Asian American Studies Departmental Honors Thesis Guidelines

Purpose:
The Honors program in Asian American Studies promotes intellectual curiosity by fostering original research in Asian American Studies. Intended for students who have shown academic excellence during their study at UT, this program is designed to expose students to methods, ideas, and work ethics they would expect to conduct in graduate or professional school. Working under the close mentorship of a faculty member, students undergo a two-semester sequence (AAS 679HA and AAS 679HB) culminating in the completion of an original thesis. This sequence is taken in addition to the 24 credit hours counting towards the major requirements. To apply, submit the attached form along with other materials to Dr. Madeline Hsu, the Asian American Studies Honors Advisor.

Graduation Requirements for Honors in Asian American Studies
To graduate with Honors in Asian American studies, students must have completed the following:
• A Major in Asian American Studies (a total of 30 hours, including the 679HA and 679HB sequence).
• Overall GPA of 3.0; AAS GPA of 3.5
• AAS 679HA and AAS 679HB with a grade of “A” in both semesters.
• At least sixty hours of coursework at UT counting towards the degree
• Final Draft turned in to CAAS including: Honors Application, Resume, Honors Research Proposal, Final Draft of Paper

Note: It is highly recommended that a student wishing to achieve AAS Honors speak to the Center’s advisor and seek a member of AAS Core Faculty the semester before taking AAS 679HA. Finding a supervisor and a second reader (another faculty member) is the student’s responsibility.

Eligibility:
Students eligible for Honors meet the following requirements:
• Overall GPA of 3.0; AAS GPA of 3.5
• AAS 301 completed
• Upper division standing
• At least sixty hours of coursework at UT counting towards the degree
• Field requirements completed

Additional Information:
• The Honors supervisor must be a member of the AAS core faculty at UT; second readers can be any tenure-track faculty member or lecturer in any discipline at UT, or a recognized expert on your topic.
• Students must be accepted to the Honors program prior to enrollment in 679HA.
• An honors thesis in AAS may NOT count towards honors in any other department or program.
• We strongly encourage students to finish all of their major requirements prior to taking 679HA.
• All honors classes are taken in addition to the 24 semester hour major requirements.
• A schedule must be set in writing by student and supervisor at the beginning of 679HA.
• Length of thesis depends on the primary methods the student uses. This will be determined by a consensus of the Supervisor and second reader.
• At the end of 679HA, the student must submit a thesis outline. The student will receive an incomplete if this is not submitted.
• A final draft of the thesis must be submitted no later than a month before the final class day of the semester in which the student is enrolled in AAS 679HB. Supervisors may choose earlier deadlines and enforce them accordingly.
• Any student using research with human subjects must receive the approval of the Office of Research Support and Compliance. An IRB may be required and should be given by the Office of Research
Support and Compliance before the thesis outline is submitted. For more information visit: [http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/humanresearch/undergraduate.php](http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/humanresearch/undergraduate.php)

- For creative thesis, your second reader must be tenure-track faculty in the creative area you plan to use (i.e., Faculty in RTF if you are making a documentary, in Creative Writing if you are writing short stories, etc.). All creative projects must be accompanied by a term-paper length report giving the process, rationale, and/or theoretical framework for your project and how it relates to Asian American Studies.

For more about the Center for Asian American Studies honors program, please review the Senior Thesis Manual: Departmental Honors Programs at [http://www.utexas.edu/cola/progs/humanities/content/resources/thesisman0708.pdf](http://www.utexas.edu/cola/progs/humanities/content/resources/thesisman0708.pdf) or contact CAAS staff listed below:

Madeline Y. Hsu, Director  
Office: GRG 220  
Phone: 512-232-9469  
myhsu@mail.utexas.edu

Kenyatta Y. Dawson, Program Coordinator  
Office: GRG 220  
Phone: 512-232-9468  
kydawson@mail.utexas.edu
Asian American Studies Departmental Honors Program
Application for AAS 679H (Asian American Studies Honors Thesis)

PROPOSED SEMESTER TO BEGIN ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES HONORS PROGRAM

Semester:  ☐ Fall  ☐ Spring  ☐ Summer  Year: __________

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _______________________________  UTEID: __________________

Email: _______________________________  Phone: _______________

Local address: __________________________________________________
________________________________________________

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Credit hours completed: _____  Credit hours in residence (at UT): ____________

Cumulative GPA: ______  AAS credit hours: _______  AAS GPA: ______

Major(s): ___________________  Expected date of graduation (with Honors): ______

Please list two instructors who can serve as references to your academic abilities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department/Institution</th>
<th>Phone/address (if not UT AAS Dept)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>________________________</td>
<td>_________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>________________________</td>
<td>_________________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES COURSES (completed and current coursework)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Sem/year</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>UT course?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAS 301</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>_______________________________</td>
<td>_______________________________</td>
<td>_______________________________</td>
<td>_______________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THESIS SUPERVISION AND SCHEDULE

As part of the Honors application, we require students to identify a Thesis Supervisor. Please list below your first choice of supervisor as well as any other faculty with whom you expect to work during your thesis research. This second faculty member may be your second reader for your thesis.

Supervisor: ________________________________________________________________

Other faculty (if any): ________________________________________________________

☐ Yes  ☐ No
I have met with my proposed Thesis Supervisor and he/she has agreed to supervise my Honors Thesis.

☐ Yes  ☐ No
I have reviewed the Asian American Studies Departmental Honors Thesis Guidelines and understand the requirements for successful completion of the Sociology Honors Program.

Signature ___________________________ Date _______________________

Please submit this completed form, your thesis proposal (a statement of goals and purpose), a sample of your written work, and your resumé to Dr. Madeline Hsu, the Asian American Studies Honors Advisor.

Please feel free to attach any additional information concerning your academic abilities and desire to participate in the honors program.

Checklist:
☐ This application form
☐ Your thesis proposal
☐ A writing sample
☐ Your resumé

Deadline for admission to the Asian American Studies Honors Program for the Summer or Fall semesters is April 25th. Deadline for the Spring semester is November 20th.

Turn in applications at CAAS (GRG 220) or email electronic copy to kydawson@mail.utexas.edu.