

# Oakland City University

## Honors Contract

**DEADLINE: Friday of the 2nd week of classes**

An Honors Contract is a binding agreement between a student and faculty member that enrolls a student in an honors version of a standard course. Students should expect to produce additional or alternative work, to produce high-quality work, and to meet regularly throughout the semester with their faculty instructor.

The course work assigned to a student with an Honors Contract contributes to the student's final course grade. When an application for an honors contract is submitted, the completed contract form must be accompanied by both the regular course syllabus and a revised syllabus showing the additional and/or alternative work assigned to the student, along with the deadlines for that work and the revised grading scheme for the course.

Student: Please certify these statements by checking each box:

I qualify for honors coursework at Oakland City University  I am working with a professor

**Honors Contract Course** for (please circle one) FALL / SPRING / SUMMER semester, 20\_\_\_\_

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_ Course Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Course Title: \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
**Student and Faculty:** I hereby agree to the attached honors syllabus, grade scheme, and deadlines.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Name** (please PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Faculty Name** (please PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_@oak.edu  
Student E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_@oak.edu  
Faculty E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Telephone No.

(812) \_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Telephone No.

.....  
**(OFFICE USE ONLY)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approval Signature from Director of Honors Program

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Honors Contracts: FAQs

### What is an honors contract?

An honors contract is an agreement between an undergraduate student and a faculty instructor that allows the student to transform a standard course into an Honors course. Submitting an Honors Contract form with appropriate authority signatures represents a commitment by both the student and the faculty instructor.

### How is an Honors Contract course different from a standard course?

A student enrolling in an Honors Contract course may do more work (e.g. the addition of an honors project to a standard syllabus) or alternative work (e.g. a different set of assignments). In general, honors contracts allow the student to go beyond the material of the regular course and to produce more sophisticated work. A student may, for example, delve more deeply into methodology, structure, theory, or application; perform additional or alternative research; develop a service project; or present findings in some format.

### How much work is involved in an honors contract?

Workload varies depending on design, but it should remain within a reasonable minimum and maximum. One rule of thumb is the time it takes to research and write a 10-page paper (minimum) or a 20-page paper (maximum)—or the appropriate disciplinary equivalent. A student should expect to spend more time on an Honors Contract course than the standard version of the course.

### What is expected from the partners in an Honors Contract?

Student and faculty partners are expected to develop an Honors syllabus with clearly outlined expectations, deadlines, and grading scale. Students are also expected to plan regular meetings with the faculty instructor throughout the semester to review and discuss the honors elements of the course.

### Is Honors Contract work part of the course grade?

Yes. Course work assigned to a student with an Honors Contract contributes to the student's final course grade.

### Who may offer an Honors Contract course?

All full-time Oakland City University faculty members may offer a contract course.