

# HONORS COURSE CONTRACT GUIDE

## What are honors course contracts?

Honors course contracts convert non-honors courses into ones that grant honors credit. These courses must be at the 300 level or higher and can meet major, minor, or KU Core requirements.

The purpose of a course contract is to achieve the level of engagement and depth that an honors student would have with the material in an honors course. This is achieved by the student designing a new assignment or significantly enhancing an existing one, completing it, then sharing their findings with the class. Once the assignment is completed, faculty add honors credit when entering final grades for the semester.

## What can these assignments be?

Assignments can include an additional research paper, a longer and more in-depth research paper, or any sort of project that fits within your class's scope. Students have also completed creative projects, choreography, conference presentations, training manuals, and case studies, as just a few examples.

While these projects are a student's responsibility, faculty members should collaborate on an assignment's structure. An assignment should result in a 20-hour commitment by the student.

## How is a course contract approved?

Once the student and faculty member have agreed on a project, the student submits an honors course contract form that includes an overview of the project, a list of milestone dates as well as a deadline, and a list of skills they intend to acquire. Students are encouraged to be as specific as possible.

This form goes to the faculty member for first approval via the Perceptive Content website. The form is then routed to the University Honors Program for final approval. Once the proposal is approved, all that is left is for the student to complete the assignment.

## When are the deadlines to submit?

For spring and fall courses, contract forms are due by the 20th working day of the semester; summer contracts are due by the second day of classes. Find more details and a link to the form on the honors program website: [honors.ku.edu/course-contract](https://honors.ku.edu/course-contract).