

Newcomb Tulane College Honors Program

Honors Thesis Prospectus

The prospectus should be a full statement of the topic for the thesis, as developed in consultation with the thesis advisor/first reader, second reader, and any other faculty member expected to contribute to the thesis. It is expected that honors theses will develop and change in the course of the year in ways that cannot be anticipated at the beginning of the process. At the same time, a prospectus provides direction for the student's research and is an essential starting point for an extended research project. Students may find the book *The Craft of Research* by Booth, Colomb, and Williams helpful in shaping the prospectus.

The prospectus must include the following elements:

- A title
- A statement of the topic of the thesis in terms of a question to be asked, a problem to be explored, or a hypothesis to be tested
- A discussion of what scholars or relevant experts have said and are saying about the topic
- The scope of the study, the methods or approaches to be used, and the materials or data to be used in research
- A statement, however provisional, of the importance of the topic. What will this thesis accomplish and why does it matter?
- A preliminary bibliography

The prospectus should be three to five pages in length, double-spaced, exclusive of bibliography. The first and second readers must sign below, signifying their approval of the prospectus. The prospectus and this signed form are due together in the Honors Program office by **4:00 pm on Monday, September 9, 2019.**

Name: _____

Major or majors for which thesis is being written: _____

Will your thesis involve human subjects and have you and your committee determined that the project requires IRB approval? Yes ____ No _____

If IRB approval is required, Have you begun the IRB process? Yes ____ No _____

Title of thesis: _____

For the faculty advisors/readers:

If you have any questions about the prospectus or about the honors thesis in general, please contact the Director of the Honors Program at 865-5517 or cmaheu@tulane.edu.

I have read the attached prospectus and am satisfied that the proposed thesis project is intellectually credible, achievable, and up to the standard of the honors thesis:

*First Reader or Co-Director (circle one)

Second Reader or Co-Director (circle one)

(sign and print name)

(sign and print name)

*If a student writes for two majors, the first and second readers serve as co-directors.