THE HONORS THESIS
PROJECT PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

Honors Thesis Proposal: [TITLE OF YOUR PROJECT HERE]
Name: [YOUR NAME HERE]
Class: [YOUR YEAR HERE]
Major: [YOUR MAJOR HERE]
Minor: [YOUR MINOR HERE, IF APPLICABLE]
Advisor: [PLEASE LIST YOUR HONORS THESIS ADVISOR HERE]

Please use the following sections to provide information about your proposed project. Also, be sure to develop your ideas in collaboration with your Honors Thesis Advisor and be sure to pass a draft of your proposal through them before submitting.

Introduction
Your introduction about your project should be clear and articulate. Let us know your thoughts and ideas about your project on the whole as they now stand, remembering that this is a proposal; a final draft will be due at the start of the Fall term of your final year. Thoughts to include in this section might address the following topics and questions:

- What is your idea for an Honors Thesis Project in Theater (Directing? Design? Acting? Playwriting? Dramaturgy? Scholarly work? A combination of things/area?). Include as much information here as possible that will give the faculty a good idea of the depth and breadth of your idea.
- Describe why this should be an Honors Thesis Project as opposed to an SAS, Independent Study, or other type of opportunity. Be sure to make a case for how the Honors Thesis framework serves your particular idea.
- Describe artistic or theoretical questions you hope to address through your Honors Thesis Project.
- Be very specific about the role you will take in the project: will you be directing, writing, acting, designing, researching, etc.? Know that the faculty understands you may want to focus your project in one particular area and will likely need to recruit other collaborators to help execute your project.
- Describe how you will use the two-term framework of the Honors Thesis Project or how it serves your particular plans.
- You might describe how this project contributes to your plans after Dartmouth.
  - Will the project strengthen areas you plan to pursue upon graduation?
  - Will the project help you expand your current interest areas in Theater? How so?
  - Will the project allow you to synthesize your studies in Theater? How so?

Learning Goals
Here, we are interested to learn how this project fits into your studies in theater over the past three years.

- What do you hope to learn or discover about theater through this project?
How does this project relate to all the coursework you have completed thus far or will complete in the summer of your junior year? What strengths do you bring to the project because of your past coursework, theater experiences, or creative activity?

How does this project compliment any type of theater activity that you have participated in thus far? (student productions or department activity)

What unique opportunities in theater does this project help you engage in and explore?

How is this project going to challenge you in creative, scholarly, or a combination of both manners?

As with your “Introduction” section, you might articulate how this project forwards your professional plans after your senior year.

Project Proposal
The first section “Introduction” broadly introduces your project in its totality. This section should offer details of your vision. You should consult closely with your project advisor to help provide you with feedback for details to include about your project as you create this proposal.

Questions and areas that you should address include:

• What are the parts of your project? For example, a directing project will need to detail a very rough production concept for the performance/play that you are planning and describe how this concept fits with your play/performance selection. An acting project should narrate the roles/play/performance you are planning, the goals of creating a certain type of role or specific acting style, and what these will call for on your part as an actor. A design project should narrate the play/area of specialization/idea you are planning to focus on. A research project will need to describe your methodologies or theoretical frameworks in addressing your subject.

• What support will you need for your project in terms of collaborators (from the department or from peers)?

• What space (if applicable) would you prefer to use for your project? Offer an explanation for your choice.

• Will your project need financial support of some kind to help realize it? This could include thoughts about execution for production or research.

Logistics
(If applicable) This section could address more specific details about execution for your project, most especially if it involves production of any kind.

Timeline
We encourage a narrative that describes your project in terms of chronological time, starting from the summer between your junior and senior year to the project’s final execution. What will you be doing and when? Again, providing details that are important to your conception is encouraged in this section, as it will help us provide supportive feedback and plan ahead to help you. Please be sure to discuss your ideas with your advisor as you flesh out your timeline.

We also suggest including a “bulleted” timeline to help us see the project’s rough shape. Below is an example for a bulleted timeline of activity for a directing project. This type of timeline could follow your narrative timeline. The example below can be modified for many types of projects. Nevertheless, it should give you an idea of the detail desired:
• Summer Term (20XX)
  o background reading and research for production (*list possible texts here*)
  o Conservatory training at LAMDA, FSP Summer 20XX (if applicable)
  o Anything else you might be doing in the Summer term to prepare
• Fall Term (20XX)
  o Script preparation
  o Research (*list what you might research here*)
  o Design work
    ▪ Research
    ▪ Collaborating with designers
• Winter Term (20XX)
  o Build for production (set, costumes, lighting)
  o Casting
  o Rehearsals
  o Marketing
  o Performance

Other sections to possibly include in your proposal (if applicable)
We encourage you to detail aspects of your project that fall outside of the topic areas above. Possible sections might address:
  • Directorial Vision
  • Design Concept
  • Acting Style/Goals/Challenges
  • Playwriting Goals
  • Stage Management/Production Goals
  • Research Questions (for scholarly work)

Bibliography
Honors projects benefit from research of many kinds. We encourage you to provide a preliminary bibliography of texts, sources, images, videos, artworks, productions, and other materials (archives, reviews, primary or secondary sources, etc.) that you would utilize to inform the ambitions of your project.

Appendix
Possible sections to include here:
  • PLOT SUMMARY: Short but detailed plot summaries of a play/performance piece that you plan to work on would be greatly appreciated, as we may be unfamiliar with your proposed text.
  • CHARACTER LIST: (if applicable) Character lists for plays is also often helpful to include so that we can gain a better idea of the play’s size and casting needs.
  • OTHER INFORMATION OF PERTINENCE: Any other additional information that will help us gain a good perspective of your project is encouraged as an appendix material.