

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS PROGRAM

Senior Honors Thesis and Senior Design Project Application

The Undergraduate Thesis Program at the UH CoAD offers design students the ability to complete an independent, self-directed project as the capstone of their final undergraduate year. The program has two distinct tracks: the **Senior Design Project** and the **Senior Honors Thesis**.

The intention of both tracks is to encourage intensive individualized design work on a topic of interest to the student. Students propose a project in Spring semester before their final year. The project is then developed over the course of the following two semesters—and completed by the end of the final Spring semester.

Both programs require an application submission by May 15 of the year prior to the project. The application includes a 150-word project description and portfolio. Only students who are committed to a sustained individualized project should apply.

Senior Design Project is completed as a two-semester independent design project within the CoAD, with no connection to the UH Honors College. Though it does not grant Honors in Major, it is an opportunity for a student to engage in high-level independent research.

The Fall semester Senior Project Prep course (3 units) results in a project dossier document of 20-40 pages. The Spring semester Senior Design Project (5 units) is completed as a design studio under a single instructor, with students working on individualized projects.

Senior Honors Thesis is completed as a two-semester honors design project through both the CoAD and the UH Honors College. Application is selective. Upon successful completion, an honors thesis student graduates with Honors in Major.

Students in this program complete a 5-7 page Honors Thesis Prospectus prior to the start of the Fall semester. The Fall semester Honors Thesis Prep course (3 units) results in a thesis dossier of 20-40 pages, including a written component. The Spring semester Honors Thesis project (5 units) is completed in consultation with a First, Second, and Third Reader.

Questions can be addressed to the Thesis Coordinator, Matt Johnson, at mwjohnso@central.uh.edu or to Assistant Dean Trang Phan.

SENIOR DESIGN PROJECT

Independent design program open to students with 3.0 cumulative GPA or higher

- No Honors in Major (though all other forms of CoAD graduation distinction can apply)
- No Written Dossier Requirement
- Senior Project Final Review

Schedule:

- Fall Semester Senior Year: Prep Course
- Spring Semester Senior Year: Project Studio

SENIOR HONORS THESIS

Selective honors design program for students with 3.5 GPA in major, 3.25 cumulative GPA

- Honors in Major Upon Graduation
- Written Dossier + Thesis Design Project
- Dissertation-style Final Thesis Defense
- Thesis Committee of three readers

Schedule:

- End of Summer: 5-7 page Thesis Prospectus
- End of Summer: First and Second Readers Selected
- Fall Semester Senior Year: Thesis Prep Course
- Spring Semester Senior Year: Thesis Studio