



## HONORS CONTRACT FOR A REGULAR COURSE

Calvin College encourages students of high academic aptitude and initiative to undertake honors work in any course, contingent on the professor's agreement. To be eligible for honors work in a regular course a student must normally have a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher, prior experience in at least one honors or AP course, and the permission of the professor. The specific requirements for honors credit must be negotiated between the student and instructor as early as possible in the course, preferably within the first month. Both parties should keep a copy of this contract to avoid misunderstanding.

Honors work involves independent research and/or writing in addition to or instead of the normal requirements of the course. Students are encouraged to propose a specific honors project to their professor. The best work results in a "product" that strengthens students' aptitudes and makes a substantive addition to their portfolios.

Specific requirements are negotiable, but we recommend:

- at least two conferences between student and professor to plan and discuss the honors work;
- work that is qualitatively distinctive (by probing the course content more deeply and independently than is expected of others), not merely added reading or writing;
- opportunity to apply the knowledge acquired in the course in ways that might not be required of other students (e.g. by evaluating secondary literature or by laboratory work);
- opportunity to share the results with the class (e.g. by presentation or web posting);
- if appropriate, opportunity to serve as the professor's research or teaching assistant.

**STUDENT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ID NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CALVIN EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAJOR / PROGRAM:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CUMULATIVE GPA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TERM (18FA etc.), COURSE & SECTION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PROFESSOR'S NAME & EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIREMENTS FOR HONORS: (may attach description or use back of form for more room)**

Special reading/research:

Special writing/reporting:

Special meetings with professor:

Method of evaluation:

Minimum grade in class to qualify for honors credit:

### SIGNATURES:

**STUDENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PROFESSOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Either party may give notice and cancel the contract at any time if the project does not develop satisfactorily. Please return one copy of this form to the Honors Office SC 361F. Honors Program Director, Prof. Amy Wilstermann, is willing to consult with professors about honors contracts – amw26@calvin.edu.