

**UNC POLITICAL SCIENCE HONORS THESIS DEFENSE FORM**

This form should be completed by the thesis committee at the candidate’s oral defense and should be returned immediately to the department’s undergraduate coordinator in Hamilton 360 or via email to millie.tan@unc.edu. After any requested revisions are made, the candidate must upload the final version of the thesis in PDF format to the Carolina Digital Repository by the last day of classes. Failure to do so may prevent the candidate from graduating with honors.

Name of candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

PID: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of thesis: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of thesis advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate’s GPA in Political Science (provided by candidate): \_\_\_\_\_

The Committee’s Evaluation of the Thesis:

Excellent    Good    Fair    Poor    Unsatisfactory

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Committee’s Evaluation of the Oral Defense:

Excellent    Good    Fair    Poor    Unsatisfactory

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Committee assigns the following letter grade for the thesis: \_\_\_\_\_

The Committee recommends that the candidate should:

- A. Graduate with Honors in Political Science.  
(requires 3.3 overall GPA, 3.5 in Political Science)
- B. Graduate with Highest Honors in Political Science.  
(requires 3.3 overall GPA, 3.8 in Political Science)
- C. Not be awarded a degree with Honors or Highest Honors in Political Science.

Signatures of committee members:

Advisor _____	_____	_____
Signature	Print Name	Date
_____	_____	_____
Signature	Print Name	Date
_____	_____	_____
Signature	Print Name	Date

## Some Guidelines for the Thesis Committee

1. Almost without exception, students who are awarded Honors or Highest Honors in Political Science receive the grade of "A" for the thesis. If a student does not successfully defend a thesis for Honors, the highest grade the student can receive for the thesis is B+. The thesis grade constitutes 2/3 of the final grade for POLI 692H and should be the basis for the course grade for POLI 693H. It should be stressed that even if a student is not awarded Honors, a grade will be assigned for POLI 692H and POLI 693H (commensurate with the quality of the work) and the student will receive course credit.
2. A degree with Highest Honors is not awarded often. It is reserved for those students who write truly exceptional theses.
3. The award of Honors or Highest Honors is based upon the quality of the honors thesis. While a minimum GPA of 3.8 in Political Science is necessary to graduate with Highest Honors, this grade point average in no way entitles a student to an award of Highest Honors.