

MATHEMATICS RESEARCH COURSE / HONORS PROJECT TIMELINE FOR SPRING 2026

SPRING SEMESTER

Jan 28 (Wed): Initial report due to the chair of the Honors Committee (see Honors website [<https://usna.edu/MathDept/Majors/Honors/index.php>, right panel] for all submission links). This report should include the project title, a good start on the introductory material, a complete technical description of the problem of study and concrete goals for the project described in more detail than in the course proposal for SM496 submitted in the fall semester, as well as a list of references. The report must be endorsed by the faculty mentor.

If this and subsequent reports are not submitted by the deadline, the Honors Committee will meet with the student and, if there are no sufficient extenuating circumstances, recommend to the mentor a letter grade deduction in SM496.

Feb 25 (Wed): First draft due to the chair of the Honors Committee; it must be endorsed by the faculty mentor, who may set an earlier deadline. This draft should include a detailed statement of the problem and methodology and progress on all later parts (in outline form at least) of the thesis. It should be mathematically correct. The Honors Committee, in consultation with mentors, will provide the names of two readers for each Honors project (and one reader for each non-Honors research project). Where possible, one reader should be a member of the Honors Committee. Faculty readers should provide feedback to the project mentors by **Wednesday, March 4th**.

Apr 1 (Wed): Second draft due to the chair of the Honors Committee; it must be endorsed by the faculty mentor, who may set an earlier deadline. This version should be nearly complete. Research should be almost done, the mathematics and grammar should be correct, and proofs should be nearly complete. Pictures, graphics, and formatting do not have to be in final form.

An addendum explaining how the readers' comments on the first draft were addressed should be included. Faculty readers should provide feedback by **Wednesday, April 8th**, to be incorporated in the student's final written Honors paper.

Apr 22 (Wed): Final written Honors paper due to the chair of the Honors Committee. An addendum explaining how the readers' comments on the second draft were addressed should be included. The paper will be forwarded to the faculty readers for a final review.

Apr 27 – Apr 29 (Mon-Wed): Oral presentation (20-25-minute talk, 5-10 minutes for questions) to the Mathematics Department Faculty.

Apr 29 (Wed): Submit an electronic copy of the final written Honors paper to the Mathematics Department.