

PHIL 495: Honours Tutorial

Calendar Description: This course is an intensive independent study course for students pursuing the Honours option that will result in a substantial research essay.

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate initiative in planning and drafting an extended scholarly research essay.
2. Demonstrate advanced editorial skills in revising the essay or project.
3. Demonstrate facility in the discovery and effective use of relevant materials.
4. Advance a proposition or thesis, supporting claims with explicit reasoning.
5. Construct advanced interpretations of textual materials, adequately supported by textual evidence.
6. Situate arguments and interpretations of the broader philosophical context that surrounds the debate/issue.

Procedure:

1. Please read and be familiar with the [honours policies](#) found in the UFV calendar.
2. Student registers in the Philosophy Honours Program. Contact Arts Advisor.
3. Student chooses a general topic and then seeks out a Philosophy faculty member who is able and willing to supervise the Tutorial. The signature of the supervising faculty member is required on this application (see below).
4. Student, with the assistance of the supervisor, prepares a draft research essay proposal according to the general format below.
5. The student's supervisor circulates the draft research essay proposal to other members of the department for consultation.
6. Student revises the proposal, if necessary, which is then filed with the department assistant.
7. The department assistant forwards the proposal to the Associate Dean of Students in the College of Arts for approval.
8. The course is assigned a CRN and the student enrolls in the course.
9. Near the end of the semester (about week 11-12), the student presents their work in a seminar to be attended by members of the philosophy department and other students enrolled in PHIL 495. Other philosophy students, faculty from other departments, or people from outside UFV may be invited as appropriate. The seminar presentation should be about 15-20 minutes, with an additional 15-20 minutes for questions.
10. Student revises research essay, if required, and submits to the supervisor for assessment and grading.
11. The completed research essay is filed with the department assistant.

PROPOSAL for PHIL 495 RESEARCH ESSAY

PROJECT TITLE: _____

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: *Indicate the problem/issue with which you are concerned. Include a brief account of the range of positions on the issue, as well a discussion of the significance of the issue. Anticipate your conclusion, as well as how you will proceed. (These are revisable as you proceed.) About 500 words.*

READINESS: *Indicate how your academic and extracurricular activities make it likely that you will be successful in completing your project.*

PROJECT FORMAT: *Standard projects will be written as publishable essays, ready for submission to academic journals (including undergraduate journals). However, one might present one's work in other forms, including film, multimedia, or performance (subject to instructor/department approval).*

READING: *Include a preliminary reading list. The student and instructor might modify this list as the research proceeds. (Members of the department may suggest adding other literature.)*

Student: _____

Student Number: _____

Student Signature: _____

Instructor: _____

Instructor Signature: _____