**Application for Psychology Department Honors Thesis I (PSY396) Last revised May 2020**

**Part 1: Instructions**

***Timeline for Submission:*** If you plan on registering for the course during the registration period, you may submit your proposal online beginning **two weeks prior to the first day of the registration period.** Proposals will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis and will be **accepted through 4pm on the last day of classes.**

**1)**  **To be eligible to apply for a Psychology Honors, you must meet the following requirements:**

* Minimum GPA in Psychology of 3.3
* PSY 299 (minimum grade of B)
* Minimum of Junior Standing for PSY 396; Senior Standing for PSY 496
* 12 earned units (4 must be TCNJ units)
* Students cannot enroll in more than 1.5 units of independent study/research in a given semester
* Sponsorship by faculty member

**2)**  **Submit the Psychology Independent Research Application online.**

* + Print the R&R form for independent studies from <https://recreg.tcnj.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/166/2019/10/Independent-Study.pdf>
  + Complete the form (on paper)
  + Have your faculty sponsor sign this form
  + Scan the signed form to make a pdf that you can upload
* If you would like to overload during the term you are completing the independent research:
  + Print the HSS overload form from <https://hss.tcnj.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/157/2011/07/HSS-Overload-Request-Form.doc>
  + Contact Dr. Ruddy ([ruddy@tcnj.edu](mailto:ruddy@tcnj.edu)) to request permission to overload and, if permission is granted, to obtain her signature
  + Scan the signed form to make a pdf that you can upload
* Complete this entire application form (the word document that appears after these instruction pages) and have your faculty sponsor review it (e.g., via email)
* Log onto the [ELOPsy Online Application system](https://eawebprod.tcnj.edu/psyapp/login.php) using your TCNJ e-mail username and password.  (You can reach the links to the ELOPsy Applications by clicking on “Academics & Research” on the Psychology homepage.) Complete this entire application form. Submit all documents (i.e., this application, the signed R&R registration form, and the signed Overload form, if applicable) through the website. Once your faculty sponsor has approved your application in the online system, it will be reviewed by the department’s Independent Study Committee. Incomplete proposals will not be reviewed.  If you have questions, please contact your faculty sponsor or the Chair of the Independent Study Committee.

**3)**  **Receive feedback from the Independent Study Committee.**

After your faculty sponsor has approved your application, there are four possible status messages that will appear on the ELOPsy system:

* ***In Review:*** The proposal has been successfully submitted and is currently being reviewed by the Independent Study Committee.
* ***Reviewer Feedback Submitted:*** A Committee member has reviewed your application and has submitted their feedback to the Chair of the Committee.
* ***Revisions Required:***Major or minor revisions are required.  You will receive an email through the system if revisions are required. The requested revisions will be documented in the system and will appear online to the student and faculty sponsor. These revisions must be submitted online within three days. Failure to submit the revisions in a timely manner will result in delayed approval of your proposal. Failure to submit the revisions in a timely manner will result in the delay in approval of your proposal.

**ELOPsy applications will be reviewed no more than three times (the original submission plus two revisions); applications requiring more than 3 submissions will be rejected automatically.**

* ***Approved:***  The Chair of the Independent Study Committee has granted final approval of your proposal.

**4) Verify that you have been approved for the course.**

* Once your proposal has been approved, the ELOPSy Online system will notify you via e-mail.  Notification of your approval will be sent to the HSS Dean’s office.

**5)  Upload your approved application to the HSS website**

* Go to the HSS information at <https://hss.tcnj.edu/resources/current-students/forms/>
* Select HSS Independent study/research
* Upload your approved R&R form, the overload form (if applicable), and this word document application
* The Dean’s office will process your application and request your course registration through Records & Registration. We suggest that you checkPAWS to ensure that you have been registered. If you have not been registered within 2 weeks of receiving approval, contact Records & Registration.
* The last day to be registered for Independent Research is the last day of the drop/add period (usually the end of the first week of classes in the semester in which you will be enrolled in the course).

