

Department of Music – Research Honors Project Guidelines

Procedures to Submit Prospectus for Research Honors

Students may complete an honors project in music in several different areas or combinations thereof: **composition**, culminating in a recital of original compositions; **performance**, culminating in a solo recital accompanied by program notes; **research**, culminating in a written thesis; or **hybrid**, honors project that combines research with either performance or composition. A hybrid research/performance honors project culminates in a half recital (30 minutes) coupled with a 25-40 page written thesis. A hybrid research/composition honors project culminates in a half recital of original compositions coupled with a 25-40 page written thesis. Projects should represent high achievement within the undergraduate academic setting, on a par with the best undergraduate work at any academic institution. Honors projects that combine areas must meet the stated requirements for both areas being combined. Students with an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher may submit a proposal for an honors project in music. The deadline for submission is March 1 of the junior year.

Procedures to Submit Proposal for Research Honors

1. In the first week of October and the first week of November a “Call for Proposals for Honors Projects” is sent to all junior music majors with a 3.5 GPA or above.
2. By January 15th of the Junior year, student should schedule a meeting with the Director of Undergraduate Research to go over the Emory College Honors Program as it is fulfilled in the Music Department. In this meeting the student should have a general idea about the research project and should have approached the faculty member who will serve as the primary advisor for the honors project. Artist Affiliates are not to be named primary advisors but may serve on the committee. The primary advisor will need to agree to provide regular guidance and input to the student. In the case of performance honors where the applied instructor is an artist affiliate, the primary advisor and artist affiliate will work together in advising the student and assuring that appropriate deadlines are met. In every case the student should inform any faculty involved about the time and commitment required.
3. By February 15th of the Junior year, prospective honors students must submit a written proposal (detailed below) to the Director of Undergraduate Research for review and revision.
4. By March 1st of the Junior year, prospective honors students must re-submit their revised written proposal (detailed below) to the Director of Undergraduate

Research for distribution to the full faculty of the Music Department. **The Honors proposal must be signed by the primary advisor and artist affiliate, if applicable.** Faculty consideration of an honors proposal will be based on student eligibility, the merit of the proposed recital program, portfolio, or research project, and the faculty advisor's assessment of the student's work at that juncture. The music faculty will approve or deny the project by May 1. Approval is given based on the vote of the music faculty. Any changes of personnel, including primary faculty advisor or applied music instructor, will void approval of the proposed project. Once approved the student must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Research and agree to meet all deadlines associated with the project.

For Research Honors: The Proposal for Research Honors should include **1)** either an abstract or articulation of the research question(s) addressed in the thesis, **2)** a paragraph about the methodology to be employed, **3)** an outline and timeline of research, **4)** a listing of any travel involved (such as to foreign libraries or collections held by other universities), **5)** a budget for the entire project, and **6)** a preliminary bibliography. Student may apply for funding assistance through other sources, such as the Friends of Music or the SIRE Research Program. Students should consult the departmental Director of Undergraduate Research for more information.

Honors Committee

Once the Honors Proposal has been approved by the full faculty an Honors Committee will be chosen by the student in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Research. The committee shall be comprised of the full-time faculty honors advisor, one other regular faculty member from Music, and one faculty member from another department. An Artist affiliate can serve on the honors committee and vote as a fourth faculty member.

Coursework

- All Research honors students will enroll in Mus495A for 3 credit hours. In the second semester of the research honors project students will enroll in Mus495BW for 4 credit hours. Mus495A and Mus495BW do not count toward the general requirements for the music major, but Mus495BW satisfies the continuing writing requirement. All college rules for drop/add apply to these two courses.
- In addition, the student must take one additional Category C course offered within the Music Department during the junior or senior year. This course may fulfill one of your two required general music electives.

Oral Defense

An oral defense of the honors project will be given at the end of the senior year, no later than April 8. This defense usually entails a 20-30 minute presentation followed by questions from the committee. All committee members must be present. The committee will recommend the following to the College Honors Committee:

Highest Honors (*summa cum laude*): completion of the program with exceptional performance, together with an overall average of 3.50.

High Honors (*magna cum laude*): completion of the program with outstanding performance, together with an overall average of 3.50.

Honors (*cum laude*): satisfactory completion of the honors program, together with an overall average of 3.50.

No Honors: any part of the program is incomplete or unsatisfactory.

Satisfactory Progress

The student's honors committee retains the right to withdraw honors eligibility and/or cancel an honors project or recital at any time if the work is not progressing at a rate that insures successful completion of the program.

Deadlines for Research Honors Projects

Jan/Feb, junior year	Identify honors advisor and consult several times to define and outline project.
March 1, junior year	Proposal due to Music Department, include proposed research project description, signed by instructor/faculty advisor
May 1, junior year	Proposal approval or denial, propose date for oral defense
Sept 30, senior year	Honors committee selection completed
2 weeks prior to oral defense	Thesis must be made available to all committee members
March/April, senior year	Oral defense
April 1, senior year Committee	Final draft of thesis, all corrections made, due to
April 8, senior year	Oral examination completed; two copies of the final document must be submitted
April 11, senior year	College deadline for submission of honors project. All submissions will be made electronically.

Instructions for Electronic Submission of audio/video materials (if applicable)

The performance will be recorded and the student will receive a CD, DVD, and an upload-ready electronic file of the recital. The conversion to an upload-ready electronic file is done by the Schwartz Center staff. In the event that the audio/video materials

cannot be converted to an electronic format by the deadline, turn in a copy of the CD and DVD along with your exam report with their signatures of your committee members. The library staff will then make the electronic files later.

Recording (if applicable)

A recital must be professionally recorded. The honors student will arrange for the recording through the Schwartz Center staff. The student will receive one DVD and four CDs of the performance. Additional copies may be made by the student.

Publicity

All publicity for any research presentation must be reviewed and approved by your honors advisor.