his creative and scholarly research at an advanced level, beyond that of a standard baccalaureate degree, and exhibits research and critical skills developed through intense undergraduate study that are necessary to pursue a career or graduate-level study in his/her discipline.

Evaluation and Assessment

The Honors Faculty Advisor is responsible for overseeing and approving Honors Research Projects at every step in their progress including the Honors Research Project Proposal, meeting every three weeks with Honors Research Project students while students are enrolled for Honors Project in Art credits, submission of project drafts to sponsors and readers, submission of the Honors Research Project Abstract, and submission of the final project. Students are responsible for ensuring that all of these meetings and reviews occur and the scheduled times.

A student must select an Honors Research Project Sponsor and two Readers and seek permission from these individuals to work with them towards the completion of her/his research project. These three individuals will provide mentorship on the research project, be responsible for providing feedback for the student as the project progresses, and be responsible for grading the completed honors research project.

A student engaged in an Honors Research Project is responsible for meeting consistently with his/her sponsor throughout the process of completing the project, strictly meeting all deadlines, and ensuring that all materials submitted are only of the highest standards.
**Student Ethics**
Higher education is an intellectual endeavor. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner, treating each other with respect. The Myers School of Art has a zero tolerance policy for theft, plagiarism, or harassment of any kind, punishable by dismissal. For further information about The University of Akron’s policies regarding student ethics and conduct, please consult the following source: http://www.uakron.edu/studentlife/sja/codecon.php (Student Code of Conduct). Any student who feels she/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability please consult http://www.uakron.edu/access and the Office of Accessibility at (330) 972-7928.

**Honors Research Project Schedule**

**Junior Year Second Semester**

**Week 3**
- Meet with the honors faculty advisor to review Honors Research Project standards and process.

**Week 5**
- Select a faculty sponsor, under whose direction you can plan, complete, and report on the project.
- Discuss your ideas about a research project with faculty you would like as a sponsor.
- Select at least two other faculty readers. These readers may include extramural readers.
- Plan your research project.

**Week 7**
- With your sponsor's and readers’ approvals of your plan, complete the proposal form which must include the following:
  - Tentative title of the project.
  - Anticipated total number of credits.
  - Anticipated date of completion.
  - Names and signatures of sponsor and evaluation committee.
  - Honors Faculty Advisor's signature.
  - Associate Dean of the Honors College signature.
- Visual artist: secure exhibition venue. Work must be on display by the Monday of the 12th week of the semester in which the Honors Research Project is completed.

**Week 13**
- Honors Research Project Proposal Due. Submit to the Honors College Office.

**Senior Year First Semester**

**Week 1**
- Monday, 12:00 - 1:00 pm: meet with the honors faculty advisor to review Honors Research Project process and deadlines.
- Meet with faculty sponsor and begin work on project.

**Week 3**
- Meet with honors faculty advisor
- Meet with faculty sponsor

**Week 6**
- Meet with honors faculty advisor
- Meet with faculty sponsor

**Week 9**
- Meet with honors faculty advisor
- Meet with faculty sponsor

**Week 11**
- Monday: initial drafts of abstract and project to your faculty sponsor and honors faculty advisor.

**Week 12**
- Monday: subsequent drafts of abstract and project to your faculty sponsor, readers, and honors faculty advisor.
- Monday: visual arts exhibitions must be on display.

**Week 13**
- Monday: Submit abstract to the Honors College Office. The abstract for your project will be included in graduation materials. You may use the abstract in your project as the abstract you submit to the Honors College. If you don’t submit your abstract by this date, it will not appear in the graduation booklet. Please prepare the abstract according to guidelines as described on the Honors Research Project website: http://www.uakron.edu/honors/curriculum/honors-research-project-curriculum.dot
- Electronic submissions of abstracts may be sent to the following address: dgannon@uakron.edu.

**Week 14**
- Honors Research Project due to Honors College. Your project must be submitted electronically to: ao17@uakron.edu

**Week 15**
- Visual arts projects books due to the Honors College.