**The Honors Thesis and the Professional Writing & Rhetoric (PWR) Major**

Many Professional Writing & Rhetoric (PWR) students do research that results in a practical project, such as developing a web site or producing educational/training materials. As a result, specifying a required length is difficult. The traditional academic paper portion of a project might be modest (e.g., 25 pages), because of significant work in other media. The length of the paper component will be determined in consultation with the mentor.

**The Honors Thesis and Academic Credit**

In Professional Writing and Rhetoric (PWR), 4998 hours can count towards the PWR undergraduate research if:

1. the thesis has a clear PWR focus,
2. the project is mentored by a PWR faculty member, and
3. the student passes an informal proposal defense with the PWR faculty.

If the thesis does not have a PWR focus, thesis hours may be counted toward the Outside Electives requirement in the PWR major.

**The Honor Thesis and the PWR Senior Seminar**

Honors students are required to take the PWR senior seminar. The 4998 thesis hours cannot substitute for this culminating experience, which is intended to give seniors an opportunity to integrate and reflect on what they have learned within the major and to look ahead and plan for the transition to future professional goals.

In negotiation with the PWR senior seminar faculty, Honors students may propose significantly extending their Honors thesis with a PWR focus for their PWR capstone project in senior seminar, or they may propose a new PWR project.