

HONORS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Honors in Psychology 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 more than one incomplete (“I”) grade on their transcript. All students who wish to participate in the Honors in Psychology program must find a *psychology faculty member, to serve as the primary advisor and must conduct research in the faculty mentor’s lab within the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences (PBS). Students will not be allowed to conduct research outside of the Department for Honors in Psychology. A list of faculty who are interested in supervising Honors in Psychology projects and additional information about Honors in Psychology is posted on the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences web site at www.bu.edu/psych/undergraduate/honors. 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.

*This includes faculty members who have primary appointments in the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences (PBS) or joint appointed faculty who have appointments in PBS and another department at Boston University. The research must be conducted in the faculty member’s lab.

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. David Somers, 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 31st.

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.

	Exceptional	Good	Fair	Poor	Unable to judge
Intellectual ability					
Breadth of knowledge in subject					
Written communication skills					
Ability to work independently					
Level of initiative					
Level of motivation					
Laboratory skills (if applicable)					

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