**DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES**

**GUIDELINES FOR HONORS CONTRACTS**

Note: These policies are in addition to the policies of the Helen Hardin Honors Program regarding honors contracts.

**General Guidelines:**

1. Only full-time faculty members (tenured and tenure-track professors, full-time instructors) may sponsor a contract.
2. Exceptions may be made to guideline #1 in the event that no full-time faculty members are teaching the course.
3. Students may only contract for honors credit in a course at the 2000 level or above. Students in first-year language courses may not contract for honors credit.
4. Students will earn honors credit if they complete the Honors contract work satisfactorily and earn a minimum of B in the course.

**Steps:**

1. After the student discusses the contract with the instructor for the course, the student will complete the honors contract form and obtain the faculty member’s signature.
2. The student is responsible for obtaining the signature of the Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and then returning the form to the Honors Program office.

**Criteria for Honors Contracts in Foreign Language courses:**

1. Assignments should be chosen by the student in conjunction with the instructor. Students engaged in a common project should follow consistent criteria. Two of the bullets below should be completed in order to fulfill the contract.
2. Wherever possible, Honors students should share the results of their work with the class in the form of a presentation to the rest of the class or to the instructor.
3. The coursework for the honors contract should ideally be a substitution for an existing class requirement, rather than an extra assignment. In all cases the work should be enhancing the student’s educational experience in the course, and not simply requiring more work.
4. Individual language sections may devise more specific criteria pertaining to the language of that section.

**Suggestions/examples for granting honors credit are below:**

1. Compare/contrast two or three aspects of the target language’s culture not seen in class. This should be presented in writing, in the target language if possible, and presented to the class.
2. View two or three movies related to the culture and/or language. Complete a report and present it to the class.
3. Complete a selection of readings provided by the instructor and give a report on those readings. A selection of short stories, a short novel or a selection of poems could be given as an example.
4. Engage in a significant community service project in an appropriate setting, or in a collaborative project within the department or across departments.