

**Columbia College Honors Program**  
**Honors Project Prospectus**  
**Cover Sheet**

This TYPED form is due to the honors office the semester before enrolling in HON 498 (for example, students taking the course during fall semester must submit the prospectus by the end of April). The proposal should be approximately 1000 words in length, demonstrating careful, detailed planning and vigorous, genuine collaboration with your faculty director. Dr. John Zubizarreta, Director of Honors, evaluates proposals.

Name Lindsey Hernandez  
Title of project Enriching TASC

Credit hours 4  
(3-4)

The following items should be addressed in the prospectus:

1. Describe the goals of the project. Provide specific details about how the project will be conducted and state a specific hypothesis (if you have one). You may also want to provide some background information about your topic.
2. Describe how the project fits in with your educational background and experience and how the project is related to your post graduation plans for career or graduate study. Describe how the project will enhance your honors education.
3. Detail how your director will assess your project. Include specific details about the assessment criteria. Describe in detail any product that you expect to generate. For example, if you will be completing a written paper, provide information about the expected length of the paper, the number of resources to be used, and the citation style to be used (APA or MLA, etc.). If you will be doing a creative performance or preparing a portfolio or some other product, you may include a checklist of items to be included and details about how the project will be judged.
4. Provide a preliminary bibliography. In most cases, a preliminary reference list of resources on a topic will be appropriate.

**Note:** Projects completed during spring semester are due to faculty directors for grading by April 1. Projects completed during fall semester are due to faculty directors for grading by November 15. The project will be presented to students, faculty, family, and friends during an Honors Showcase to be held shortly before graduation using Microsoft PowerPoint or another comparable presentation software package. Although students will complete their project during the junior year, graduates are required to make a 10-minute presentation using presentation software.

The undersigned agree to the guidelines set forth in the Honors Project Prospectus:

Jewel H  
Student Signature

9/13/12  
Date

Christine Hart  
Faculty Director Signature

9/13/12  
Date

John Zubizarreta  
Honors Program Director Signature

14 Sep 2012  
Date

## Honors Project Prospectus

1. The Teen After School Center (TASC) has been involved with Columbia College for a few semesters now. Dr. Hait's LA 201 sections have the opportunity to volunteer at TASC for their service learning component of LA 201. This is how I was introduced to the program. TASC has children ranging from kindergarten to high school. This program seeks to give children a healthy and welcoming environment where they can safely spend their time after school in positive ways. The children have homework time and volunteer tutors at their disposal to receive help where they need it. They also have Enrichment Hour which is an opportunity for the children to learn a variety of life skills. My goal working with TASC will be to create my own series of Enrichment lessons giving me an opportunity to further their education. I am going to have two different topics for the Enrichment lessons. One will be focusing on enhancing their writing, editing, and reading skills. The other lesson will be a variety of topics dealing with hands on creativity. These lessons will include activities such as craft days, outdoor activities, and educational game days. Another goal of my project will be to enhance the TASC website. The website is an important resource for gaining membership at TASC and giving children a safe after school environment. My goal will be to update all the pictures, information, and design. I am going to add new sections to the website including a volunteer/employee page and a student page. By teaching Enrichment lessons and enhancing the website, I hope to do my part in contributing to the positive, fun, and educational environment of TASC.
2. Before entering TASC, I was a psychology major hoping to become a clinical therapist. However, after working with the children at TASC, I am now working towards becoming a family and marriage therapist. Experience interacting with children is essential to the career path I have chosen. I have volunteered at TASC for a year, and I consider my time here extremely valuable and relevant towards my intended career. I have taken a few courses involving children such as development and family therapy, but I have gained more knowledge by actually working with them. By teaching these lessons, I hope to gain even more insight.

As an honors project, the challenge will be to overcome confidence issues and emerge myself in a new and challenging situation. I have never been given an opportunity like this where I would be in charge of a large group of children. I have never taught a series of lessons to a group of children nor have I ever been in charge of editing a website. These are both new experiences that I will be able to learn from. Alongside the actual time spent working on the lessons and website, I will be creating a portfolio of my

experiences as well as documentation of the website. The amount of work, time, and effort needed for this project will define me as an honors student.

3. For this project, I will be completing a portfolio for my product. This portfolio will be divided into two main parts: the lessons and the website. The Enrichment lesson part of my portfolio will include:
  - Pictures of each lesson taught
  - A short reflection of my experience for each lesson
  - A page describing the lesson (what it is, how I will teach it, etc.)
  - A longer reflection of my overall experience teaching the Enrichments
  - Works cited page for any sources used to develop lessons

For the website part of my portfolio I will include:

- Screen shots of the website both before and after
- Descriptions of all the changes I made
- Descriptions of any new sections added explaining their importance
- A reflection of my overall experience editing the website

Each reflection will be written in MLA format. The shorter reflections will be 300-500 words, and the two longer reflections will be 3-5 pages.

My mentor, Dr. Hait, will be grading my project by looking at the following:

**Length/Number:** The portfolio includes the planned number of reflections of the length specified above. The documentation of enrichment lessons and website revisions provides a complete picture of the student's contributions to TASC over the course of the semester.

**Quality:** The portfolio is presented in a neat and attractive form and in an organized fashion. The written work in the portfolio is clear, organized, and polished. The reflections are thoughtful.

**Process:** Dr. Hait will be given opportunities to observe Lindsey at TASC and to meet with her at least twice during the semester to discuss the lessons. Dr. Hait will meet with Lindsey at least twice to discuss her plans for the website, to discuss progress toward her goals for the website, and to review the complete website revisions. Dr. Hait will have an opportunity to read some of Lindsey's reflections at midterm and then again at the end of the semester.

## Preliminary Bibliography

Afterschool Alliance. *Afterschool Alliance*. 2012. Web. 8 Sept. 2012.

*CalPhotos*. Univ. of California Berkeley. 20 April 2012. Web. 8 Sept. 2012.

Heathcott, Amy. "Adjective Monster." *Arts Edge*. The Kennedy Center. 2012. Web. 8 Sept. 2012

*OER Commons*. Ins. for the Study of Knowledge Management in Education. 2012. Web. 8 Sept. 2012.

*TED Talks*. The Sapling Foundation. 2012. Web. 8 Sept. 2012.

*Thinkfinity*. Verizon Foundation. 2012. Web. 8 Sept. 2012.

*Wonderopolis*. National Center for Family Literacy. 2012. Web. 8 Sept. 2012.