

**COMMUNICATIONS 496H  
Application for Honors Independent Study**

**PURPOSE AND GUIDELINES:**

COMM 496H credits are available for students in the Schreyer Honors College who are working on an honors thesis. Students may apply for up to six credits of COMM 496H. These credits are most commonly distributed over two semesters.

The honors thesis may take the form of a scholarly project involving the examination of some aspect of the field of communications, or the thesis may involve the production of a professional project. In either case, the student must work closely with both the thesis supervisor and honors advisor to ensure the project is within College of Communications norms about what constitutes thesis work.

Students may not register for COMM 496H until all parties listed below (in Parts 3 and 4) have approved the application. Once approved, the student will be registered for COMM 496H credits by the College of Communications staff. To complete this process in a timely fashion, students should meet with their thesis and honors advisors early in the process. Students should expect that the project description, timeline and other parts of this application may need to be revised several times before the application is approved. An approved application **MUST** be on file with the College of Communications office no later than the end of the regular Add-Drop period of the semester in which the credits will be taken.

Questions about this form, or the application process, should be directed to the student's honors advisor or to the College of Communications Honors Coordinator (Prof. Jo Dumas, jad21@psu.edu).

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student ID #: \_\_\_\_\_ Current GPA: \_\_\_\_\_  
Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Semester Standing: \_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Honors Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed number of credits for this application: \_\_\_\_\_  
Semester in which credits will be taken: FA \_\_\_ SP \_\_\_ SU \_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_  
Proposed number of credits for the thesis overall: \_\_\_\_\_  
SHC Thesis Proposal submitted online and approved: \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no  
Thesis Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

2. ATTACH ONE COPY OF A DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION, ADDRESSING EACH OF THE ITEMS BELOW:

1. Thesis working title.
2. Brief thesis description.
3. Timeline for completing the thesis and your anticipated graduation date.
  - a) Detailed description of the work to be done to earn the 496H credits in the semester covered by this application. Include a detailed description of the work due for each month in the timeline.
  - b) Will you be applying for additional 496H thesis credits in a future semester? If so, when? Give a brief explanation of the remaining work for which you intend to apply for these additional 496H credits.
  - c) Have 496H credits already been approved for your thesis in a prior semester? If so, when? Give a brief explanation of the work already completed for credit.
4. Include a bibliography with 5-10 sources.

3. OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Thesis Supervisor (date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Honors Advisor (date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
College of Communications Honors Coordinator (date)  
(Jo Dumas, 202 Carnegie)

4. TAKE THE COMPLETED FORM TO 204 CARNEGIE FOR REVIEW BY THE ASSOCIATE DEAN.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Dean, College of Communications (date)

\_\_\_\_\_ Application Approved and Student enrolled in 496H on \_\_\_\_\_(date)  
by \_\_\_\_\_(initials)