TIPS FOR STUDENTS (updated as of January 27, 2016)

Students interested in the PICS honors program should review the honors page on the PICS website at www.ii.umich.edu/pics/academics/honorsprogram and the LSA honors plan for senior thesis website at www.lsa.umich.edu/students/academicsrequirements/majors/honorsplan/seniorthesis_ci.

The college has its own requirements and will trump PICS policies relating to honors.

Students will receive a “Y” grade for INTLSTD 498 (fall term) which simply means “extended course” or “work in progress”. At the completion of the thesis, one letter grade will be assigned for INTLSTD 499 (winter term). PICS will also submit four possible recommendations to the LSA Honors office: “No Honors, “High Honors, of “Highest Honors” for each student.

No Honors is given for work that does not meet the INTLSTD 499 standards and for students with GPAs under 3.4.

Steps to apply for the PICS honors program

1. Make a decision that you really want to do it
2. Find a tenure-track faculty advisor willing to oversee your project, start now!
3. Submit an application to PICS.Honors2017@umich.edu by September 1, 2016 and include a brief letter of support from your faculty advisor.

What is INTLSTD 498 and 499 like? What can you expect from these courses?

Both courses are 3 credit seminars to develop your thesis, pitch arguments to your peers and share pieces of your writings for review and critiques. Your thesis advisor will help you format your questions and chose an appropriate research methodology for your thesis.

Beware of complications that can arise. Examples: GPA falls below a 3.4, advisor is not a good fit, possibly not being able to study abroad during your senior year because of the required INTLSTD 498 and 499 courses (requires a case by case approval).

If you plan to conduct interviews with human subjects this summer prior to joining PICS honors, please contact Dr. Marcum, PICS honors instructor at amarcum@umich.edu first. All students will need to complete an application with the U-M Institutional Review Board (IRB). Dr. Marcum can help you navigate this process.

All seniors are eligible for senior thesis and travel grants. Information is available in the LSA Honors office and can be found here www.lsa.umich.edu/students/academicsrequirements/majors/honorsplan/seniorthesis_ci