
Selections from
Regulations and Guidelines for the Senior Thesis | Project

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page 1 of 1 page

1. The thesis |project will normally be brought to completion during the senior year. The thesis |project should engage each student in research, reflection, and writing; and it should also provide students with the opportunity to work closely with faculty members who will guide them in beginning, pursuing, and completing the thesis |project.
2. Because of wide variations in method and expectations among the various departments of the University, the Program hesitates to impose a specific description or to demand certain dimensions for the thesis |project. It is envisioned as a research or independent study endeavor lasting a term or longer and resulting in a final product judged to be of appropriately high quality by two faculty members, who are designated the mentor and the reader of thesis |project.
3. The mentor and reader should provide guidance to the student in preparing the thesis |project.
 - a. As a general rule, the thesis |project mentor and the reader should hold full-time faculty appointments at Santa Clara University, but the Director of the University Honors Program may approve other qualified persons to serve in either or both capacities.
 - b. The mentor will have primary responsibility for directing the student in preparing the thesis |project. The mentor will ordinarily be a member of the department in which the student is completing a major but, if appropriate, may represent another department or discipline.
 - c. The reader's participation is intended to extend the student's interaction with faculty members concerning the thesis |project and, ideally, to improve the interdisciplinary scope of the endeavor. It is presumed that the reader will assume a role secondary to that of the mentor. The reader's contributions may be limited to providing comment on an advanced draft of the thesis |project, but this guideline is not intended to exclude more extensive participation on the reader's part.
 - d. In order to encourage interdisciplinary thought, and again as a general rule, the mentor and reader should belong to different departments or schools of the University. The Director of the University Honors Program may permit exceptions to this guideline.
4. Students are to enroll in HNRS 199 during the quarter in which they intend to complete their thesis |project, but certainly no later than the term in which they intend to graduate. The Director of the University Honors Program will be the instructor of record.
5. If the mentor and reader agree that the thesis |project is unacceptable, the thesis |project requirement cannot be considered complete.

THE FULL STATEMENT OF REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM OFFICE UPON REQUEST.