

Honors Thesis Workshop Notes

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1 Honors vs Major

- honors program requires 4th year research project
- what to expect?
 - a lot of time management and independence
 - 10 hours work per week minimum
- supervisor probably won't be too involved
 - sometimes more than others

2 Getting Involved

- opportunities outside Carleton
 - Ottawa U
 - hospitals
 - research companies

2.1 Contact Early

- do this early
 - fall of third year
- email is usually preferred
 - use template email if unsure
- be enthusiastic, concise, professional
- leave contact information

2.2 Before Meeting

- try to understand a bit of what they do
- you don't need to know specifics
 - they will tell you about it

3 Preparation

- know what interests you
- know the prof's research
- write down any questions about
 - research going on
 - lab environment
 - volunteer positions
- lab protocols
 - sometimes they have strict rules about when you're allowed to be there

4 The Interview

- timeliness
- know the research topic
- things to keep handy
 - transcript
 - résumé or CV
 - list of questions

5 Things to Consider

- be enthusiastic and genuine
- GPA
- willing to learn

6 Conducting Research

- supervision
 - PhD/MSc student
 - investigator
- show initiative
- research is tough

7 4907 vs 4908

- two types of projects

7.1 4907

- essay and research proposal
- CGPA C+/B-
- no lab work
- written reports
- critical review

7.2 4908

- research thesis
- CGPA B+/A-
- 10 hours per week lab work
- written thesis

8 Finding a Supervisor

1. interests
2. research potential supervisors
3. email
4. interview