HONORS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Honors in Psychology (formerly Independent Work for Distinction) is an opportunity for senior psychology majors to undertake a yearlong research project for psychology course credit (PS401/402). Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and are not eligible to apply if they have any incompletes. All students who wish to participate in the Honors in Psychology program must find a full-time psychology faculty member to serve as the primary advisor. (Please see the list of faculty research interests on the bulletin board next to Room PSY 153 in the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences.) Honors students are required to complete a thesis and present their research findings to a committee of three members of the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences. The committee will consider both the thesis and the oral examination when determining the student’s grade. A grade of B+ or higher in each semester is required to graduate with distinction.

Please note that the Honors project is designed for seniors to work on a two-semester independent study while on campus during their final two semesters. Both the faculty advisor and the student have to be on campus while working on the project.

Application Instructions

You must complete the attached application in consultation with your project advisor. Please include the following materials with your application:

- Provide a brief description of your intended project. Outline the significance of the proposed work, the method of investigation that will be employed, and the ways the result of the investigation will be analyzed.

- Include a bibliography of readings that are relevant to your work.

- Explain how this project fits in with your academic and career goals.

- Attach an unofficial copy of your BU transcript.

Your project advisor must complete the student evaluation section and both you and your project advisor need to sign the application. You must then submit the application to the department’s main office (Room 149) for review by Dr. Joanne Hebden Palfai, Director of Undergraduate Studies and Dr. Michael Lyons, Chairman. You will be notified via e-mail once the review process has been completed. If your application is approved, the course will be added to your schedule.

The deadline to submit the application for Honors in Psychology is May 15th. If you find it necessary to request an extension, please contact Dr. Joanne Hebden Palfai, Director of Undergraduate Studies, before the deadline.
APPLICATION FOR HONORS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Title of Project: ____________________________________________________________

Student Information (Please print all information)

First and last name: _______________________________________________________

BU ID#: _________________________________________________________________

Email Address: ___________________________________________________________

Mailing Address: _________________________________________________________

Phone Number: __________________________________________________________

Expected graduation date (month/year): ________________________________

Semesters working on project: _____________________________________________

Grade Point Average: _____________________________________________________

Student’s Signature: ______________________________________________________

Faculty Project Advisor information (Please print all information)

First and last name: ______________________________________________________

Email address: __________________________________________________________

Office mailing address: __________________________________________________

Office phone number: ____________________________________________________

Project Advisor’s Signature: ______________________________________________
To be completed by the Honors project advisor:

Student’s name:

How long and in what capacity have you known the student?

Please evaluate the applicant’s aptitude for independent research according to the criteria listed below. Please add any applicable comments.

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<th>Exceptional</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Unable to judge</th>
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<td>Intellectual ability</td>
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<td>Breadth of knowledge in subject</td>
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<td>Written communication skills</td>
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Comments:

Date of Submission to the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences:
(Office use only)____________________________

Director of Undergraduate Studies (PRINT)____________________________

Director of Undergraduate Studies (SIGNATURE)__________________________Date:_______

Department Chairman (PRINT) _________________________________________

Department Chairman (SIGNATURE) ____________________________Date:_______
Information about UROP (Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program) Related to Honors in Psychology:

Students undertaking Honors in Psychology projects may (but are not required to) participate in the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP).

Students performing Honors projects may apply for UROP funding for a supplies grant (FROG) to supplement the costs of their research supplies. However, while a student is performing Honors projects (for academic credit), he/she may not receive a stipend grant (FMG or SRA) from UROP.

For information about academic year and summer funding opportunities from UROP, please visit the UROP website at www.bu.edu/urop. You may also contact the UROP staff at urop@bu.edu or 617-353-2020