Writing a senior honors thesis, or any major research essay, can seem daunting at first. A thesis requires a reflective, multi-stage writing process. This handout will walk you through those stages. Why write an honors thesis? Satisfy your intellectual curiosity. This is the most compelling reason to write a thesis. Whether it's the short stories of Flannery O'Connor or the challenges of urban poverty, you've studied topics in college that really piqued your interest. Consult your Honors Thesis or Project Committee Chair for guidance in writing your 499T/P Proposal. Your Committee Chair may request additional information or may require adjustments that reflect the professional standards within the department. 1. INTRODUCTION. How will your committee assess the viability of your research to produce an Honors Thesis or Project manuscript with oral defense? If you are registering for an Honors Project, be specific about the artifact that you will produce in addition to the Project manuscript, e.g., a novel, poetry collection, art DVD, case study, engineering design, story board, film DVD, musical composition CD or DVD, etc. 5. COMMUNICATION.