

**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGES HONORS PROGRAM
HONORS CONTRACT
Spring Semester 2012
February 9, 2012**

English 105: Literature and Composition; Professor: Bonnie ZoBell Units: 3.0

DETERMINING HONORS PROJECTS AND GETTING PAPERWORK

TURNED IN: In addition to satisfying the usual requirements of the regular English 105 course, the Honors Contract student will complete the following more critically challenging tasks. (For more specifics, please see attached regular English 105 syllabus.)

1. Select three of the following as your Honors projects for English 105 this semester. You may contact me ahead of time for permission to complete one of them more than once.
 - Go to a public reading a writer is giving and write a two-page report on it. The *San Diego Reader* lists many of them, or you can look online at who will be reading at San Diego Writers Ink or at So Say We All.
 - Read some of this writer's work. Write a two-page report about it. Include at least a few quotes and a works cited.
 - Interview the writer you see reading. Produce a two-page report on this.
 - Interview a published writer. Write a two-page report of this.
 - Read other work by one of the writers whose work we will be analyzing this semester. Write a two page report on this. Include at least a few quotes and a works cited.
 - Lead a class discussion on a piece of literature we will be going over this semester. I will help you with this. Turn in a two-page report.
 - Find some bad sources to use for research papers. I can help you find these, as can the LRC since they teach about these in their library classes. These sources should be unreliable for some reason or other. These sources can be online or printed and either critical material or related material (I'll explain what this means) to the works the class is able to write research papers on this semester:

William Faulkner, "A Rose for Emily"
Lorraine Hansberry, "A Raisin in the Sun"
Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper"
Edgar Allan Poe, "The Cask of Amontillado"
Alice Walker, "Everyday Use"

A class presentation on this would be very helpful to your classmates before the research paper is due, and would help you with the paper, too. If you like, you can give me some samples of bad sources and I can get class sets made. I need to get these about a week before you need them.

- If you know that you have some grammar problems, work out a plan with me in which we will identify what the main problem(s) is, and I will work out with you some assignments to complete to help you improve in this area to help avoid this affecting your grade.
- I'm open to other projects you might come up with subject to approval.

HONORS PROJECT DEADLINES

1. Bring to our class meeting on Wednesday, February 15, 2012, a one-page typed sheet with your name on it indicating which three projects you plan to complete this semester and by what dates.
2. February 29, 2012, is the due date for your first honors project.
3. March 21, 2012, is the due date of your second honors project.
4. April 11, 2012, is the due date of your third honors project.
5. I would not like to get any of these projects at the end of the semester or during the time I'm grading research papers for class.
6. We can make smaller adjustments together after this date if we both agree to them.
7. We will meet as you are working on these projects so I can give input or you can ask questions.
8. Copy this contract and our regular English 105 syllabus, which I'm also attaching. Both of these need to be attached to the Honors Application you have to turn in. I believe there is something I have to sign.
9. The due dates of your Honors Projects are your responsibility to remember since our class is so full and busy this semester. I will try to remind you, but it is your responsibility to write these deadlines down and get your work turned in on time.

HONORS PROGRAM:

1. It is your responsibility to make contact with the Honors Program. I don't know whether you've already talked to someone or whether you still need to. Here is the website for the Mesa Honors Program: <http://www.sdmesa.edu/honors/index.cfm>.
2. On this site, you can click on "Honors Contract Fall 2012" to see some of the paperwork you need to fill out. There it says the deadline for turning everything in is February 10, 2012, at 3:p.m. However, do not wait until then to get started. The more of this we can get done this week, the better.
3. On this page you can find Honors Folks you can talk to about the program for this semester: <http://www.sdmesa.edu/honors/faculty.cfm>.

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the course you will, in accomplishing the above tasks, be able to

1. demonstrate a more acute and in depth understanding of research technique than in the regular English 105 class;
2. demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of at least one extra literary work not covered in our English 105 class this semester;
3. demonstrate a more in-depth understanding of the work of one of the writers we'll be studying this semester or a contemporary local writer;
3. demonstrate critical thinking and analytical skills in his/her written work as well as in oral articulation beyond what the rest of the English 105 class is required;
4. demonstrate an awareness and knowledge of the imperfection of critical works found in print and on the internet and to develop an ability to determine which critical works are likely to be more reliable;
5. and demonstrate the ability to originate, plan, and complete independent critical thinking and planning not structured by the class.

HONORS GRADING CRITERIA:

Quizzes on Reading Materials	10%
Verbal and Written Critical Abilities	5%
Rough Drafts	15%
First Two final Drafts	20%
Research Paper Final Draft	25%
Honors Projects	25%