HONORS OPTIONS IN REGULAR COURSES
GUIDELINES

General Description. H-Options are an important enrichment opportunity for Honors College members and other academically talented students at MSU. They enable students, with the consent and guidance of faculty, to undertake Honors-caliber study and to receive Honors credit for it in many non-Honors courses. Students need to be interested in some aspect of the subject matter and committed to more intensive and advanced work than is required by the course. Since supervising faculty must commit additional time and energy to this quasi-tutorial, topics should be of special interest to the professor as well as the student.

All-University Guidelines, adopted by the University Committee on Honors Programs on June 2, 1977.

1. Honors work in a regular course presupposes more intensive or more extensive study for those students who opt for it. Arrangements should be made to give substantial demonstration of the results of this more individualized involvement with the course material.

2. Because the student must demonstrate such involvement, a high grade for regularly required work does not in itself warrant the awarding of the H-designation.

3. An agreement between instructor and student to undertake an H-Option project should be reached no later than the end of the first week of the term. It is advisable to record this agreement in writing.

4. Each unit is urged to adopt further guidelines appropriate to its discipline or profession. Such Unit H-Option Provisions ("local options") usually include (a) minimum eligibility standards for non-Honors College students; (b) minimum grade points that must be earned in the course: the Honors designation is awarded only for work that is more intensive and/or extensive and of high quality; and (c) periodic reviews of the numbers of H-Options given by individual instructors and by the unit as a whole: since guiding Honors work in regular courses requires additional investments of faculty time and energy, units may find they are ultimately best served by providing Honors courses or sections, especially when there is substantial demand for Honors work from majors.

5. At the end of the term instructors report to the Honors College the names of students who have satisfactorily completed the H-Option. H-Option Report forms are provided by the Honors College to Chairpersons. These are Administrative Action reports, are separate and distinct from the regular end-of-term grade lists, and require the signature of the Instructor, the Chairperson, the Assistant Dean of the College offering the course, and the Director of the Honors College.

NOTE: H-Option Report forms are now available online at http://www.reg.msu.edu/Forms/AAForms/AAMenu.asp.