

Department of Government
Senior Honors Thesis Questionnaire

Students who wish to write a senior honors thesis must complete this form and submit it to their prospective thesis director by **June 15** prior to their senior year.¹ Students can place their responses to the questions and prompts either in the spaces provided or on an attached sheet. Students must signify that they agree to comply with the “Guidelines for Completion of a Senior Honors Thesis” (which are attached to this form) by signing and dating this form in the spaces provided below.

1) What research question would you like to explore? Why would a political scientist be interested in this question?

NB: Your question should not have an obvious or an intuitive answer. If you, for example, already know “what you will find,” then you do not have a valid research question.

2) What prompted you to address this question? Was it a particular reading or a set of readings? A topic covered in a particular course?

¹ Students planning to graduate in January or August must plan to take GO 374 in the penultimate semester (or summer session), before graduation, and to take GO 375 in the final semester (or session) before graduation. This questionnaire must be filled out before enrolling in GO 374. For January graduates, ALL aspects of the senior honors thesis (including the thesis defense) must be completed before January 31; for August graduates, before August 31.

3) Which Government courses have prepared you to address this question?

4) Attach a bibliography consisting of 4-7 books and/or articles that you have read as you have developed your research question.

Statement of Consent

I agree to comply with the "Guidelines for Completion of a Senior Honors Thesis." I, in particular, understand that if I fail to submit my completed senior honors thesis by **April 9** the Government department will not recommend me to receive Honors in Government at graduation.²

Print Name_____

Signature_____ Date_____

² Students planning to graduate in January or August must also sign here, which commits them to completing ALL aspects of the senior honors thesis, including the thesis defense, by January 31 (for January graduates) or August 31 (for August graduates).