

The Senior Honors Project
Information for EC499 Students and Project Advisors
John Carroll University
Honors Program

General Overview: Honors Program students pursuing an economics major may use the EC499 research paper to fulfill the Senior Honors Project (SHP). While most significant deadlines and requirements align with the EC499 schedule over fall and spring semesters, a few deadlines have been added in order to ensure effective communication with the Honors Program, and therefore efficient completion of the Senior Honors Project requirement.

Standards and Expectations: Standards of **disciplinary academic excellence** should be met in all Senior Honors Projects, regardless of field. Honors Program students taking EC499 should therefore familiarize themselves with the materials online regarding the SHP (including the documents regarding the rationale for the project, the general project overview, and the information for instructors) in anticipation of beginning work on the project, and they should be sure to share this information with their EC499 project advisors. EC499 project advisors are asked in particular to review documents pertaining to the general rationale of the SHP, instructions for advisors, and to use the Senior Honors Project Rubrics to monitor students' progress in completing the project. Upon final approval of the SHP, EC499 project advisors are asked to submit a brief report (and completed rubric) assessing the final project.

All information regarding the Senior Honors Project is available online at:

<http://sites.jcu.edu/honors/pages/senior-honors-project/> . In order to gain a sense of the appropriate scope and content of past SHPs, students are strongly encouraged to view previous EC499 projects in Carroll Collected at: <http://collected.jcu.edu/honorspapers/> .

Primary Advisors and Honors Program Readers: Consistent with the practice across all disciplines, Honors Program students in EC499 will also be assigned Honors Program readers. The Senior Honors Project as a stand-alone work must merit a grade of a B+ or better by the standards of the EC499 project advisor and Honors Program reader in order to be approved by the Honors Program.

The Honors Program readers are asked to provide comments regarding students' work to the research paper primary advisor, not to the student directly. Together, the advisors should reach consensus regarding the nature of revisions required, with the primary advisor communicating these expectations to the student. With all assignments, Honors Program readers are expected to provide comments in a timely fashion to the primary advisor, usually no later than a week after the assignment has been submitted.

Below is an overview of the steps involved in completing the project for EC499 students, including deadlines for the Honors Program. Any extensions granted by the primary advisor should be communicated to the Director of the Honors Program and Honors Program reader.

- 1. Submission of Action Plan** (*Due Thursday of Week 1 – Honors Program-specific requirement*). Students planning to use EC499 to complete the SHP should indicate their intention to do so on their action plan form. Students should also indicate a tentative project advisor, though we understand that this is subject to final approval by the instructor of record of EC499.
- 2. Submission of Paper Proposal** (*Deadline determined by EC499 syllabus*). Students should submit an electronic copy of their project proposal to the Director of the Honors Program in addition to the instructor of EC499. At this point, a tentative Honors Program reader will be assigned, pending final selection of the project advisor.
- 3. Confirmation of Project Advisor** (*ASAP upon confirmation from instructor of EC499*). After students receive final notification of their project advisor from the instructor of EC499, they should communicate this information to the Director of the Honors Program and to the Honors Program reader.
- 4. Annotated Reference List** (*Deadline determined by EC499 syllabus*). In addition to submitting this assignment to the instructor of EC499 and the project advisor, students should submit electronic copies of this and all subsequent assignment to the Honors Program reader. Students should also cc the Director of the Honors Program to verify that the deadline has been met.
- 5. Sections 1 and 2** (*Deadline determined by EC499 syllabus*). This portion of the paper serves as the equivalent of the Senior Honors Project proposal. In order to ensure that the student is on track to producing a work of academic excellence that will ultimately earn a B+ or better, students are expected to address the questions or concerns raised by their advisors at this juncture in subsequent drafts of the project. In cases where significant revisions are required, the advisors may request that the student revise and resubmit this component.
- 6. First Draft** (*Deadline determined by EC499 syllabus*).
- 7. Second Draft** (*Deadline determined by EC499 syllabus*).
- 8. Final Draft** (*Deadline determined by EC499 syllabus*).

- 9. Presentations** (*Friday of Week 14, Spring Semester*). Students' presentations in EC499 may qualify as the required public dissemination of their work. They are, nevertheless, strongly encouraged to present their work at Celebration of Scholarship to represent the spectrum of disciplines completing the Senior Honors Project, and to expose rising Honors Program seniors to examples of possible projects.
- 10. Final Submission.** Students should follow the protocol for final submission of the Senior Honors Project (provided online). After final approval of the SHP, EC499 project advisors are requested to complete the Senior Honors Project rubrics (with the exception of the section on the proposal) and submit a brief report assessing students' final projects.