



HONORS PROGRAM

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Date: Dec. 14, 2016

To: Curriculum Committee

From: Marsha Sousa

Re: Requested revisions to curriculum proposals

This memo is in response to the changes to my curriculum proposals requested by Rob Duke. I believe I have addressed all the concerns, but please let me know if there is something I have neglected.

HONR F101

#22-UNC

Changes to Box 10 have been made.

In addition, I have changed the class to pass/fail grading.

Syllabus:

- Details of all assignments, and the methods by which they are graded, have been included in the syllabus.
- I have included a table of assignments and possible points. Please recognize that this may change each semester depending on the resources available on campus and the needs of the class. This class is tailored to the enrollees and the goal is to optimize the experience for them so that they commit to remaining in honors and complete the program.
- I have replace my language on the disability services with yours, and have added student support services and title IX.

HONR 201

Changes to Box 10 have been made. I also expanded the prerequisites to include COMM F131X as one alternate.

#23-UNC

Changes to Box 14 have been made to match prerequisites.

Syllabus:

- I have added Student Learning Outcomes
- Grading Rubrics have been added for writing and discussion assignments

- I have clarified that students need a B (not a B+) in honors courses to receive Honors credit. Students still get transcribed credit for courses in which they earn less than a B, but those courses do not count toward their required 27 credits of honors classes.
- I have changed the student support services as requested.

HONR F301

Though not requested, I revised the prerequisites on the format I and on the syllabus. #24-UNC

Syllabus:

- This is a seminar, and it will be driven by topic and by student choice. Thus, I cannot nail down an absolute schedule complete with readings and assignments. Instead, I have proposed what might constitute a plan for a single topic – knowing that we will cover more than one topic (probably 3-5 depending on how in depth we go). I have proposed one schema for grading that topical endeavor (discussion, white paper, oral presentation). I do not expect this to be identical each semester since different topics will drive different schedules, discussions, readings, presentations, guest speakers, discussions, etc.
- I have added rubrics that could be used for written and oral assignments. I expect those to be modified per specific assignments.
- The minimum grade for Honors credit is a B. That is in the syllabus.
- The class meets for 3 hours per week. Students will be reading, preparing presentations, conducting group work, and writing outside of class. This will largely be student directed, so their time commitment will be larger than if they were just reading assignments made by an instructor.
- One challenge I have had with getting this course going is that Honors students are savvy enough to know what they are required to do versus what might be good for them. The Honors Program wants to require this class, but until I have it in the catalog I will not be able to require it. Thus, although it was proposed for this fall, it did not run. It is proposed for spring 2017, and currently I have only 4 students (out of 160 honors students) registered. That is the primary reason that I need to get this pushed through as a course and as part of the program – even though it has not run as a trial course. I have the support of the Honors Advisory Council and Dean Fitts.

HONR F302

#25-UNC

- As the form states, this could be repeated for credit 3 times since the topic will change every semester. Realistically, I don't expect anyone to do it more than once.
- This is NOT for a student who wants to specialize in research – but rather one who doesn't. It provides an alternate for a student who either can't or doesn't want to conduct independent research leading to a thesis. What we are finding is that many students are doing research – but it is not independent research. They are stepping into a

PIs lab and participating in high quality research, but they are not actually generating a research hypothesis and exploring it by conducting independent research. Ultimately, we plan for the program to move away from requiring research and toward requiring an Honors group project. Research will remain as one option for enrichment among others (international study, internships, etc).

Syllabus:

- I have corrected they typo in the SLOs.
- I have added rubrics that could be used in grading.
- Since this is a project based course, I cannot provide a table of assignments. That will be driven by the particular group project. I have added a potential grading scheme that takes into account the contribution to the project, and the student's oral and written communication, as well as the overall project.
- This course has not been offered before, but, as stated above, I need to get it in the catalog before I can offer it as an alternate to independent research.

HONR F390

#26-UNC

Requested changed to Box 10 have been made.

Box 21 – I am not sure that I need to add anything to that box. Students are welcome to do both HONR F302 and HONR 390, or they can choose to do only one. Those choices will be made during intensive advising and the development of their personal growth plans which are revised each fall.

Syllabus:

I have added potential rubrics.

I have added a potential list of assignments with points.

As with all honors courses, a B or better must be earned to count toward Honors requirements.
