

PSY4970: Report on Senior Thesis

Instructions

Department of Psychology, University of Florida

Undergraduate Coordinator Dr. Ron Chandler Email: ronchandler@ufl.edu	Undergraduate Psychology Advising Office Email: psych-advising@ufl.edu
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Student Instructions:

1. Complete the top portion of the PSY 4970: Report on Senior Thesis form, including your exam date, name, UFID, and the title of your thesis.
2. Bring the entire packet to your senior thesis defense and give it to your thesis committee chair.
3. After your defense, submit the completed PSY 4970 Report on Senior Thesis form via email to the Undergraduate Coordinator and copy Psychology Advising. If your chair deems it appropriate, include the individual evaluation forms as well.

Thesis Committee Chair Instructions:

1. At the conclusion of the oral defense, distribute an individual evaluation form (included in this packet) to each committee member, including yourself.
 1. Evaluation criteria for high vs. highest honors are listed on the form.
2. Each committee member should independently complete and sign their evaluation form. Please collect all forms and tabulate the votes.
3. If all three members vote for highest honors, check the “highest honors” box on the PSY 4970: Report on Senior Thesis form.
 1. If not unanimous, check the “high honors” box. Only a unanimous vote qualifies for the highest honors recommendation.
4. Ensure all committee members print and sign their names in the designated areas on the PSY 4970 form.
5. Return the completed PSY 4970 form to the student.
6. Please provide the Undergraduate Coordinator with individual evaluation forms to better assess the honors evaluation system. If you're comfortable sharing the evaluations, you may return them to the student along with the thesis form.
 1. If you prefer not to give the forms to the student, please email them directly to the Undergraduate Coordinator.
 2. In either case, please ensure the student's name is clearly indicated on each form.

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NOTE: Use this form to record the result of the Senior Thesis defense. This form completes the Department of Psychology requirements only. Other information and forms are required by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Advising / Honors Office. To complete this form, please type or print neatly.

Exam Date: _____

To the Chair and Undergraduate Coordinator of the Department of Psychology:

Name: _____ UFID: _____ - _____

has submitted, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for Honors, a Senior Thesis entitled:

This thesis has been examined by all members of the student's Thesis Committee and has been recommended for:

☐ None

(Honors will be awarded with a 3.5 Upper Division GPA without Thesis approval.)

☐ High Honors

☐ Highest Honors

(Requires unanimous vote from committee)

Thesis Committee Members' Approval

Committee Chair's Name UFID

Committee Chair's Signature Date

Member Name UFID
(*If co-chair, check this box: ☐)

Member Signature Date

Member Name UFID

Member Signature Date

Undergraduate Coordinator's Approval

Undergraduate Coordinator Signature Date

☐ CLAS / ACC notified

Individual Evaluation Form

The following criteria are designed to provide guidance to faculty when evaluating senior theses for high versus highest honors:

1. Both the written thesis and oral defense should be considered when voting about high vs. highest honors. By allowing both aspects of the process to contribute, the committee will be able to get a better sense of the student's intellectual grasp of the project as well as the independent contributions of the student. This criterion gives the committee greater flexibility – for example, an exceptional oral defense, and vice versa, could offset a slightly weaker written product. Alternatively, a strong written product that is accompanied by a poor oral defense might not be deemed worthy of highest honors.
2. In conjunction with a strong oral defense, highest honors should be awarded in cases where the thesis is of "publishable quality", as determined by the thesis committee. Because of the time course of many research projects (and for some areas, multiple studies are needed for publication), the thesis does not need to be published or submitted for publication as a stand-alone paper. However, the thesis would be suitable as a clear first step in the direction of publication as dictated by the publication standards of a particular area in psychology.
3. The above guidelines emphasize that the designation of highest honors should be reserved for the truly outstanding theses. By way of a general guideline, it is recommended that highest honors be awarded for theses and defenses in the top 20% of those submitted.

Keeping the criteria listed above in mind, please check the appropriate box below to indicate your evaluation of this student's senior thesis:

☐ None

☐ High Honors

☐ Highest Honors

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