

ID4950 Seminar: Honors Program PORTFOLIO

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Office Hours: 4-4:30pm; 7:30-8:00 pm. Wed: 2-4pm.

Honors Program Portfolio – Rubric and Requirements

Gray Matters is an exploration of the intersection of the mind and society with a focus on how we think, learn, and live. Topics of discussion are designed to investigate the role of ambiguity and complexity in the gray spaces of human endeavor. Gray Matters is an observation that usually things are neither zero nor one but somewhere in between. Gray Matters can be found in all areas of life and all areas of study – from the way we interact with each other to things in nature.

Complex Systems provide a framework to study this non-linearity inherent in Gray Matters. One of the basic principles of Complex Systems is that local interactions can create global phenomena, resulting in resilient, adaptive, robust, self-organizing living (dynamic) and sustainable systems. Some systems magically disappear, and many survive for a longer time; some change dynamically and even exhibit chaos. Computational Complex Systems can mimic these properties and are significant to the study of Gray Matters. Technological innovations can make local interactions possible even if communication is between physically separated entities.

This course is only open to Honors Program students.

Honors Program Portfolio -- *Rubric*

The Honors Program portfolio is a multi-year opportunity to the student to showcase the student's understanding of the general area of Gray Matters, which the student has found fascinating during their tenure as an Honors Program student. The Honors Program portfolio is a successful compilation of mastery and intellectual accomplishment that goes significantly beyond the student's classroom learning.

The Honors Program portfolio will consist of a description of intentional and cohesive effort which the student has undertaken as an Honors student -- starting with their GPS1010/3010 Gray Matters course where the idea of their study might germinate; complex systems study might provide an opportunity to frame an Gray Matters idea. Two designated courses (Freshman Spring and/or Fall Sophomore), mostly in the student's degree program, can be used to develop their ideas even further. The Honors Program section of COMM 3440 (Spring Sophomore), will provide another opportunity, if it fits within the student's degree program, or an equivalent course the student could

take to further their idea under the lens of organizational leadership. Honors Program Portfolio (ID4950) (Fall or Spring of Junior year) will provide the student an opportunity to complete their portfolio. Honors Program portfolio will consist of:

- (a) Abstract: 500 words or less word; and
- (b) Any artifacts, documents and other supporting materials, created in Honors and other Courses that are related to this portfolio.
- (c) Compilation of contributions from -- GPS 1010/3010 (Gray Matters) (500 words or more); Designated course One (500 words or more); Designated Course Two (500 words or more); Contribution from COMM 3440 (if elective in their degree program) or equivalent course (500 words or more); Contribution from mandatory events and activities such as Volunteering, Engagement activities from Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and/or Senior year such as seminars, movie festivals, and other events organized by the Honors Program (500 words or more).
- (d) A --- document, a piece of art, a framework, a movie, an animation, a poster, a thesis project, or a portfolio where a student, using topics and tools in their chosen area of study, can explain their narrative and understanding about any of the following: an experience, a problem, a case study, a theater production, a research project, a study abroad experience, or a computer program analysis, exhibiting the student's learning of Gray Matters --- supported by (b and c).

Portfolio structure will vary from student to student, and will be agreed in collaboration with portfolio mentor and/or readers. In some cases, (b) and (c) could be combined into one document, chronologically ordered, or reversed in presentation.

List of Portfolio Mentors:

Following UCCS Faculty members have agreed to serve as portfolio mentors for the Honors Program:

Dr. Glen Whitehead <https://www.uccs.edu/vapa/index/music/faculty/whitehead>

Dr. Allen Schoffstall, <https://www.uccs.edu/amschoff/>

Dr. David Weiss, https://www.uccs.edu/chemistry/faculty_and_staff/faculty-staff-directory/david-weiss

