

Research Projects (Quantitative or Qualitative studies)  
Theoretical Projects (Integrative or Historical/Library based studies)  
Scholarship of Teaching and Learning  
Program Evaluation and Assessment  
Program Design & Implementation  
Community Based Research

## Honors Program Guidelines

### I. Eligibility

From the Messiah University Catalog: "PSYC/CRIJ/SOAN 497, 498 Major Honors (3,3) Independent research program for students who have a strong academic record and have completed at least 69 credits of undergraduate study. An overall minimum GPA of 3.5 and a minimum GPA of 3.75 is required for courses in their major, and the student must have departmental approval for enrollment." Although a student may be eligible to complete an honors project, it is up to the department to decide whether the application will be approved based on proposed idea, and availability of faculty to advise the study.

### II. Basic Timeline

This departmental honors process spans over the student's last three semesters: Approval semester, 497

- e. proposed methodology (for data-driven projects),
  - f. an outline of the study including questions to be explored,
  - g. and a preliminary reference list of sources on the topic to be studied.
4. **Proposal Approval:** The Project Advisor will bring the name of the student and their proposal forward for consideration in the first department meeting after advising week begins. Based on criteria above, the proposal must be approved by department majority before the student may proceed.
  5. **Advisory Team:** The student is encouraged to seek out professionals with specific skills and experience for collaboration throughout the project, meeting together as necessary. The Project Advisor will work with the student to ensure they have adequate resources and necessary expertise from others.
  6. **The student should register for XXXX 497 h (r)ei5.6 (c)ghrcrrh sdeueee student to**

**XXXX 498 SEMESTER – (usually occurs in the last semester prior to graduation).**

1. **Obtain IRB Approval and/or Begin Data Collection** (as applicable)
2. **Final Draft of Project:** Two weeks before the end of the semester (refer to the syllabus for the exact date), the student in XXXX 498 should submit a draft of the final project to the Project Advisor (and Advisory Team as applicable), who then will review and give direction as needed.
3. **Formal Presentation:** At the end of the semester of XXXX 498, the student must give a formal presentation to the Department Faculty and to other interested individuals. Typically, this will take place around Finals Week, if not sooner (e.g., SACS Symposium).
4. **Final Approval:** After the Final Presentation, the Project Advisor will indicate their approval of the Final Project by assigning a grade. This should be completed within one week of the end of the semester in which XXXX 498 is taken and prior to graduation. No final grade will be submitted to the Registrar's Office until the student submits the final corrected copy of the project paper.
5. **Archiving:** The student will submit a copy of the project in a PDF format to the department's administrative assistant and the Project Advisor, prompting the Project Advisor to submit the final grade. Lastly, the student must submit final project through [MOSAIC](#), Messiah's Open Scholarship and Intellectual Creativity site.