

Asian Studies Honors Thesis Contract (2008-2010 Catalog and later)

Dear Student:

The Asian Studies honors thesis provides the opportunity for you to work closely with a faculty member and conduct in-depth research on a particular topic to enhance your educational goals. To support work on the thesis, students take the honors tutorial sequence ANS 678HA and ANS 678HB.

This contract serves as an agreement between the student and his/her advisors as to how they will proceed and the expectations of each party. This document is merely a minimum statement and should be one element in the frequent conversations between mentor and student.

Students must submit the signed honors contract to the academic advisor in the Department of Asian Studies no later than the fourth class day of ANS 678HA. The bulk of the initial research and reading will be done during the first semester of the honors tutorial sequence with ANS 678HB devoted to completing the thesis.

To graduate with honors, students must fulfill the following requirements:

- Up to thirty hours of Asian Studies coursework, including completion of all major requirements (specific hour requirements vary according to major and catalog).
- ANS 678HA and 678HB, *Honors Tutorial Course*, with a grade of A in both, in which the student completes a senior thesis approved by the Asian Studies thesis supervisor and a second reader.
- A University grade point average of at least 3.0 and a grade point average in Asian Studies of at least 3.5.
- Completion at the University of at least sixty semester hours of coursework counted toward the degree.

Students should select their second readers by the end of the semester they are enrolled in ANS 678HA. The two readers will assess the thesis based on the clarity of writing, strength of argument, breadth of research, and conformity with rules of proper academic conduct.

The thesis supervisor must be a faculty member or senior lecturer in the Department of Asian Studies. The supervisor's academic interest should coincide with the scope of the proposed thesis so that s/he may be able to direct the project. The second reader may be any faculty member or senior lecturer at The University of Texas whose research interests relate to the student's thesis topic.

While the honors thesis advisor will provide the main source of guidance on the project, the Department of Asian Studies' academic advisor and undergraduate honors advisor are available to support you throughout the project. Specifically, the Department of Asian Studies will provide information regarding the procedures for

undertaking, completing, and submitting the honors thesis during the length of the project.

A completed and bound copy of the thesis must be submitted to the academic advisor in the Department of Asian Studies, WCH 4.116, **by the Monday after the last class day** of the semester in which the thesis was completed. The thesis cover page must contain the information specified by the Department of Asian Studies.

In order to measure your progress toward the completion of the honors thesis, the following materials must be submitted no later than the stated deadlines:

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- *4th Class Day*: Submit signed honors contract with name and signature of the thesis supervisor to **Department of Asian Studies academic advisor**.
- *12th Class Day*: Submit **to thesis supervisor** a research prospectus of 3-5 pages, including a draft bibliography. The prospectus should explain the objectives, methodology, structure, and possible conclusions of the thesis.
- *Mid-semester deadline*: Complete bulk of initial research and reading phase. Discuss findings with thesis supervisor.
- *Last Class Day*: Submit a detailed outline as well as *name of the second reader* **to thesis supervisor**.

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- *Twelfth Class Day*: Complete first draft of first section on context/background of thesis topic (e.g., historic, economic, literary, religious, etc.) and submit **to thesis supervisor**.
- *Early February – Spring Break*: For a 40-page thesis, aim to produce five – six pages a week. Leave time to incorporate changes suggested by your readers.
- *Mid-semester deadline*: Submit a completed first draft by this date, the end of the ninth week of the second semester, **to the thesis supervisor and second reader**. This will leave three weeks for comments and revisions before submitting a revised draft.
- *Twelfth week of class*: Submit a final draft **to both readers**. This will allow two weeks for final corrections, revisions, binding, and collecting signatures on the final copy.
- *Monday after the Last Class Day*: Submit bound, signed copy of thesis to **Department of Asian Studies academic advisor** in format required by the program.

Please consult the academic calendar and write down the dates during this semester for the deadlines given above. These are your deadlines for the various stages of your thesis (*these can be modified at the discretion of your supervisor*).

_____ Prospectus and draft
bibliography

Date: _____

_____ Outline and draft of first section	Date: _____
_____ Name of second reader	Date: _____
_____ First draft to both readers	Date: _____
_____ Final draft to both readers	Date: _____
_____ Bound copy to dept. office	Date: _____

In order to ensure satisfactory progress, the student and faculty advisor agree to meet a minimum of _____ times per month, exclusive of electronic communication.

I have read and agree to the requirements for the completion of departmental honors.

Name of student (printed): _____

Signature of student: _____

Name of thesis advisor
(printed): _____

Signature of thesis advisor: _____