

Honors Program in Integrative Neuroscience

Outstanding students are encouraged to participate in the Honors Program in Integrative Neuroscience which requires preparation of a thesis which consists of a proposal, data collection, written analysis and an oral defense of the final thesis. Successful completion of the program results in graduation with "Distinguished Independent Work in Integrative Neuroscience."

Requirements for integrative neuroscience majors:

- (1) Grade Point Average: At the completion of the seventh semester, a student must have a grade point average of 3.3 for all integrative neuroscience courses attempted and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- (2) Course Requirements: Students must register for, and complete satisfactorily, at least four (4) credits of PSYC 499 or BIOL 498 with an integrative neuroscience mentor, preferably distributed over two semesters.

Appeals:

Any student who fails to meet one or more of the requirements listed above may petition the Integrative Neuroscience Program director for a waiver of a particular requirement. Appeals for waiver of requirements must be filed by the first Monday in November for students who plan to complete their thesis in the spring semester.

Procedures:

- (1) Formation of Honors Committee: Prior to the end of the seventh semester, the student must form an Honors Committee consisting of a faculty sponsor in the Integrative Neuroscience Program who will serve as chair of the committee, and at least two other faculty members chosen in conjunction with the faculty sponsor. **At least one of the committee members must be from a department other than that of the supervising faculty member.**
- (2) Written Research Proposal: During the semester prior to the semester in which the student plans to complete the honors research, the student must submit a written research proposal to the members of his or her Honors Committee no later than one week prior to the last day of classes. Approval of the proposal by the Honors Committee is necessary for the student to be accepted into the Honors Program. A copy of the approved proposal signed by all committee members and a completed honors application form (available in the Undergraduate Integrative Neuroscience Advising Office, S4-230) must be filed in the Undergraduate Integrative Neuroscience Advising Office no later than the last day of classes during the semester prior to the semester in which the student wishes to receive honors.
- (3) Defense of the thesis: One week prior to the scheduled defense, the student must submit to his or her Honors Committee a written thesis based on the research accomplished. The student must defend the thesis orally before the committee and any other interested parties no later than the Friday prior to the last week of classes.
- (4) Procedures for final certification: Determination of the student's receipt of the "Distinguished Independent Work in Integrative Neuroscience" designation will reside solely with a student's Honors Committee, assuming the student has met all the requirements listed above; such certification must be conveyed to the chairperson of the Undergraduate Committee by the student's faculty sponsor so that timely notification of the award can be transmitted to the dean's office and to the registrar. A copy of the final thesis, signed by all members of the student's Honors Committee, must be filed in the

Undergraduate Integrative Neuroscience Advising Office to certify completion of the Honors Program.

Timetable for Completing an Honors Thesis

As soon as possible: Draft proposal that is acceptable to sponsor. (Length and contents of proposal will be specified by the faculty sponsor.) Put together Honors Committee. **One week prior to the last day of classes:** Final version of proposal to committee. **No later than the last day of classes:** Copy of proposal signed by committee and application due to the Undergraduate Psychology Advising Office. **One week before defense (see below):** Draft of thesis to committee. **As soon as possible:** Draft of thesis approved by faculty sponsor. **No later than the Friday prior to the last week of classes:** Defense of Honors Thesis. **Senior Year, Fall Semester** (see Procedures, parts 1 & 2) **Senior Year, Spring Semester** (see Procedures, parts 3 & 4) **Following the defense:** Copy of the final thesis to the Undergraduate Psychology Advising Office.

APPLICATION FORM - HONORS PROGRAM IN PSYCHOBIOLOGY

Name: _____ SS#: _____

Local Address: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Local Phone #: _____ Permanent Phone #: _____

Overall GPA: _____ Major GPA: _____ Credit hours completed to date (not in progress): _____

COMMITTEE SIGNATURES REQUIRED:

Thesis proposal approved on the following date _____ by: _____ (chair of Honors committee)

(Print name) (Signature)

(Print name) (Signature) (committee member)

(Print name) (Signature) (outside-dept committee member)

STATEMENT TO BE SIGNED BY STUDENT:

_____ I understand the requirements for the Honors Program in Psychobiology and have met all of the requirements.

_____ I plan to defend my thesis by the last week of classes in the _____ semester.

_____ I have/will register for a least 4 credit hours of Independent Research.

Signature/Date: _____

PLEASE ATTACH: Copy of most recent transcript or DARS report

Independent Research registration form for PSYC 499

Copy of approved thesis proposal signed by all members of the committee

The above-named student _____ was _____ was not accepted into the Honors Program in Psychobiology.

Signature of Program Director/Date: _____