

ISPHonors Thesis Outline

An outline of your thesis must be submitted to the ISPCommittee prior to your final document. The deadline for the thesis outline can be found on the ISP web page, and is typically Jan. 30. It is your responsibility to make sure that all of the information below is submitted by the due date. It will then be reviewed by the ISPHonors Committee and either approved or returned to you if further work is needed. The final deadline for the honors thesis can be found on the ISP webpage, and is typically April 30.

The outline should have the following information:

1. Title, Abstract, and Signature Page

- a) Include a title that is descriptive of the subject to be discussed in your thesis using properly chosen key words that tell the reader what to expect in the paper.
- b) Include a brief abstract (200 to 300 words or fewer) of the entire thesis, indicating the status of your field (i.e. research done prior to your work), focus of your project, your findings, and the implications of your findings. Avoid using jargon in your abstract whenever possible, assuming that it will be read by a faculty member who is not in your field.
- c) Include the signatures of the advisor in the following format:

“I, _____ (your adviser’s name), approve the thesis outline described herein by _____ (your name) for submission to the Integrated Science Honors Committee for consideration for departmental honors.”

Adviser’s Signature

Date

2. Table of Contents/Outline

- a) The table of contents (TOC) should include detailed headings that summarize the overview of the work, so that the aforementioned faculty reader can get a clear view of the research.
- b) The TOC should be an outline of the major sections, which includes both major headings, and subheadings containing bullet points summarizing your major findings thus far. If there are experiments still needed to be done, please indicate so in the appropriate subheadings.
- c) A TOC with no, or very few, subheadings is not acceptable.

This completed form, along with the above mentioned items should be submitted to ispadmin@u.northwestern.edu by the deadline noted above.