




Grade Guidelines for Honours Project

Grades should be assigned in consideration of the following:

1. **Quality:** design, writing, appropriateness of data analysis and conclusions; sophistication of discussion
2. **Responsibility:** design of project, conducting project, developing explanations for results, responsivity to feedback
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- The thesis demonstrated a strong understanding of methods, theoretical and empirical issues, and study significance

Responsibility

- The student assumed primary responsibility for developing hypotheses, conducting analyses, and interpreting findings. The student may or may not have collected the data
- The student wrote the honours thesis with appropriate feedback from the supervisor
- The student responded appropriately to supervisor feedback
- The student was industrious and conscientious in their approach to the project

Presentation

- The student demonstrated a good understanding of the methods employed, the theoretical and empirical issues involved, and the significance of the study, although there may have been some gaps in their knowledge or understanding

A- Quality of the project was high, but was limited in one or more significant ways. The student appreciated empirical and theoretical issues, but did not meet the standards of the A grade in terms of quality, responsibility, or presentation.

B+ The quality of the honours project was reasonable, but had several significant limitations. The paper was not organized or parsimonious and the student did not demonstrate a good grasp of the relevant theoretical or empirical issues. There may have been a reasonable effort by the student, but the student did not take initiative nor develop the project beyond supervisory suggestions.

B The honours project was notably weak in one or more respects. The analyses, written report, or the oral presentation and defence reflected deficiencies in grasping basic theoretical and empirical issues.

B- The project reflects a poor grasp of the theoretical rationale, analyses, and interpretation. The written project may have