Jewish Studies Departmental Honors
For departmental honors in Jewish Studies, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Candidates will have an overall grade-point average of at least 3.25 and a grade-point average in Jewish Studies of 3.5 both at the time of declaring their intention to seek honors and by graduation.
2. In consultation with the JS honors coordinator and with approval from a supervising professor, candidates will declare their intention to seek honors no later than the time of enrollment for the final undergraduate semester.
3. Candidates will fill out a declaration form (available here) and submit a copy of that form to Student Academic Services (109 Strong Hall).
4. Candidates in the University Honors Program will enroll in JWSH 491 Directed Study in Jewish Studies Honors; candidates not in the University Honors Program will enroll in JWSH 490 Directed Study in Jewish Studies. All candidates will enroll in JWSH 490 or 491 for one or two semesters during which they will write a substantial, original research paper (honors essay). A grade of B or higher must be earned in this/these courses.
5. A committee of three members of the University faculty (the supervising professor and two others, one of whom must be a member of the Jewish Studies faculty) will approve the honors essay and will certify to the JS honors coordinator that the candidate has successfully completed the requirements to earn honors. The JS honors coordinator will write to Student Academic Services that the JS Honors Program has been successfully completed.
6. If the candidate is earning a double major and is attempting to earn departmental honors in two different departments, one research project may be used to satisfy the requirements of both departments if the candidate obtains approval from both. Both departments must be represented on the student’s committee.
Political Science Departmental Honors

1. Eligibility:

Departmental Honors Undergraduate majors may qualify for departmental honors. Please contact the Political Science department for required courses. Undergraduate majors in the department with senior standing, The student must have a minimum 3.5 GPA in Political Science and a minimum overall grade point average of 3.25 overall GPA are eligible to enroll in departmental honors work. These GPA levels also These averages must be achieved at the end of the candidates's final semester for both in-residence and combined work.

2. Procedures:

Majors wishing to pursue the honors program must file a declaration of intent form with the department's Undergraduate Studies Coordinator no later than at enrollment for the final semester of undergraduate study. Normally students will be expected to enroll at the beginning of their senior year of study, for two consecutive semesters.

Students pursuing honors will enroll in POLS 498, Honors Thesis, with an individual faculty member who has agreed to serve as thesis adviser, thus accepting responsibility for directing the honors research project. Enrollment for 3 hours for two consecutive semesters in POLS 498 is usually expected. In unusual cases students may enroll for 6 hours in one semester, doing all the thesis work in that period.

3. Requirements for graduation with honors:

Completion of a written research project which has been read and approved by a committee of at least three members of the College faculty (of whom at least two must be political science faculty, including thesis advisor). The committee will then certify successful completion of the honors thesis enrollment. Work considered by the project director to be less than "A" quality will not be considered for honors and will not be presented to the committee for approval. The written report is expected to be more than an extended term paper, while something less than a graduate-level thesis. It must reflect analysis and perceptive understanding of the subject matter being studied.

4. Research timetable:

It is strongly recommended that students follow a relatively strict schedule in completing their research studies, in order to avoid having the honors oral examination come very late in the final semester. The following timetable is recommended:
1. The program meets CLAS requirements for departmental honors. A research design should be submitted by Consult the middle department before the beginning of the first semester of enrollment.

   1. At the latest, the first draft of the written report should be completed approximately 2 months before the end of the semester in which honors are to be awarded (e.g., March 15, or October 15)

   2. At the latest, the final draft of the written report should be completed 1 month before the end of the semester in which honors are to be awarded.