



The Honors Thesis & the Economics Major (adopted 2/5/05)

The Process of Matching Students with Mentors:

Being a small department, we believe we will be able to quickly match – in a fair, productive manner – our Honors Fellow students with mentors. We do not anticipate the need for a formal departmental procedure.

The Senior Honors Thesis & the Existing Senior Project:

Four hours of Honors Thesis credit (HNR 498) will count as the ECO 498 (“Senior Thesis Research in Economics,” 2 hours in the fall, and 2 hours in the spring) requirement for economics majors, provided that the thesis director is an economist.

What Constitutes Acceptable Honors Thesis Work in Economics?

All senior economics majors are expected to build an *original Coherent Argument* (see the Appendix for a definition) in ECO 498. We expect all of our majors to build at least a *competent* Coherent Argument (see the scoring guide in the Appendix) and to make a public presentation of their results. We should expect more of our majors who are Honors Fellows. For Honors Fellows who are senior economics majors, we will expect: (1) an *excellent* Coherent Argument (see the scoring guide), and (2) a presentation of their results in a non-student session of a professional meeting of economists (i.e., the annual meeting of the Southern Economic Association or the Eastern Economic Association.)

Just as all members of the department evaluate each senior Coherent Argument – all members will evaluate the Honors Thesis of each economics major who is an Honors Fellow.