

Honors Programs Coordinator Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies

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MEMORANDUM:

TO:

Dr. Jerome Haky

Chair, University Undergraduate Programs Committee (UUPC)

FROM: Dr. Mary Ann Gosser

Chair, University Honors Council (UHC) -

University Honors Coordinator

DATE: 21 November 2014

RE:

Amendment to the FAU's Honors Curriculum Manual re Honors Compacts

On 21 November 2014, the members of the UHC met and approved the following amendment to FAU's Honors Curriculum Manual. The committee worked to clarify the definition and simplify the language of the requirements as well as update the proposal and approval form.

Both documents are attached.

We are now asking the UUPC to consider our proposal and give it its approval to replace all of Section 5 Guidelines for Honors Compacts at Florida Atlantic University within FAU's Honors Curriculum Manual

Thank you.

Section 5

Guidelines for Honors Compacts at Florida Atlantic University

Purpose: To provide a mechanism for students to receive honors credit in a course for which enrollment in a designated honors section is not possible.

Who Is Eligible: An honors compact is only available to students enrolled in an honors program having a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher, as well as a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher in the major itself.

Who Is Eligible to Offer Honors Compact Courses? Honors compact should be offered by full-time instructors and faculty members in the student's major.

Definition: An honors compact is an agreement between a student and an instructor that, under the instructor's guidance, the student will complete an enhancement of a course that significantly enriches his or her educational experience in a manner consistent with other courses that receive honors credit at Florida Atlantic University.

An honors compact is an achievement that is noted on the student's transcript.

Mission: The student and the instructor will work together collaboratively in order to ensure that the student has a significantly enriched honors experience in a non-honors section of a course. The result of this collaboration will culminate in a specific "product" that can be evaluated.

Requirements: The student and the instructor agree 1) to meet three times outside of class time during the semester to discuss the development of the "product"; 2) that it should constitute no less than 10% of the course's grade; 3) that the compact's project meets the learning objectives of the course; 4) that it will culminate in a specific "product" that can be evaluated.

An honors compact is:

- intended **primarily** to serve as part of an approved honors program, either the University Honors Program or an upper-division honors program.
- a method by which a student's educational experience in a course is enhanced through substantive work that reflects one of the following honors themes:
 - Interdisciplinarity and/or establish connections among academic fields
 - Research and access to direct sources of knowledge
 - Leadership
 - Service learning
 - Creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship
 - Civic engagement
 - Collaboration

- The unique setting of southeastern Florida
- o Other topics appropriate to the individual discipline

Procedure

- 1. As soon as possible, and **ideally** no later than the third week of the semester, the student will submit to the University Honors Coordinator; a) a copy of the course syllabus (with the potential meeting dates highlighted) and b) a completed **Honors Compact Proposal and Approval form**, which both the student and the instructor of the course have signed.
- 2. The University Honors Coordinator will review the application and the student's GPA as soon as possible and will notify the student and the instructor whether the honors compact has been approved or must be revised.
- 3. The instructor will then notify the University Honors Coordinator whether or not an honors compact has been successfully completed no later than the last official day of final examinations for any term.
- 4. The University Honors Coordinator or for the UHP students, the Undergraduate Studies Dean's designee will provide the registrar with a list of all successfully completed honors compacts no later than the day that grades are due in the registrar's office.
- 5. Any appeals involving an honors compact should follow the appeals procedure (as detailed in the Code of Academic Integrity) although the Chair of the University Honors Council may be consulted during the process. Normal university deadlines for all grade changes will still apply.

If you have any questions, please contact the University Honors Coordinator at UHC@fau.edu.

Approved by:	Date:
UHC Chair:	11-21-2014
UUPC Chair:	12/3/14
Undergraduate Studies Dean:	14814
UFS President:	
Provost: NA	