

Instructions

For the student:

1. On the "PSY 4970: Report on Senior Thesis form", fill out the top half of the form, including the exam date, your name, UFID, and title of your senior thesis.
2. Give this entire packet to your thesis committee chair at your senior thesis defense.
3. At the conclusion of your defense, return the "PSY 4970: Report on Senior Thesis form" to psychology advising (PSY 135), and if deemed appropriate by the chair, the individual evaluation forms also.

For the thesis committee chair:

1. At the end of the oral defense, please distribute an individual evaluation form (contained in this packet) to each committee member as well as yourself. Criteria for determining high vs. highest honors are listed on the form.
2. Have each committee member give an independent written vote on his/her form, then collect the forms and tabulate the votes.
3. If there is a unanimous vote for highest honors (all three committee members voted highest), then check the highest honors box on the "PSY 4970: Report on Senior Thesis form". Otherwise, check the high honors box on the "PSY 4970: Report on Senior Thesis form". Only a unanimous vote for highest honors will result in a recommendation of highest honors.
4. Have each committee member print and sign his/her name in the appropriate spaces on the "PSY 4970: Report on Senior Thesis form".
5. Return the completed, sign form to the student.
6. For the individual evaluation forms, Dr. Abrams would like to have them as a way of evaluating this system for determining honors, by getting a better sense of how votes are being distributed. If you are not comfortable in giving these evaluations to the student, please put them in Dr. Abrams's mailbox in PSY 114 or drop them off at the advising office in PSY 135. Put the student's name on them in either case. Alternatively, if you do not mind the student seeing them, you can give the forms to him/her along with the senior thesis form.

PSY 4970: Report on Senior Thesis
Department of Psychology, University of Florida

NOTE: Use this form to record the result of the Senior Thesis defense. This form completes the Department of Psychology requirements only. Other information and forms are required by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Advising / Honors Office. To complete this form, please type or print neatly.

Exam Date: _____

To the Chair and Undergraduate Coordinator of the Department of Psychology:

Name: _____ UFID: _____ - _____

has submitted, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for Honors, a Senior Thesis entitled:

This thesis has been examined by all members of the student's Thesis Committee and has been recommended for:

None

(Honors will be awarded with a 3.5 Upper Division GPA without Thesis approval.)

High Honors

Highest Honors

(Requires unanimous vote from committee)

Thesis Committee Members' Approval

Committee Chair's Name UFID

Committee Chair's Signature Date

Member Name UFID
(*If co-chair, check this box:)

Member Signature Date

Member Name UFID

Member Signature Date

Undergraduate Coordinator's Approval

Undergraduate Coordinator Signature Date

CLAS / ACC notified

Individual Evaluation Form

The following criteria are designed to provide guidance to faculty when evaluating senior theses for high versus highest honors:

1. Both the written thesis and oral defense should be considered when voting about high vs. highest honors. By allowing both aspects of the process to contribute, the committee will be able to get a better sense of the student's intellectual grasp of the project as well as the independent contributions of the student. This criterion gives the committee greater flexibility – for example, a slightly weaker written product could be offset by an exceptional oral defense, and vice-versa. Alternatively, a strong written product that is accompanied by a poor oral defense might not be deemed worthy of highest honors.
2. In conjunction with a strong oral defense, highest honors should be awarded in cases where the thesis is of "publishable quality", as determined by the thesis committee. Because of the time course of many research projects (and for some areas, multiple studies are needed for publication), the thesis does not need to be published or submitted for publication as a stand-alone paper. However, the thesis would be suitable as a clear first step in the direction of publication as dictated by the publication standards of a particular area in psychology.
3. The above guidelines emphasize that the designation of highest honors should be reserved for the truly outstanding theses. By way of a general guideline, it is recommended that highest honors be awarded for theses and defenses in the top 20% of those submitted.

Keeping the criteria listed above in mind, please check the appropriate box below to indicate your evaluation of this student's senior thesis:

None

High Honors

Highest Honors

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