

## Honors Seminar Course Topic Proposal Form

Submit this form to [honors@wichita.edu](mailto:honors@wichita.edu).

This proposal form is for instructors proposing to offer an HNRS seminar course – scheduled by the Cohen Honors College.

Proposed semester:

Second Eight-Week Session of Spring 2020

Preferred schedule (days/time):

Tuesdays 4 PM to 6 PM

I am proposing to teach an existing HNRS seminar topic, *e.g.* HNRS 351 *Survey of Leadership*.

Note: If you are interested in offering an honors section of an existing department course, talk with your department chair. Department honors courses are scheduled by the department. The department will use the Course Information Management system (CIM) to ADD the honors section as a cross-listed course.

1. Course Information. Please complete all applicable areas:

Title:

Contract Bridge: Quantitative Reasoning and Ethics

Credit Hours:

1.5

Primary Instructor:

Dr. Atul Rai

Additional Instructors:

Guest speakers to be arranged by the instructor

Prerequisites:

None

2. Course Description:

The course will introduce students to the game of contract bridge. Contract Bridge is a trick-taking game played with standard 52-card deck that can help hone skills like memory, communication, quantitative reasoning, and strategy. It is a game for a lifetime. Students will participate in two sessions during the semester at a local bridge club to actually play the game in a real setting.

3. Types of assignments or activities that distinguish this course as Honors-level:

Students will get an Honors Experience for learning how to play. Participants in this experience will attend weekly meetings with two key components: lecture and practicum. Lectures will focus on aspects of bridge rules, bidding, card-play technique, scoring, table presence, and tournament bridge culture. Skills of the game help in memorization, concentration, communication, contingency planning, quantitative reasoning, probabilities, and analytics. The course will also highlight famous ethical scandals of the game, and students will be asked to reflect why people cheat in sports.

4. List of texts or other reading material:

Most text material will be in the form of teaching manual prepared by American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) for new players to the game. A book on probabilities for bridge players (by Hugh Kelsey) will be used for quantitative reasoning. Articles about cheating scandals in bridge from all over the world will be provided by the instructor.

5. Dr. Atul Rai is Associate Professor and Rudd Foundation Fellow at Barton School of Business in accounting. He has an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from IIT, Kanpur, MBA from IIM, Calcutta, and doctorate in accounting and finance from New York University. He holds the rank of Sapphire Master in ACBL ranking, putting him in the top ten percent amongst all tournament playing members of ACBL. He has conducted a youth camp for new bridge players in a local high school.

6. Honors Seminars are approved to meet General Education requirements. Select the course level and designation that best fits your course.

X  **Introductory**                       Issues and Perspectives                       Further Studies

7. How would you like Honors to support this course?

Release payment - payment to college or department, depending on college procedures, for release of faculty member from regular teaching duties.

OR

X  Overload payment – to faculty member for teaching this course in addition to regular teaching duties.

8. Other specific needs for course preparation or delivery (e.g. technology/smart classroom):

I would prefer to teach this course in the Shocker Hall Lobby to provide a living and learning experience. Chairs and bridge tables are needed to conduct the class. Small funds may be needed to buy playing cards and other equipment, although a local bridge club has agreed to provide some of the material.

9. Approvals:

*I understand I am required to submit a new course proposal through the Course Information System (CIM) one semester before the proposed teaching semester if this course is accepted as an Honors offering.*

Signed: Atul Rai, March 22, 2019

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Instructor(s) name and date

*Departmental approval. Please ask your chair to send an email or letter supporting your proposal to [honors@wichita.edu](mailto:honors@wichita.edu)*

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Department Chair name