

Guidelines for Projects in the Arts

Students interested in submitting an exhibition, performance, or work of art, music, theatre, or imaginative literature as an honors project must follow the normal procedures for honors work and must be willing to engage in a discussion of their work. A brief essay—as preface, foreword, introduction, afterword, postscript, or critical review—must accompany any such creative work. The essay should clarify and illuminate the work in a manner appropriate to genre, form, or medium and may include the aims of the project, its formal and stylistic precedents, its techniques, and the limitations and potential of the project. *The artistic work and the accompanying written portion will be evaluated equally by the examining committee according to the criteria for honors.*

Here is a list of supplementary guidelines for honors projects in the arts:

- A project in the arts may be undertaken in any discipline (e.g., biology, physics, history, etc.), keeping in mind that Honors in Independent Study are university awards.
- If a project in the arts consists of a performance, audio-visual documentation in both digital and hard copy (DVD, CD, photographs, etc.) must be included with the final project for archiving, along with a performance program. Ideally the members of the examining committee will attend a live performance before the oral exam. This can be a dress or technical rehearsal. If the project is an art exhibition, visual documentation and an exhibition catalog in digital and hard copies must also be included. If the project is web based, arrangements must be made to create an archival copy. Materials will be archived in physical form as well as in Lux, the Lawrence University digital repository. The University Archivist will determine whether large, three-dimension objects will be housed in the University Archives.
- The supplementary essay should be six more pages in length. A bibliography and appropriate documentation may or may not be necessary, depending on the content of the paper.
- The project will be evaluated on its artistic merits, for which the accompanying essay provides context, and on the subsequent oral examination. The essay must fulfill the Criteria for Honors in Independent Study and be clearly organized, well written, and free of error, and its content must display a high quality of thought and presentation, and be accurate, meaningful, and appropriate to the project.

