



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE
**UNIVERSITY HONORS
PROGRAM**

HONORS CONTRACT

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY:

University Course: _____ Semester/Year: _____ Credit Hours: _____

Student Name: _____ Dawgtag: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Instructor Name: _____

Instructor's Department _____ Rank _____

Instructor Email: _____

The student must submit this completed form to the University Honors Program office by the end of the fourth week of the semester. No more than 2 contracts per semester.

If the student is unable to complete the terms of this contract, for any reason, they should contact the Honors office and their instructor immediately.

Please be advised that a student must earn at least a grade of "C" or higher for credit to be given towards their Honors requirements.

Signatures:

Student: _____ Date: _____

Instructor: _____ Date: _____

Department Chair: _____ Date: _____
(required if class instructor is a graduate/teaching assistant)

University Honors Program Director: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Added to database _____ Written in excel sheet _____ Written in file _____

Emailed student/notified if approved or denied _____ Petition _____

Given to mentor _____ Grade Added to database _____ Grade Written in File _____

Revised 9/15/2025

Please answer the following questions completely and in detail. You may attach additional materials to clarify your answers.

1. Why do you want to take this course via an Honors contract?
2. Describe the work to be completed that will make this course an Honors course. Please be specific. How does this work differ from the regular course work? Please emphasize the specifics and how this work relates to your academic goals, as well as how the work will support your learning and supplement the knowledge you hope to gain.

University Honors Program

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Contract for Honors Credit

An **Honors contract** is the agreement between a student who is enrolled in the University Honors Program and a professor that defines the terms whereby the student will complete an enhanced and enriched requirement for an existing course. The student will receive honors credit for the completion of the contracted requirements and will benefit from the opportunity to experience more responsibility, more student/instructor interaction and a more in-depth study of the course material. The honors contract defines and formalizes the method and means of this enhanced opportunity.

To the Honors Student:

The initiation of an honors contract is the responsibility of the student. Ideally, contact should be made with the instructor during the semester previous to the semester for the requested course. You should choose an instructor whose work interests you and with whom you would like to pursue a more in-depth academic experience. You may also choose a course based on subject matter alone.

You should discuss your interests with the instructor and define the work that will be included in the honors contract. It is important to remember that even though more work is a part of the Honors component, **more** alone does not fulfill the requirement. The emphasis is on **quality, breadth and depth** of work. For example, extra readings alone are not enough but need to lead to a more in-depth discussion or more substantive or original paper or project. After you and your professor agree on the requirements of the Honors course, the honors contract must be completed.

Once approved by the faculty member and/or Departmental Chair, the honors contract must be submitted to the University Honors Program by the Friday of the fourth week of the semester for approval.

If you find you are unable to complete the terms of your honors contract, please notify the University Honors Program office and your instructor immediately. The deadline is no later than the end of the 12th week of the semester.

To the Honors Instructor:

Contracted courses are initiated by the student interested in pursuing something a little different from the assignments in class. Some possible examples of Honors contracts include, but are not limited to:

- A paper on a more challenging topic than those required of other students
- More sophisticated experiments or problems
- Extra problem sets or experiments in an area not heavily explored in class
- Extended readings on an author or historical figure not thoroughly covered in the class
- Viewing/experiencing cultural artifacts related to the subject matter and writing response papers
- Leading a class discussion on a topic thoroughly studied and prepared by the student
- Translating a short work
- Meetings with the instructor to discuss additional readings

Should the Honors student be unable to complete the Honors contract, please notify the Program at honors@siu.edu.