**\*\* It is your responsibility to check PAWS to ensure that you have been registered\*\***

**Part 2: Details on Requirements for Completion of the Honors Thesis I in Psychology**

* *During semester:* 
  + Student is encouraged to participate in informal gatherings of students and faculty to discuss ongoing research.
  + Student is also encouraged to attend research talks given by outside speakers and alums.
* *At the end of the first semester (PSY 396):*
  + Student sends 10-15 page thesis draft to committee at least one week prior to the committee meeting
  + Student meets with entire committee to discuss progress on the thesis; committee members provide suggestions for the remainder of the thesis work.

**Part 3: Application**

Student’s name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Semester for which you are applying: (check one) \_\_\_\_Fall \_\_\_\_Spring \_\_\_\_Summer

Year: \_\_\_\_

Grade in PSY299:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Psychology GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Committee Members: (1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (faculty sponsor)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1. Experiential Learning Opportunities** (PSY391, PSY393, PSY396, PSY397, PSY399, PSY492, PSY493 or PSY496) you have PREVIOUSLY completed or are CURRENTLY enrolled in:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course and Project Title** | **Faculty Sponsor** | **Semester/Year** | **# Credits** |
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**2. Proposal:**

For PSY 396 (Honors Thesis I), develop a proposal that includes reference to relevant literature, proposed area of research, and a specific timeline for developing the full research proposal. Using APA format, describe the rationale for undertaking this research study. Briefly include citations from existing literature and the research question(s) that you will address.

For projects not involving data collection, this might include literature searches or use of archives. For projects involving data collection this should include the data collection method, such as interviews/observations or equipment/tools used to collect data, and the source of participants/subjects.

When writing your proposal, keep in mind that PSY 396 requires 10-15 pages of writing.

CHECKLIST FOR THIS SECTION (*required statements in bold may be pasted verbatim*):

\_\_\_ Rationale and methods for the project are clearly explained.

\_\_\_ Required ethics statement is included: **APA Ethical Guidelines will be followed throughout the project.**

\_\_\_ (If human or animal participants) Required approval statement is included:

* + 1. Human research: **Approval** **from RPE/IRB will be obtained prior to the start of data collection.**
    2. Animals: **IACUC will be obtained prior to the start of data collection.**

See the *Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct* section of the APA website (http://www.apa.org/ethics/code2002.html) for more information on APA ethical guidelines.

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| **Proposal**: (Completed by the student. Suggested length of approximately 500 words.)  [TYPE IN THIS BOX. EXPAND THE BOX AS NEEDED.] |

**3. Time Line and Assessment:** In the table below, please list the project milestones with appropriate activities and dates of completion. You must list 3-6 LEARNING OBJECTIVES for your Honors Thesis and specify how each learning objective will be ASSESSED. Required items are listed in bold. Please move them within table and add objectives/assessment as appropriate.

*\*\*\*Do not delete any of the text (or change the bold font) that is already in the table. Just add content as needed.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Date*** | ***Brief description of activities*** | ***Learning Objective*** | ***Assessment*** |
| **Entire semester** |  |  | **Weekly meetings with faculty sponsor** |
|  |  |  | **10-15 pages of writing**  (typically Introduction and Method) |
| **One week prior to thesis meeting** |  |  | **Submission of current thesis draft to committee** |
| **End of the semester** |  |  | **Meeting with thesis committee** |
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**4. Relevant References:**

Using APA style, include a list of at least 5 relevant scholarly resources that you will consult as you begin your work.

CHECKLIST FOR THIS SECTION:

\_\_\_ References are listed in APA style.

\_\_\_ At least 5 of the references are relevant scholarly resources.

|  |
| --- |
| **References:**  [TYPE IN THIS BOX. EXPAND THE BOX AS NEEDED.] |

**5. Title Page:**

On the following page, please create an APA-formatted title page which includes the student’s name, the title of the project, and the names of committee members; this document will become part of departmental records.