**HONORS THESIS TIMELINE**

**Example Timeline:** This sample timeline is for a student graduating in 4 years, and represents the latest possible dates for the Honors Program’s requirements. Colleges may have different due dates. You may always work ahead and complete steps in the process earlier.

Create your own timeline in consultation with your faculty mentor on the back of this page!

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**Differences Between Honors Program Recognition and College Distinction**

**Honors:** When a student submits a thesis as part of Honors Program requirements, s/he graduates from her/his college and the University Honors Program (assuming all other requirements are also fulfilled). This is noted on the diploma and the transcript. Only the Honors Program can award this recognition.

**Distinction:** Any student—whether in Honors or not—may earn a level of Distinction from her/his college: Distinction, High Distinction, or Highest Distinction. This is noted on the diploma and transcript. Only a college may award this recognition. Four of UNL’s eight colleges (ASC, CASNR, FPA, and CoJMC) consider the presence and quality of an undergraduate thesis when awarding distinction levels.

An Honors Program Student may earn both forms of recognition. A non-Honors Program student is only eligible to earn a level of distinction, assuming college-specific criteria are met. Usually, the same thesis (with perhaps slight formatting revisions) may be submitted for both forms of recognition, although there may be differing expectations about timeline or other procedures. In nearly all cases, if a student meets the college’s thesis expectations, s/he will have also met the Honors Program’s expectations.

**Key Differences When Submitting Your Thesis to Your College for Distinction**

- Honors requires one faculty mentor, but your college may require two or three. If you have more than one, list all mentors on Honors paperwork.
- Due dates may differ from Honors’ dates. For example, ASC students’ prospectuses are due over one month later than Honors prospectuses, but FPA final theses are due about one month earlier than Honors theses.
- Most colleges require some kind of comprehensive exam or thesis defense. Honors does not.
- In all cases where an Honors student’s thesis is submitted for distinction consideration, there will be one set of paperwork for Honors and one for the college.

**Relevant Honors Forms / Info**

- All available at honors.unl.edu/current
  - Thesis Prospectus
  - Intent to Graduate
  - Thesis Formatting & Submission Guidelines
  - Thesis Completion Form

Questions: uhon-office@unl.edu
**My Honors Thesis Timeline**

Create your own timeline in consultation with your faculty mentor.

- **Thesis Prospectus Due**
- **Begin Research**
- **Research & Write**
- **Finish Full Draft**
- **Intent to Graduate Form Due to Honors & Application to Graduate due in MyRed**
- **Revise**
- ***Thesis Defense/Comprehensive Exam**
- **Thesis & Thesis Completion Form Due**
- **Graduate!**

*Only applicable if submitting thesis for distinction consideration in Arts & Sciences, CASNR, FPA, or CoJMC.*

**NOTES:**