

Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (MELC)

HONORS THESIS FORM

Information Page

The Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (MELC) Department Honors Program provides students with an opportunity to research and write a thesis in the area of their major specialization. The successful completion of a thesis rewards a student to graduate with the distinction of an honors degree in their major.

Students who are accepted as a candidate for the Honors Program will work on completing their thesis during their senior year. Students will select two members for the department faculty to serve on their Thesis Committee. The Thesis Committee should consist of a MELC faculty to serve as the Thesis Supervisor/Instructor of Record and a second member of the MELC Faculty who will agree to read and evaluate the thesis. With an approval of the thesis supervisor, students may choose a second reader faculty from outside the department.

MELC Honors Program Requirement:

- A student in any subplan of the MELC major, who holds an overall GPA of 3.3 or higher in all coursework taken at the University, and a GPA of 3.51 or higher in courses completed in the major, may apply for admissions to the honors program. Students must maintain the required GPA in the major in order to remain eligible for the honors program.
- The student must successfully complete and submit an honors thesis of not less than 20 double-spaced pages. The bibliography and supplemental materials are not counted towards the page requirement.
- The thesis must be deemed to be at least B+ quality in order to qualify the candidate for graduation with a degree of honors. The assignment of degree distinctions are “honors,” “high honor,” and “highest honors” is at the discretion of the Thesis Committee.

Honors Program Course Requirements

- MELC 199 Independent Study (Fall)
- MELC H195 Senior Honors Thesis (Spring)

Honors Program Application Requirements

- Students *must* submit an Honors Application with the required signatures of the Thesis Supervisor, Thesis Second Reader, Faculty Major Advisor, and Chair of the Department to commence the Honors Program.
- The Honors Application must include a 1-page Thesis Proposal and a reading list.

Deadline: The Honors Applications must be received before the end of the second week of the fall semester.

Timeline for the Honors application process:

Junior Year:

1. Students are encouraged to meet with the Undergraduate Student Advisor to receive information about the MELC Honors Thesis program and the application process.
2. Students should begin to meet with faculty to discuss their thesis interest and to receive the permission of two faculty members to join their thesis committee. The two-person committee consisting of the Thesis Supervisor and another member of the MELC faculty. The Thesis Supervisor and Instructor of Record must be a ladder faculty within the MELC department.
3. The student should prepare a 1-page thesis proposal to be attached to the Honors Thesis application. The Thesis Supervisor, Thesis Second Reader, the Undergraduate Faculty Major Adviser, and the Department Chair must approve the proposal and application.
4. The completed application form and thesis proposal is due to the Undergraduate Student Advisor in the beginning of the student's senior year, but no later than the second week of the fall semester.

Senior Year:

5. If the Honors application is approved, the student will enroll in MELC 199 (Independent Study) course in the fall semester of their senior year in order to receive credit for research and writing of the draft thesis. The MELC 199 application form is available with the Undergraduate Student Advisor. The Thesis Supervisor will serve as the instructor of record for the Independent Study and must signature the form to approve the course.
6. With the consent of the Thesis Supervisor, the student will then enroll in the Senior Honors course (MELC H195) in the spring semester of their senior year.
7. A **draft of the honors thesis** will be read and evaluated by the student's thesis committee no later than Monday of the 13th week of the semester in which MELC H195 is taken.
8. The **final honors thesis** must be read and evaluated by the Thesis Committee members by Monday of the 15th week and deemed to be at least B+ quality in order to qualify the candidate for graduation with a degree of honors.
9. The Thesis Supervisor and the Second Thesis Reader must enter the student's grade and signature the form in order to complete the Honors Application and issue the final grade.

**Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures
HONORS THESIS APPLICATION FORM**

NAME: _____

SID: _____

MAJOR(S): _____

GRADUATION YEAR: _____

OVERALL GPA (ATTACH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT): _____

GPA IN MELC MAJOR COURSES: _____

LIST ALL MELC MAJOR COURSES & GRADES:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

THESIS TITLE: _____

THESIS PROPOSAL: (ATTACH TO APPLICATION)
PROPOSALS MUST BE AT LEAST 1-PAGE AND INCLUDE READING LIST MATERIALS

APPROVAL OF COMMENCING THE HONORS THESIS PROGRAM

Please print name and signature below to confirm your approval for the student to begin the Honors Program.

MELC THESIS SUPERVISOR: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

SECOND READER THESIS ADVISOR: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

MELC FACULTY MAJOR ADVISOR: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

MELC DEPARTMENT CHAIR: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Completion of Honors Thesis (MELC H 195)

- The Honors Thesis must be deemed to be at least B+ quality in order to qualify the candidate for graduation with a degree of “honors.”
- The assignment of degree distinctions as “honors,” “high honor,” and “highest honors” is at the discretion of the Thesis Committee.
- The student must maintain an overall GPA of 3.3 or higher in all coursework taken at the University, and a GPA of 3.51 or higher in courses completed in the major

MELC Thesis Supervisor Name: _____

Grade: _____

Comments: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Thesis Second Reader Name: _____

Grade: _____

Comments: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____