I. Requirements for Graduation with Honors for Child Psychology Majors

1. Complete the University Honors Program graduation requirements.

2. CPsy 3360H Child Psychology Honors Seminar
This class acquaints students with research projects and activities in child psychology and related areas. Topics include selecting a research topic, formulating a hypothesis, designing a study, choosing research methods, interpreting results, and presenting findings. Students are encouraged to begin exploring topics for thesis research. Students should register for this class the fall semester of their junior year.

3. CPsy 4994V Directed Research in Child Psychology (Honors Thesis)
This is an independent research course that may be scheduled by arrangement with a faculty member. Honors students have the opportunity to participate in and contribute to research in Child Psychology. In general, this involves becoming acquainted with the literature and methods of a particular area by assisting with ongoing work and eventually planning and carrying out an original research project. Faculty members and graduate students advise and assist the student in this work.

   Because students must work with a Child Psychology faculty member, students are advised to begin working in a research lab prior to taking this course. Students may do so by registering for directed research credits in CPsy 4994.

   Additional resources preparing for research participation:
   Expectations of research participation
   http://home.psych.utoronto.ca/Assets/Psych+Digital+Assets/Psychology/Psych+Digital+Assets/Resources+for+Researchers/expectations.pdf

   Searching for research labs
   https://www.icd.umn.edu/research/

A senior project that is acceptable as an honors project for *cum laude* and *magna cum laude* is required. For *summa cum laude*, students complete a thesis that must be approved unanimously by a committee of three faculty members: two from the major department and one from a department outside of the major. Students may work with the Departmental Honors Adviser to select appropriate committee members; however, students are ultimately responsible for coordinating the committee’s review.

A contract is required to register. Once a contract is completed, students may obtain a permission number from the undergraduate adviser in order to register. The number of credits should represent the total amount of time spent on the honors thesis (each credit should represent 45 hours of work per semester). A minimum of two credits is required for graduation, however, students will typically exceed two credits. Because the Honors thesis should represent a substantial commitment to research and writing, students will typically register for the class for two semesters. Students are advised to begin their honors thesis the semester before they anticipate graduating.

Requirements for the Honors Thesis

   A. A minimum of 15 pages. Guidelines below represent the typical length of papers previously submitted by Child Psychology Honors students:
      i. Cum Laude: 15-20 pages
      ii. Magna Cum Laude: 20-25 pages
      iii. Summa Cum Laude: 25-30 pages

Copies of all levels of the thesis must be submitted to the University Honors Program office upon approval by faculty/committee (thesis@umn.edu)
B. 10 cited references (with APA style citation)

C. Title page, table of contents (if main body is divided into chapters or sections and a bibliography), link to UHP

D. Students graduating with Summa Cum Laude Latin distinction:
   i. Submit a PDF copy to the University Honors Program (thesis@umn.edu)
   ii. Thesis Defense
      • Students complete a thesis that must be approved unanimously by a committee of three faculty members, two from the major department and one from a department outside of the major. Students are responsible for selecting faculty members to serve on the panel and for coordinating the review process. Students should plan to defend their thesis no later than halfway through the semester in which they plan to graduate.

E. Students may also want to pursue presenting their thesis findings at a conference. Funds may be available from departments outside of the Institute of Child Development. Please see your department adviser for more information.