

# ***CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY***

## **PETITION FOR ADMISSION TO PSYCHOLOGY HONORS PROGRAM**

\*\*\* Please carefully read the back of this page before completing this petition! \*\*\*

**Student Full Name (First, Last)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student ID No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Faculty Advisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Check List:**

I certify that I have successfully completed the following<sup>1</sup>:

- I have junior standing at CLU
- I have a minimum of 3.7 GPA in Psychology and 3.5 overall GPA
- I have successfully completed at least 20 credit hours of psychology, including the following courses: Psyc 312 & 313 (or Psyc311, 311L, 425, 425L).
- I have attached my documentation as indicated on page 2 of this petition
- I grant the CLU psychology honors thesis committee access to my transcripts for the purpose of verification.

I hereby attest to the truthfulness of all information I submit and agree to adhere to all rules & regulations pertaining to acceptance in CLU psychology honors program:

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Today's Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Honors Thesis Committee<sup>2</sup>:

**Faculty sponsor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Faculty sponsor signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee Member 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Committee Member 3:** \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>1</sup> Exceptions to the below must be petitioned in writing to the Psychology Department.

<sup>2</sup> Note: Faculty members have the right to refuse sponsorship or being on the Honors Thesis committee!

# ***CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY***

## **Honors in Psychology**

Honors work in psychology is available to juniors and seniors who have demonstrated high scholastic achievement and the ability to work independently in scholarly situations. Interested students need to make arrangements with a faculty sponsor no later than the second semester of their junior year, enroll in Psyc 497/Tut. for two semesters and be formally admitted to the program no later than the beginning of the senior year.

Before you can enroll in the psychology department honors program, you must submit (together with this petition) an outline on how you plan to successfully complete your honors thesis. Your outline must include the following headings, each addressed with 1-2 paragraphs (be sure to **EXPLAIN** your responses adequately):

1. **Tentative Title** of your Honors Thesis
2. **Purpose and Aims** (e.g. what research question will you address? Why?)
3. **Planned Approach** (address what literature you plan to read, tentative methodology, will your approach predominantly be quantitative or qualitative?)
4. **Time-Line** (e.g. By when will you have completed your lit review and Honors Thesis proposal? By when will you have completed your data collection and eventual thesis write-up?)

When petitioning for admission to the departmental honors program, you will need to have a faculty sponsor, and two other honors thesis committee members (at a minimum this will need to include another professor holding a doctorate degree and can also include one psychology graduate student). The honors thesis must include an empirical component that is tied in with theoretical orientations. Your Honors Thesis will proceed in 2 stages (concurrent with your enrollment in Psyc 497/Tut.):

- (a) Thorough literature review on your proposed topic, a logical research hypothesis that emerges from the literature review and a methodology that will help answer the proposed research question. This proposal must be completed and accepted by your Honors Thesis committee by the end of the first semester you are enrolled in our departmental honors program.
- (b) Empirical Data collection (qualitative/quantitative) with subsequent analysis and scholarly write-up in a coherent Honors Thesis that will need to pass a formal Honors Thesis defense. It is the student's responsibility to organize this defense and ensure that all committee members can attend.

Both Proposal and eventual Honors Thesis must strictly follow APA Formatting Guidelines (as outlined in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*). Further formatting requirements (in addition to APA rules) apply (see separate info sheet).

Note: It is your responsibility to stay in constant contact with your faculty sponsor and to finish your thesis in a timely manner. You must give your faculty sponsor and Honors Thesis committee members at least 2 weeks to read your work. If you do not adhere to your proposed time-schedule (see above), you will not be allowed to hold your proposal or thesis defense as scheduled and consequently will need to complete it the following semester (regardless of whether you plan to graduate or not). Departmental Honors will not be given until ALL work is completed and accepted.