HONORS RESEARCH REQUIREMENT OUTLINE

RIT is recognized as a student-centered research university. Research, creative and innovative works are critical components of the University’s academic mission. These components are evident across degree programs and specific disciplines, and develop opportunities for all RIT students to engage in research.

What is Honors Research?
Based on RIT’s strategic focus on research, the Honors Program requires all honors students to successfully complete at least one semester of research before graduation. Research is understood broadly to include investigative, exploratory, creative and innovative works. The requirement is flexible so that students and faculty can determine how the student’s work contributes to fulfillment of the research requirement.

The Honors Research requirement provides opportunities for honors students to work closely with faculty to determine the nature of their research and to acquire the skills necessary for engagement in more advanced research at RIT or elsewhere. This research can take the form of preparations for theses, capstone projects and other culminating senior level requirements.

Students have the flexibility to either conduct their own exploratory investigation or to work on existing research, under the supervision of RIT faculty. At the end of the semester, students are expected to present their research outcomes at an appropriate forum. Honors Research counts towards fulfilling the Honors Program requirements. Students are directed to contact their college honors advocate or Honors Curriculum Committee representative for examples of courses and other works that fulfill the research requirement.

Advantages of Honors Research include:
- Honors research provides students with opportunities to work on innovative and cutting-edge work.
- Students gain a competitive advantage in working on future research.
- Students can work on research that extends beyond disciplinary boundaries.
- Students can present their research at the Honors Program Research and Creativity Symposium during the spring semester or the Undergraduate Research Symposium in the summer.
- Additionally, students can present their research at talks, conferences and other appropriate academic and professional venues.
- Students may have opportunities to publish their research.
Options for Honors Research
Options for receiving credit for honors research can include the following:

- Honors research seminars
- Independent study courses
- Course contracts in non-honors research seminars
- Course contracts in non-honors upper level discipline-specific courses
- Upper level courses that require a research component
- Senior theses, capstones, projects and other culminating work

Required Learning Outcomes

- To gain expertise in developing a conceptual or theoretical framework that guides their research
- To gain proficiency in formulating investigative research questions
- To acquire skills needed to search for and systematize information
- To apply knowledge gained to develop research outcomes
- To present or disseminate research outcomes at an appropriate venue

Written Date:
October 1, 2016

Effective Date:
August, 2017
PROPOSAL FOR HONORS RESEARCH REQUIREMENT

Honors program at RIT

Student Name __________________________  Student ID ________________
Student Email __________________________  Four Digit Semester__________
Course College _________________________  Course Number______________
Instructor (please print) ____________________________________________

Honors Research Requirement Outline
Honors Research Requirement (Please provide a description of the research. Please attach an additional page if needed):

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Honors Research Requirement (Please specify how the learning objectives will be fulfilled):

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Faculty-student (one-on-one) conference time commitment per week: _________ hours.

Mode of presentation and audience: _________  Presentation date: _________

Note: This proposal must be completed in its entirety and submitted for approval within the Add/Drop period of the semester in which the research will be conducted. The student must earn a grade of ‘B-’ or higher in this course to fulfill the research requirement. The instructor will receive a Research Requirement Completion Form at the end of the semester allowing him/her to verify whether the student successfully completed the research.

Signature of Student_____________________________________________ Date ____________
Signature of Course Instructor_______________________________________ Date ____________
Signature of Department Chair_______________________________________ Date ____________
Signature of Honors Program Director_______________________________ Date ____________

This proposal must be submitted for approval within the drop/add period of the semester in which the research will be conducted.