

Tips for Writing a Successful Honors Course Enrichment Contract Proposal

Producing a successful Honors Course Enrichment Contract Proposal requires careful, creative thought and active consultation with a supervising professor.

- (1) Do not wait until the first week of the semester! If you think a course enrichment contract might be an academically valid option for you, discuss it with your Honors advisor to get permission to proceed, check to see if your professor is agreeable to the idea, and get started on your proposal!
- (2) Do not ask the professor to write the contract proposal for you. The professor's job is to provide guidance and feedback on a proposal *you* develop. It is your job to generate ideas and to write (and rewrite, if necessary) the proposal until it is ready for submission.
- (3) Be sure the "course enrichment" activities are distinct from normal course activities and are sufficiently ambitious (e.g., not just reading more chapters in the textbook or writing an extra essay).
- (4) Be sure the proposal specifies *all* of the requirements for successful contract completion and the criteria by which your supervising professor will assess your work. This should include specific timelines, deadlines, and work products you intend to produce.
- (5) Be sure to specify how your learning will be enriched beyond what you would otherwise achieve in the course itself.
- (6) Be sure to articulate your personal investment in the project—how it intersects with other intellectual or creative interests or projects that are important to you.