

HONORS STUDY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Honors work in the Department of History has been designed to offer to qualified undergraduates the opportunity to develop an independent, individualized program of study while working closely with departmental faculty in a field of their special interest.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

To be admitted to the Honors Program students must have at least sophomore standing and have taken at least nine hours in History. They must have a minimum overall grade point average in the University of 3.30 and a minimum of 3.5 in History. Recommendation of at least one member of the departmental faculty is required as is the approval of the departmental Honors director. Students may also be invited to apply by a faculty member. In specific cases these requirements may be waived but only with the express approval of the Honors Director and the History Department Chairperson.

HONORS STUDY REQUIREMENTS:

Students in the Honors Program will complete a minimum of 9 hours of Honors-level work. The following requirements constitute the minimum program:

A. History 296: Historiography and Historical Method (3 hours)

This class serves as a foundation for Honors work. It is open to all students in the History Department whose History average is at least 3.5.

Note: An Honors student may arrange with the University Honors Program for this course to count as the Honors participation requirement for continuation in the University Program.

B. History 299: Independent Honors Study (Honors, 3 semester hours)

The student undertakes independent research and study under the guidance of a specific professor. Prerequisite: consent of the History Honors director.

C. History 301: Honors Thesis (Honors, 3 semester hours)

This course requires the Honors student to research a particular interest in depth, to prepare a written thesis reflecting the research, and to defend it before a committee of at least three faculty members (the thesis advisor and two other members of the history department, under the supervision of a history department faculty member). As part of History 301, students will be required to present a synopsis of their project in a History Department Honors Colloquium held at the end of the semester. Prerequisites: History 296 and 299. History 301 can be counted for the History 300 Senior Seminar major requirement.

GRADUATION WITH HONORS:

To graduate with Honors in the Department of History the student will be expected to complete the program outlined above and to maintain grades in departmental subjects so as to finish with an overall history average of 3.50. Evaluation of students in the program will be made regularly by the Director of Honors and the Department Chairperson. Any student whose work does not meet the minimal standards of the program will not be allowed to continue.