Professor Cory Drieth, https://www.uccs.edu/vapa/index/visual_art/faculty/drieth

Dr. Sandy Wurtele, https://www.uccs.edu/psych/sandy_wurtele

Dr. Nanna Meyer, https://www.uccs.edu/bethel/people/card_hscifaculty/meyer_nanna

Dr. Kevin Landis, <https://www.uccs.edu/vapa/index/theatre/faculty/landis>

Dr. Paul Harvey, <https://www.uccs.edu/history/paul-harvey>

Dr. Robert Sackett, <https://www.uccs.edu/history/rob-sackett>

Dr. Joseph Kuzma, https://www.uccs.edu/philosophy/faculty_staff/joseph_kuzma

Dr. Sudhanshu Semwal, <http://www.cs.uccs.edu/~ssemwal/>

Student must select two Honors Program Faculty members (<https://www.uccs.edu/honors/honors-faculty>) as readers for their portfolio.

Review Process by Portfolio Mentors and Two Readers:

The portfolio will be reviewed by student's portfolio mentor, and two other Honors Program faculty members as readers. Honors Program Advisor assigned to a student in their GPS 1010/3010 course will guide students, work with the student in identifying the portfolio mentor and two readers, serve as one of the readers and arrange for the other.

Any UCCS faculty member, or a person approved by the Honors Program Director can serve as Honors Program portfolio mentor.

ID 4950 students may present and discuss Honors Program portfolios in Gray Matters Seminar series organized by Honors Program twice a semester, as applicable/possible.

Submission Requirement:

Honors portfolios are required to be submitted to the Permanent Collection of the UCCS Library. The process is might change and will be posted on the UCCS Honors Program website. The Honors Program will assist in guiding the student, so please contact the Honors Program if there are any further questions. Additionally, the student working with the Portfolio mentor might consider other avenues of publication of their work such as conferences and journals in their area. Honors Program may also post these portfolios on their website, with permission of the student.

It is the responsibility of the student to complete all deadlines (as discussed below) and to coordinate one-on-one meeting with their chosen Portfolio mentor and two readers.

Deadlines

Student should be aware of Honors Program portfolio goal and rubric document before starting to compile their Honors Program portfolio. Sample of past reports are also available through the Honors Program or their website.

Sample of portfolio template is posted on the UCCS Honors Program website.

The following are deadlines for the portfolio:

- Phase I: One-page portfolio proposal due (10 percent of the final grade). **Deadline February 1st week (Spring Semester) or September 1st week (Fall Semester)** (e-mail submission of the text file). (may include a brief survey and outline of activities you want to provide, general idea, template of document, etc., and scope. A brief survey of the sub-area and detailed plan suggested, Phase II and Phase III demonstration goals clearly specified in a written one-page proposal.) Submission by email.
- Phase II: Project Progress/demonstration (50 percent of the grade)

Deadline on or before **March 3rd week (Spring Semester) or October 3rd week (Fall Semester)**. *Phase II also will include a written survey of relevant recent papers which you have consulted for research or implementation, of something substantial which anticipates a good completion of the portfolio.* This survey will become part of the portfolio report you are expected to write and complete with Phase III (final) submission.

- Final presentation/report due (40 percent). **Deadline April 2nd week (Spring Semester) or November 2nd Week (Fall Semester)** with a 15-20 minutes presentation to the portfolio mentor or readers as agreed on (format may vary with the student and their Honors Program portfolio mentor and readers). The student should double check the goals and rubrics for their portfolio. Because of the interdisciplinary nature of Honors Portfolio, the report may have different formats but should follow the students' area or major.

Late submissions of demonstration would be accepted, but with a penalty of 10 percent of the grade for that Phase if submission is within a week. No term reports accepted beyond the finals week for Spring or Fall Semester. Under extreme circumstances (such as job-related or illness), an extension would be provided on an individual basis.

Policy on Late Drop

A late drop will be approved only if there is documented evidence that the student was prevented from attending a significant number of classes by circumstances beyond his or her control.

Office Hours

Student will work with Honors Program portfolio mentor and should meet regularly with the two Honors Program faculty working with the student as readers. The number of such meetings will be dependent upon the student and faculty members.