

Honors Project

Guidelines for Honors Project Groups that are continuing from P3-1 and that are new for P3-2

Session Goals

By the end of this experience, students will

- Identify community needs that affect health outcomes
- Perform research and data collection activities to assess the current status of community and population needs
- Gain skills working as a group
- Navigate the complexities of working with a community partner
- Present a project in a scholarly forum

Scope:

- The Honors Project continues from first year to second year as part of P3
 - P3-1: Students identify a population and problem, exploring the problem in the community via a needs assessment and planning an intervention.
 - P3-2: Students implement and evaluate the planned intervention
- For both courses, completion of an Honors Project is required to achieve honors

Year 2 Intervention Project:

- Review the “Next Steps” identified on your P3-1 poster as a first step– you may need to reassess what’s feasible for this year.
- Implement an educational intervention to address the identified need that is also appropriate to the population, based on your findings from the community needs assessment. Appropriate projects cover a fairly wide assortment of activities such as:
 - Community education activity
 - TTUHSC community education activity
 - Health fair, presentation, pamphlet, website, podcast, video
 - Presentations during P3 or 1st Day of Block Wellness Activity
- Evaluate the effectiveness of your intervention to the extent possible such as via embedded polls, focus groups, or brief follow-up surveys.
- Prepare a 10-minute presentation to describe your project; project presentations will be given during P3-2B week in January 2020.

Process for Groups/ Projects Continuing from MS1 Year:

1. Contact Dr. Jones by October 11 with any changes in your group member composition or faculty mentor.
2. Locate the Honors Project Materials 2019-2020 folder at the Course Content tab on Sakai. In that folder, you’ll find another folder that includes MS1 Honors Project poster files for all groups. Review your Year 1 poster. Pay special attention to what your group indicated would be your “Next Steps” in developing your project during the MS2 year.
3. Review your group’s “Next Steps” for implementing an educational intervention to address the need that you identified for your population last year. You may determine that some changes are necessary in order to implement a project that’s feasible and do-able within the time you have.
4. During the fall, implement your intervention to address the identified need that is also appropriate to the population, based on your findings from the community needs assessment.

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Process for Groups Adding Students from MS1 Year:

1. Make sure that all continuing group members are willing to have new members added. Please try to avoid groups that are so large that all members cannot make a definite and meaningful contribution.
2. Contact Dr. Jones by October 11 with any changes in your group member composition or faculty mentor.

Process for New Groups/ Project in MS2 Year:

1. Work in groups of 4-6 students interested in a community problem or population. Any groups with fewer or more members should contact Dr. Jones for approval.
2. Identify a faculty member who would be willing to serve as your group's mentor. Ideally, the faculty member should share your interest in the problem or population or can provide assistance in identifying community partners or performing a needs assessment.
3. Identify a target population or community *and* a health need in the Lubbock or South Plains region that is amenable to outreach and education. *You will need to:*
 - Identify the community and health need in either order
 - Identify and clearly define your health issue (clear, succinct statement of problem)
 - Clearly define and describe the population where you propose implementing your project
 - Review pertinent literature. Describe the problem. What has been done before?
4. Conduct a needs assessment to better understand the population and health need. *You will need to:*
 - Perform a brief needs assessment, which may take the form of a focus group, community interviews, or other techniques that will help you understand the current community status
5. Work with a faculty mentor to identify a community partner. The community partner should be an organization, non-profit, or other entity with whom you may work to plan and implement your intervention.
6. Design, implement and evaluate an intervention to address the identified need that is also appropriate to the population, based on your findings from the community needs assessment.

Presentation on January 9, 2020:

- 10-minute powerpoint presentation that defines your population and problem
 - 10-minute presentation
 - 3 minutes Q&A
 - 2 minutes transition
- All group members will be come to the front of the room for the presentation
- Oral presentation given by 1 or all members
- Use a powerpoint presentation, which you'll load on the computer in the presentation room and send to Dr. Jones

Grading:

- Satisfactory completion will result in a grade of honors for all group members as long as all other requirements for honors are met

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Timeline:

- October 11, 2019 Continuing Groups: Notify Dr. Jones of any changes to the student members or faculty mentors for Honors Project Groups
New Groups: Project Planning Form due--Team Members, Topic, Mentor
- November 8 Make-Up Progress Reports due via e-mail to Dr. Jones
- December 6 Implementation and Evaluation Progress Report due via Sakai Assignments tab
- January 9, 2020 Project Presentation Expo
- TTUSOM faculty and students will be invited to attend
 - Each group will be assigned 1 or 2 faculty reviewers
 - All group members should attend.