

Guidelines for the Honors thesis in Linguistics

The student interested in pursuing Honors must submit a proposal for an honors thesis project to the DUS (see Guidelines below). This is due by the end of the first week following the conclusion of spring quarter before the student's senior year. The student should also submit the name of the faculty member who has agreed to be the thesis advisor, supervising the student's work on the thesis project. The thesis advisor, in consultation with the student and DUS, will identify a second thesis reader. The DUS, advisor and second reader constitute the Honors Committee.

After the DUS approves the thesis prospectus, the student undertakes the research and writing of their thesis in conjunction with 2 additional linguistics courses beyond those required for the major. These courses may be selected from [LING 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar in Linguistics](#), [LING 399-0 Independent Study](#), and 400-level courses. LING 398 is the typical route, and is an independent study intended to carve out sufficient time in the student's schedule to pursue the honors project.

Students must plan to graduate in June of their senior year. They must also meet the GPA requirements for honors in Linguistics (a minimum GPA of 3.5 in courses taken toward the Linguistics major).

The student should submit the thesis to the DUS no later than April 30 of their senior year. It is highly recommended that the student gets feedback on the thesis from the advisor before the submission deadline, so the student can make improvements before submitting it to the department. There is no revision of the thesis after it has been submitted to the department.

If the thesis is reviewed as satisfactory, and assuming all other requirements for departmental honors are met, the honors committee will submit a recommendation to Weinberg College that the student be awarded honors. This recommendation is due in mid-May.

Guidelines for the Honors thesis proposal:

The proposal should be 2-3 pages, including a timeline for the research. An extra page may be used for References. There are no strict formatting guidelines, but students are encouraged to following the style guidelines for the discipline closest to their research, e.g., [Chicago](#), [APA](#), or [ACM](#) styles. The purpose of the Honors thesis proposal is to document that the student has a topic and plan for research that has been vetted and approved by their advisor. The student will not receive critical feedback on the scientific merit or methods of their project, but the proposal must provide enough information about the research question and methods to demonstrate to the Linguistics Director Undergraduate Studies that the student is on track with a feasible project that can be completed in the allotted time. The proposal requirement is also a way to be sure that students are ready to start their honors research project by the start of Senior year.