Digital Honors - FAQs for Students:

*What is a digital honors project and where is it kept?*

- This is a digital version of the student’s honors project. It’s part of the Bowdoin Digital Commons, a repository of digital collections created or curated by departments of Bowdoin College. See [http://digitalcommons.bowdoin.edu/](http://digitalcommons.bowdoin.edu/)

*Does this replace the print thesis?*

- No, you will still be required to submit a print version of your thesis to the College Archives, but you’ll also create a PDF version of that thesis to upload to the Bowdoin Digital Commons.

*What if a thesis contains non-textual materials?*

- You will be able to attach additional files to your Digital Commons upload with the non-textual material, e.g., sound or video files.

*Does it take much time/how easy is it?*

- The participants in the initial few years of the project felt that the process was simple and didn’t take much additional time. One important step is for you and your faculty advisor(s) to decide together about the Level of Access and possible Embargo period. See “Thesis Access and Embargo Guidelines.”

*What do these terms mean?*

- *Level of Access* determines who may access a document.
- *Embargo* determines when a document can be accessed.

*How do we determine the appropriate level of access?*
If the final version of the thesis complies with fair use in accordance with U.S. copyright law, or you have obtained permission from the copyright holder to use materials not covered under fair use, you and your advisor(s) should select Open Access.

If the thesis includes copyrighted materials that fall outside fair use provisions of U.S. copyright law, the student and advisor(s) must select Restricted Access; this will limit access to users on the Bowdoin campus.

How do we determine if an embargo is necessary?

An embargo prevents all online access to the thesis for a certain period of time (the abstract will be visible to and searchable by the public unless otherwise requested at the time of submission); this might be chosen if, for example, you and your advisor are planning to publish your research results elsewhere. Periods of embargo may be 1, 3, or 5 years, after which the thesis will be available for viewing online.

If embargo of the abstract is needed; the abstract can be omitted from the submission page. Once the embargo period has passed, the full Honors Project content will be visible to and searchable by the public.

The faculty advisor(s) will have the final decision on access and embargo of digital honors projects.

Any questions? Please contact Sue O’Dell (sodell@bowdoin.edu or 207-725-3265)

http://libguides.bowdoin.edu/honors