ENGL 498: Honors Essay

An integral feature of the Honors Program in English is the **Honors Essay**, which students undertake in the final year – and ideally the final semester – of study.

Notes for Students

- Engl 498 is a one-term self-directed research program, supervised by a faculty member. It provides an opportunity for intensive study in an area that interests you. It enables you to read materials that you want to read, think about questions that matter to you, and write a paper that engages with these texts and questions.
- Students produce a substantial essay of between 15-25 pages in length, or of a length determined in consultation with the supervisor.
- Engl 498 may be completed in either term (though preferably in the winter term).
- Student proposals for 498 projects should be submitted to the English Undergraduate Programs Coordinator by April 30 in the 3rd year of study (the date may vary by arrangement with the Coordinator); proposals must include the signatures of supervisor and student. [See template on p. 2 below]
- Proposals should include the objectives of the research program and a reading list.
- Each 498 project needs a title of no more than 45 characters (including spaces) that clearly indicates the nature of the reading program; this title appears on transcripts.
- Engl 498 does not require students to meet with their supervisors on a weekly basis, but it is recommended that they meet at least twice throughout the term, possibly once a month, to report on progress. The meeting schedule is determined by the student and supervisor together.
- Students in Engl 498 meet on a regular basis throughout the term with each other and the Associate Chair (Undergraduate Programs).
- Students register in Engl 498 through the Undergraduate Advisor, not through Bear Tracks

Process for students:

- Define your research interest.
- Talk to instructors; find out who is available and willing to supervise your proposed research project.
- Prepare a brief proposal (3-8 sentences) plus reading list to bring to the instructor for discussion: be sure to state the objectives of your research.
- Refine the proposal and the reading list.
- Submit the proposal to the Associate Chair (Undergraduate Programs) by April 30 (or agreed date) for approval.

Contact: Dr Katherine Binhammer**,** Associate Chair (Undergraduate Programs)**,** English and Film Studies, ugradefs@ualbert.ca, HC 3-23

ENGL 498: Honours Essay (*3)

Term:

Student:

Instructor:

§Course Title:

§§Course Description:

Signed: **Student**_____

Instructor_____

Approved: **Advisor**_____

---

§ 45 characters only, including punctuation and spaces – this title will appear on your transcript, so be as specific as possible.

§§ Include reading list, approximate length of essay, frequency and length of meetings.
Please type on this form or on a facsimile.

Please complete and return to the English Undergraduate Programs Coordinator by 30 April