

Honors-by-Contract (HBC) provides honors students an opportunity to earn honors credit by integrating an honors experience into a regular (non-honors) course. The contract is the product of a collaborative agreement between the student and the instructor on the structure and expectations of the honors-level work to be completed. Students are limited to a maximum of 2 HBCs per semester; special consideration may be provided only in exceptional circumstances for an additional HBC. It is the student's responsibility to distribute the HBCs within their degree plan and their academic program.

### **Characteristics of an Honors-by-Contract**

- Focus is on enriched content / skills in terms of depth and/or complexity; not just increased volume
- Mutual benefit for student and instructor
- Faculty mentorship of student including regularly scheduled meetings
- Calendar of due dates for elements of the honors work
- Clearly stated assignment type (e.g., report, journal, paper, product, presentation, performance, exhibition, service etc.) as well as criteria for assessment (e.g., page length, quality of argument, formatting requirements, etc.)

### **Development of an Honors-by-Contract**

- Think creatively about what you would like to learn beyond the course content
- Meet with your instructor in the first week of classes to discuss ideas for a contract
- Work with the instructor to write a 250-word description of the project you will do and how it will be assessed
- Complete the Honors-by-Contract (HBC) form and attach a copy of the regular course syllabus, along with the 250-word description mentioned above
- Sign the form and have your instructor sign the form
- Submit the HBC contract and attached forms to the Honors College office within 3 weeks of the first day of the semester
- Consult with the Honors College if you have questions about the contract

### **Credit for an Honors-by-Contract**

- Complete the honors contract plus the regular course requirements with a letter grade of "A" or "B"
- Have your instructor submit the Honors-by-Contract Evaluation Form to the Honors College during the end-of-semester exam period to receive credit; without the form no credit is provided
- Notify your instructor and the Honors College Dean if you wish to cancel the contract before the last day of classes
- If regular course requirements are fulfilled but the Honors-by-Contract is not, you will receive regular course credit but no honors credit.

*Updated: 10.31.2024*