Department of History Honors Track

We encourage History majors to consider pursuing an Honors degree, and encourage Honors students to consider majoring in History. The Honors Track in History offers many options for completing both in a timely fashion, with only a minimum of 3 additional credits beyond the 33 required for the History major. First, students must qualify for and apply to the UHM Honors Program.

Students accepted into the Honors Program as freshmen may explore Honors History in the following courses:

HIST 161A World Cultures in Perspective to 1500. Meets FGA.

HIST 162A World Cultures in Perspective from 1500. Meets FGB.

Upper Division Honors
History majors can fulfill the Honors program requirements with the following options:

• HON 491 (Junior Seminar) or History graduate class (600-level) (3 credits)
  o Students who take an Honors 491 Junior Seminar may count it as one of the eleven required History course. If the course is taught by a History faculty member, it may be counted in the appropriate field for the major; otherwise it may be counted as the one additional course for the major.
  o Alternatively, History majors can fulfill the Honors 491 Junior Seminar requirement by taking a History graduate reading course (topics vary each semester), with the instructor’s permission and subject to department rules. It may be counted in the appropriate field for the major or as the one additional course for the major.

• Other Honors courses taught by History faculty or those with significant historical content and methods may be counted in the major with approval from the History Honors faculty advisor, who will assign it to the appropriate field.

• The submission of a 10-12 page research proposal for the Senior Honors Project, accompanied by a signed proposal and mentor form
  o The mentor should be a History faculty member who agrees to oversee the project to completion.
  o Honors recommends taking a course designed to help students with research and proposal writing. Any one of the following options will fulfill the History major requirement for a methods course:
    ▪ HON 495 Introduction to Research
    ▪ HIST 396 Introduction to the Study of History
    ▪ HIST 602 Seminar in Historiography (with instructor permission and subject to department rules).

• HON 494 Honors Workshop (zero credits) is the companion workshop for the first semester of HON 496. It is designed to familiarize students with the protocol for independent study with their Faculty mentor, criteria and timeline for the Senior Honors Project, and requires students to submit a detailed plan of research for their HON 496 work.

• HON 496 Senior Honors Project (6 credits) or HON 496 and HIST 496 (6 credits)
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- The two-semester capstone research project in Honors can be combined with the senior thesis capstone project required for History majors. Students who choose to take HIST 496 in place of one of the HON 496 courses should do so in the second semester, when they are completing their thesis.

For more information, contact Prof. Karen Jolly kjolly@hawaii.edu or 808-956-7673