



**CONCERNING HONORS ELECTIONS**

*Thank you for agreeing to work with an honors student on this special honors election/independent study project. The following is designed to give a brief overview of the honors election project. If you have additional questions, please contact Maureen Thum, Honors Program Director, Dept. of English mthum@umflint.edu*

**Description of the Honors Election:**

- ⇒ *With the permission of the instructor, students enrolled in the Honors Program may select any course as an Honors Election.*
- ⇒ *The Honors Election consists of a mutually agreed upon project which requires at least 15 hours of extra work. The additional work should supplement in breadth or depth the regular content or experience of the course. The student may complete an additional assignment, or may undertake an independent study project.*
- ⇒ *See next page for further suggestions.*

**Procedure:**

- ⇒ *The student meets with the professor early in the semester in order to work out a mutually agreed upon project and timeline for completing an honors election.*
- ⇒ *The project may be completed during the semester, or after the course is completed. (In some cases the student may not be ready to complete the project until after completion of the course work.)*

**Grading/Evaluation**

- ⇒ *The Grade for the Honors election is not included as part of the grade for the course and does not influence the student's gpa. However, the comments on the quality of the honors election remain part of the student's file.*
- ⇒ *When the election is completed, the professor is requested to evaluate the project as satisfactory or unsatisfactory on a special form designated for honors elections.*

**Quality of Work:**

- ⇒ *The student should produce a professional project.*
- ⇒ *Students are encouraged to consult with the professor and hand in a rough draft for comment before the final draft is completed.*

**GUIDELINES FOR PROJECTS**

*The project should be a serious endeavor, which requires a minimum of fifteen hours of extra work in addition to the regular class requirements. The following are possibilities:*

- 1. lab project with lab report (suggested about 5 pages length)*
- 2. a written evaluation of additional reading material outside the regular syllabus*
- 3. attending and reporting on a performance (e.g. Stratford) for theater or music*
- 4. an additional paper for the course (generally these are 4-6 pages minimum length)*
- 5. an oral presentation based on independent research*
- 6. preparation of a conference paper, and presentation of the paper at a conference (undergraduate or professional)*
- 7. a research project or an experiment carried out with the professor (should take at least 15 hours of work)*
- 8. field work, and report on field work*
- 9. a public performance (music, theater)*
- 10. an arrangement or original composition (music, literature, art etc.)*
- 11. any project which the professor approves as a valid means to enhance the students understanding of the subject. by student and professor*
- 12. a community service project facilitated by the Service Learning Office.*
- 13. a Conference presentation at an undergraduate or professional conference*
- 14. a study of the culture, or other project attached to a beginning foreign language course*
- 15. field work and presentation of observations and conclusions*
- 16. Any project considered appropriate by the instructor*