Honors for the Department of Religion: Processes and Practices

I. Selection of the student

A student may be selected for departmental honors in Religion upon either (1) the nomination of any department member, or (2) the self-nomination of the student to a faculty member in Religion. The nomination should usually be submitted in the latter part of spring semester of the student's junior (third) year. The departmental nominator should discuss the nomination with the student beforehand and bring the nomination to other department members.

Approval will come upon vote of the department.

II. Criteria

The nominator and department will consider (but are not limited to) the following criteria for acceptance:

> cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher
> record in departmental courses and related fields
> anticipated completion of a major in Religion

III.   Committee

Upon approval of the student's nomination, the department shall designate a committee of three faculty members, typically two from the Religion department and one from another department, to supervise the student's Honor's Thesis program.

Normally the nominator will serve as the director for the student's project. The student can recommend committee members to the department, though the final composition of the committee remains under the purview of the department.

The committee will report on the student's progress to the department as needed.

IV. The Honors Project

Project Prospectus

A 1-2 page prospectus of the project should be submitted at the time of nomination. This prospectus lays out the subject and scope of the project, with a short bibliography of key works. The prospectus also specifies an estimated timeline to completion and anticipated number of course credits, the latter of which correlate to the depth and breadth of the anticipated project (i.e., longer or more thorough projects will correlate to higher course credits). The student should consult with their faculty nominator to determine the appropriate number of course credits.

Final Project