

HONORS IN ACTION JOURNAL

Keeping a journal throughout the HIA project is an important tool to track what you learned, how you grew as scholars and leaders, and how you met your proposed project objectives. Reflection is a significant part of the HIA project rubric.

- Everyone on the HIA team should keep a journal.
- Journaling can be accomplished on paper or online (check out Google Docs, Glimpses, Memento, etc.)
- Consider setting deadlines for reflections as part of your project timeline.

Get ready; get set; go!

- Congratulations on being a part of your Phi Theta Kappa chapter's Honors in Action Team! How did your chapter choose the team, and how do you think you might grow individually as a leader and a scholar during the process?
- What were your research objectives for the project?
- Which themes in the Honors Program Guide were most interesting to you and why?
- How did your group choose your theme related to the Honors Study Topic?
- Does the theme address a real-life issue in your community?
- What are your deadlines?

If you want good answers, you must ask the right questions, and set the right objectives.

- What are your research objectives? How did you develop them?
- What is your research question? Is your question thoughtful and answerable?
- Is your question directly related to one of the themes AND the overall Honors Study Topic in the current Honors Program Guide?
- By what process did you develop your research question?
- Who (faculty, advisors, librarians, experts) engaged in the research and development that led to your research question?
- What different disciplines can you connect to your theme as it relates to the Honors Study Topic?
- What are the varied perspectives and points of view to explore?
- What sources can you identify that represent the varied points of view about your theme as it relates to the Honors Study Topic?
- What are the details of your research plan (number and type of sources, deadlines for reporting, etc.)?



What did you learn? What conclusions did your team draw?

- What academic sources did each researcher consult? What were the three most meaningful things each researcher learned from each source that informed your understanding of the chosen theme as it relates to the Honors Study Topic?
- What did you learn from analyzing and synthesizing your team's research?
- What are your research conclusions?
- What obstacles did you face while conducting research? How did you overcome them?
- What are the quantitative and qualitative outcomes of your research?
- How were your critical thinking and research skills strengthened as a result of the chapter's academic research? How can you provide any evidence of this growth?
- How did your academic research into the Honors Study Topic help you better understand the world?
- How have you shared the studies, research, analysis, and conclusions with chapter members, people on campus, and/or community members?
- What specific plan of action did your research conclusions lead you to choose? Explain how and why.

How did your answers change your questions?

- In what ways was your HIA research personally challenging?
- How did your answers change your questions?
- What pre-conceived ideas held by members of your team were challenged and/or changed through the research process?

What will you do with your newfound knowledge?

- What did you learn during the academic research phase of your HIA project that led you to identify an action that tied directly to your team's research on the Honors Study Topic?
- Whom will you serve? (demographics, numbers, location, etc.)
- How will your project serve your campus? How will your project serve your community?
- What organizations exist locally that are engaged in actions (service, awareness, advocacy) similar to what you aim to do? What can you learn from their work?
- What organizations exist in the world that are engaged in actions similar to what you aim to do? How does their work inform yours?
- What is the specific impact you intend to make?
- What are the details of your strategies and plans?
- How are you going to measure the impact (quantitative measures and qualitative measures)?

Reflect on how knowing more helped to change you, your chapter members, your community, and the world.

- What are the specific results and impacts of your research, growth as scholars and leaders, and the resulting action?
- What are the reactions and feedback from the people and organizations with whom you collaborated?
- What is necessary for your service/action project to be sustained and grow?
- With whom did you collaborate to complete your project? 1) People on campus? 2) Community members? How and why did you select your collaborators? How did you communicate with them, and how did you collectively reflect on your HIA project?
- Did you meet your chapter's initial objectives?

