

## Physics Department Honors Instructions

### **Student Requirements**

- Must hold a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher (higher GPA for physics and mathematics courses is expected)
- Identify a full-time CAS Faculty member who is willing to serve as your Department Honors project advisor. If the faculty member is outside the Physics Department, you must have two Physics Faculty serve on your defense committee at the project's completion.
- Fill out your portion of the attached application materials and provide your project advisor with their portion, providing enough time for materials to be submitted to the Physics Undergraduate Program Coordinator before the last day to ADD a class of your senior fall semester.
- Upon approval of your application, you will be enrolled in PY 401 (fall) and PY 402 (spring). You must maintain at least a B+ average over both semesters to be recommended for Department Honors when you graduate.
- By the end of your spring semester, you must produce a written thesis and oral defense for your project. The format of the thesis and oral exam will be determined by your project advisor.
- In consultation with your project advisor, you must assemble a defense committee (consisting of at least two Physics faculty members) and schedule a time and location for your presentation. This must be completed within the last two weeks of the spring semester. Contact the Undergraduate Coordinator to schedule a room for your defense after setting a date/time with all committee members.
- You must provide a copy of your thesis to all committee members one week before your defense.
- All project defenses must be completed no later than the last day of classes of the spring semester.

### **Project Advisor Procedural Guidelines**

- Advise the student on the completion of their Department Honors application.
- Complete the reference sheet of the application, evaluating the student's potential for success in the project.
- Before the end of the spring semester, provide the student with the format of the written and oral thesis that you deem appropriate.
- Within the last two weeks of the spring semester, act as Chair of the student's project defense committee; facilitating determination of the student's eligibility for Department Honors distinction.
- Submit the student's grade via the Faculty Link for PY 401/402 at the end of each semester.

## Application for Department Honors

### Student Information (Please print all information)

First and last name: \_\_\_\_\_

ID number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Major / Minor *in which you are pursuing distinction*: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected graduation date (month/year): \_\_\_\_\_

Semesters working on project: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_

### Faculty Project Advisor information (Please print all information)

First and last name: \_\_\_\_\_

CAS Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Office mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Office phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Title of project:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Application Check List**

**Please include the following materials to your application.**

- Provide a brief description of your intended project. Outline the significance of the proposed work, the method of investigation that will be employed, and the ways the result of the investigation will be analyzed.
- Include a bibliography of readings that are relevant to your work.
- Explain how this project fits in with your academic and career goals.
- Attach an unofficial copy of your BU transcript.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**To be completed by the faculty project advisor:**

Student's name:

How long and in what capacity have you known the student?

Please evaluate the applicant's aptitude for independent research according to the criteria listed below. Please add any applicable comments.

	Exceptional	Good	Fair	Poor	Unable to judge
Native intellectual ability					
Breadth of knowledge in subject					
Written communication skills					
Ability to work independently					
Level of initiative					
Level of motivation					
Laboratory skills (if applicable)					

Comments:

*I have read the student's proposal and recommend that it be accepted toward their Department Honors.*

Faculty Project Advisor (PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Project Advisor (SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Director of Undergraduate Studies (PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Director of Undergraduate Studies (SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Chairman (PRINT) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Chairman (SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_