**Psychological Sciences Honors Program – Application**

*Application to be submitted to the Psychological Sciences Honors Program Organizer*

*by April 30th (ewalle@ucmerced.edu)*

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Major (and minor): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Major GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Completion of PSY 010

Semester Taken: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Completion of PSY 015

 Semester Taken: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Research Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Research Project Abstract (up to 400 words):

Detailed Project Plan Timeline:

As the **undergraduate student** applying for admission into the Psychological Sciences Honors Program, I attest to the following:

* All information provided above is accurate.
* I am in good academic standing with the University of California, Merced.
* I have included a copy of my unofficial transcript.
* I have discussed the proposed research plan with the identified Faculty Advisor.
* I will enroll in PSY 199 during the upcoming fall and spring semesters.
* I will enroll in Psychological Sciences Honors Course (PSY 193H & PSY 194H).

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

As the designated **Faculty Advisor**, I attest to the following:

* I have discussed the proposed research plan with the above student.
* I am willing and able to provide the resources necessary to assist in the conduct of the planned research.

Faculty Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Psychological Sciences Honors Program – Requirements**

All honors students must be majoring in Psychological Sciences, be in good academic standing, have a 3.50 GPA or above in the major, and have an overall 3.30 GPA at the time of graduation.

**Coursework**

Prerequisite Coursework:

*PSY-010 – Analysis of Psychological Data*

*PSY-015 – Research Methods in Psychology*

Concurrent Coursework:

*PSY-199 – Independent Research in Psychological Sciences*

Students applying to the Honors Program are expected to be a research apprentice in the laboratory of their intended faculty sponsor. Students are strongly advised to begin planning their research project in the spring of their junior year. In addition, students will continue to be a research apprentice in the laboratory during their senior year. Students should be enrolled in the Independent Research course in the Fall and Spring semesters.

*PSY-193H/194H – Psychological Sciences Honors Seminar*

Honors students are also required to concurrently enroll in PSY 193H/194H(3 units per semester), the Honors Seminar, in their senior year. This course provides excellent supplemental background for preparing the thesis.

During the fall semester, PSY 193H will concentrate on issues of research design, ethics, and data analysis using statistical packages, as well as how to apply to graduate programs in psychology and career opportunities in psychology and related fields.

In the spring semester, PSY 194H will focus on oral and written presentations of the thesis projects and feedback on thesis drafts.

**Psychological Sciences Honors Program – Suggested Timeline**

Junior Year (Spring)

Identify thesis topic and faculty sponsor

Conduct literature review of identified thesis topic

Complete all prerequisite course requirements

Attend informational meeting in March (can also happen any year prior to the junior year)

Summer between Junior and Senior Year

Continue to develop research study design in consultation with faculty supervisor

Submit project protocol to Institutional Review Board

Senior Year (Fall)

Enroll in: PSY 199; PSY 193H, the first half of a two semester Psychology Honors Program sequence

Submit study protocol to SONA (if applicable)

Begin data collection/analysis

Senior Year (Spring)

Enroll in: PSY 199; PSY 194H, the second half of a two semester Psychology Honors Program sequence

Complete data collection/analysis

Write thesis paper and submit to faculty sponsor for feedback

Submit study abstract for inclusion in Honors program

Prepare and present an academic poster displaying findings from study (A poster session will be sponsored by the Psychological Sciences Department through the Honors course. Undergraduate and graduate students will be encouraged to attend, as well as faculty and continuing lecturers.)

Give an academic talk presenting the honors research in the Honors course

Submit final honors thesis for approval