**FAQs**

**Is the HC390 Thesis Preparation class completely online?**

HC390 is largely online. However, 2 “physical” meetings are mandatory & there is 1 additional opportunity.

1. Mandatory: attend one of the Introduction sessions.

2. Mandatory: have one scheduled thesis proposal meeting with Dr Harper.

3. Optional: join us and professors from the Honors College Council at a research/thesis lunch

**Can I pursue research for my Honors College thesis that I have already been undertaking?**

Yes, this is fine. However, The Honors College thesis must be work that adds new knowledge in some way, and it must be work that is largely undertaken in your junior and senior years (ie. because The Honors College thesis is considered a senior project).

**Can I use research that I am already doing for my capstone project?**

You can undertake work that is also offered for a capstone project elsewhere. However, you still must complete an Honors College thesis proposal (eg. during HC390) and have that approved by The Honors College Council. Your project must still meet the qualities set out in our Honors College honors thesis packet.

**Can I work in a team or with a team to produce my Honors College thesis?**

Yes. However, if you are undertaking a project in which you make a team contribution your contribution should be of equal weight and dimension to an individual project. Discuss your plans with your HC390 professor.

You should also fill out the “Team Project” form in the thesis proposal pack (if there is more than one HC thesis student on the team discuss with your HC390 professor how to fill out this form), and make sure you confirm with you mentor so that they are aware that you are undertaking a team project.

**Does my research have to be in my major?**

Most Honors College thesis projects will be in your major, or be projects that draw on your major in some way. However, it is entirely possible to undertake your Honors College thesis in a minor area, as long as you have some experience in the area and you can find a suitable mentor to supervise your research.

Also, it is worth noting that many Honors College theses are cross-disciplinary projects that draw on more than one area of knowledge, so it is reasonably common to find that they will go outside a major track and produce work that extends the links between your primary subject interests and other areas of knowledge.

**Can my Honors College thesis be a creative project?**

Yes, definitely! It simply must also include a short critical introduction (around 1500 - 2000 words) and a references section (showing the works you have drawn upon, whatever they might be, to create your project).

In all cases, your mentor can advise you on what would constitute a senior level creative project. In addition, you are welcome to contact your professor in HC390 to discuss your planned project.

**Can I change my thesis project after submitting my final proposal?**

Yes, but it can’t be a completely different project. In other words, whatever project is approved by The Honors College Council is considered to be your Honors College thesis project. If this evolves along the way and it therefore changes but is still in broadly the same area that is entirely fine.

However, were you to want to do a completely different project, in a completely different area, then obviously that would need a new thesis proposal and a new submission to The Honors College Council for approval.

**When will my proposal go to the Honors College Council?**

Passing the HC390 class and having your thesis proposal submitted to The Honors College Council are connected – but they are slightly different things. HC390 is a class to develop your thesis proposal. Submission of a thesis proposal to The Honors College Council is a formal requirement of The Honors College for research project approval.

(A) You can pass HC390 and your proposal can be entirely ready to go to Council (and that is the goal you should seek to achieve through your efforts in the HC390 class!). Your proposal would then be sent to Council – most often, straight after the end of the class.

(B) Or, you can pass HC390 but your proposal need a little more work to meet the Council’s criteria. In which case, you will be asked to meet with your HC390 professor to discuss the work needed to get the proposal into a final Council submission shape.

**If I want to submit a grant proposal, when do I need to submit it?**

Your grant proposal needs to be submitted when you submit your final thesis proposal at the end of the HC390 class.

**Can anyone submit a grant application?**

All those who have submitted **all** their HC390 assignments on time are eligible to apply for research funding. Research grants are competitive, awarded by approval of The Honors College Council, and subject to an application and the on-time completion of those HC390 assignments.

**Information for HC research grant recipients - how do I** **access these research funds?**

Research monies are dispersed via reimbursement, up to the amount approved by The Honors College Council.

**Can I use research funding to attend conferences and other events?**

No. Honors College thesis research funds are to be used for research. Attending a conference or event is almost never research, even if it might involve the presentation of your research. So research funding cannot be used for attending such conferences or events. However, if attending an event is needed to collect specific research data from specific people or places (for example, interviewing subjects for your research) that might constitute research. Speak to your HC390 professor about this.

**When do I submit my final thesis?**

*For Students Graduating in May:*

February 1st- Final Thesis submitted to mentor for revisions

March 1st - Final Revised Thesis (including checklist) submitted to The Honors College

*For Students Graduating in December:*

September 15th- Final Thesis submitted to mentor for revisions

October 15th - Final Revised Thesis (including checklist) submitted to The Honors College