

Departmental Honors Thesis Guidelines

Majors who have reached the end of their junior year with a GPA in departmental courses of 3.50 or higher may, in conjunction with a senior-level course, write an honors thesis. Acceptance of the thesis by the Classics Department will qualify the student to graduate with departmental honors in Classics.

These formal research papers are typically 8,000–10,000 words in length and written under the supervision of a Classics faculty member. Formatting requirements are as follows: standard Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, numbered pages). Images (if present) should appear after the text and before the bibliography in their own section. Images should NOT be embedded in the text. The bibliography should contain scholarly references that consist of both primary and secondary sources. Students are encouraged to begin the honors thesis process early in their senior year. Although individual student deadlines will vary, the basic procedural steps are as follows:

- ✓ Identify a research topic (deriving from a senior-level course) and a faculty supervisor
- ✓ Submit a Departmental Honors Application
- ✓ Develop a timeline for completion with your faculty supervisor
- ✓ Submit a draft to your faculty supervisor
- ✓ Revise and resubmit your thesis until it is approved by faculty supervisor
- ✓ The final version of the honors thesis is due on **April 15th**

Note that funding is available for Classics students pursuing independent research [link to Awards and Fellowships: <https://www.classics.pitt.edu/undergraduate/awards-and-fellowships>]. Qualified students might also choose to pursue the Bachelor of Philosophy degree [link to BPhil website: <https://honorscollege.pitt.edu/academics/bphil-degree>] through the Honors College.

**Undergraduate Departmental Honors Application
Department of Classics, University of Pittsburgh**

Student Name: _____ *PeopleSoft Number:* _____

Phone Number: _____ *Pitt E-mail Address:* _____

Overall GPA:* _____ *Classics GPA*:* _____

* In addition to successfully writing your thesis, you must have a 3.25 overall GPA and a 3.5 Classics GPA by the time you graduate in order to earn departmental honors in Classics.

Title of Project:

Faculty Supervisor Name: _____

Describe how often you will be meeting with your faculty supervisor:

Description of Project: Attach a brief (1-2 paragraphs) description of your research project and a tentative timeline for the completion of your thesis (in list format).

By signing below, I am indicating that I understand the departmental honors requirements and my role in the process of completing the honors thesis.

Student: _____ *Date application submitted:* _____

Faculty Supervisor: _____

**Returned the signed application form to:
Taylor Pipkin
(Office Location: 1531 Cathedral of Learning; Email: classics@pitt.edu)**