

HONORS IN THE ARTS
Interdisciplinary Honors Program administered by the [Stanford Arts Institute](#)
Faculty Advisor Information
Last updated: June 2026

Thank you for considering a role as Honors in the Arts Faculty Advisor. This document provides an overview of the HIA program and the advising requirements. If you have any questions, please contact Jessi Pipert (jpipert@stanford.edu).

Since 2013, [Honors in the Arts \(HIA\)](#) has supported undergraduate students from across the University in combining their critical and creative interests in an interdisciplinary arts thesis project. This project goes beyond the traditional boundaries of their major and may be completed individually or as a group. HIA theses are typically creative projects involving an arts practice element, but they may also be scholarly research projects involving an interdisciplinary approach.

HIA students attend a weekly workshop in all three quarters of senior year, taught by Arts Institute Associate Director Jessi Pipert. Here they learn skills for sustainable, independent creative research while practicing interdisciplinary critique in response to the work of their peers. They also work with a graduate student mentor who provides weekly or biweekly mentorship.

To apply to HIA, students must secure a faculty advisor in a discipline relevant to their project. The HIA advisor guides the student towards achieving the scholarly and creative goals set out in their proposed projects at a level consistent with the awarding of university Honors for a creative thesis. The faculty advisor assists the student in developing a realistic scope and timeline for the project, provides feedback as the project develops, and recommends relevant media and/or readings. There is no “one-size-fits-all” approach to the diverse projects within the HIA program, and we encourage you to structure your advising relationship as you see fit. We welcome you to develop an advising plan with your advisee at the beginning of the academic year, laying out expectations around meetings and submissions. As a general guideline, we suggest meeting with your advisee once a quarter.

HIA students are expected to take a proactive role in the advising relationship. They are formally required to submit project work to their faculty advisor for review at the end of autumn and winter quarters. Faculty Advisors are not required to assign grades for these submissions. Rather, these deadlines are meant to create an opportunity for the advisor to provide feedback and guidance for work in the following quarter. Advisors will be asked to provide a final grade and brief written assessment for the project in spring quarter.

HIA faculty advisors must be members of the Academic Council, or hold a lecturer appointment for the entire academic year. Advisors who are not members of the academic council will receive a quarterly honorarium as a token of appreciation.