I take Honors Seminars because the work is focused on a single subject allowing the class to have extremely engaging conversations with deeper analysis of the plays and theoretical articles being studied. Since students apply to be in the Seminars, everyone has a passion for the subject matter. Honors Seminars have given me skills to use beyond the classroom and have helped me obtain a greater understanding of who I am as an artist.

Rachel Deutsch (expected) ’17

Writing an Honors Thesis was one of the most valuable experiences of my undergraduate career. As an Asian American actor, I chose to write about the representation of Asian Americans in mainstream theatre. Researching this subject was both illuminating and inspiring as I came to understand how I will be viewed as an Asian American actor within the business. Since graduation, I have already performed with a few of these communities I studied and have become part of the effort to create change for generations to come.

Kelsey Schergen ‘15

My experience writing a thesis was equal parts trying and exhilarating. Everything that was written was rewritten, reread, and then rewritten again. The process of revision not only produced a better thesis, but also made me a better editor, writer, researcher, and critical thinker. I am proud to have undertaken this project and I wouldn't trade the experience for anything. It truly was the most rewarding work of my four years at university.

Isabel Dollar ‘15

The professors I’ve studied with in the Honors Program have generously encouraged me to develop my critical thinking and expand my technique of literary analysis. The classes I’ve taken draw on compelling theatre and drama that have enabled me to understand history and current events from new perspectives. Course material has not only been extremely illuminating but also an absolute joy. I consider the Honors Program to be one of the best parts of my studies in Tisch and at NYU.

Zennie Trieu (expected) ‘17

After taking two Honors Seminars, I’ve found that I am able to think, write and speak about art on a deeper level and with a more scholarly framework than I could before. I’ve gained an ability to engage critically with my own work, and an awareness of those who came before me, which allows me to work as an artist much more thoughtfully. I love the Seminars and their focus on high level discussion and have learned a great deal from both my professors and my peers.

Isabelle Fenn (expected) December ‘16
Thanks to the rigor of the Honors Program and the conservatory caliber studio system, Tisch Drama is uniquely qualified to train well-rounded actors. The practical training benefits from New York City's relevance and vitality while the Honors Program is as academically rigorous as any theory-based program. Participating in Honors Seminars and studio training concurrently made me a more thoughtful and well-informed actor. The critical analysis and ability to synthesize we honed in Honors Seminars made my script analysis and dramaturgy stronger. Because of Honors Seminars, I am a well-rounded artist.

I came into my own as a writer and critical thinker by engaging with dramatic material I was already passionate about and honed my collaborative skills as my fellow drama students and I challenged and encouraged each other, bringing our individual strengths and common curiosity to advanced material.

Harriet Taylor ‘16

Writing an Honors Thesis was the most challenging, rewarding and academically stimulating project I've done at NYU. It enabled me to cultivate my passion for science and my dedication to theater and led to a number of fascinating conclusions that would not have been possible without my participation in this program. My advisor was fantastic. I got guidance when I needed it and was held me to a high standard of accomplishment under tight deadlines.

I would recommend this program to those with the ambition, patience and diligence to analyze a specific topic for an extended period of time. Composing a thesis is an opportunity to employ the academic skills that result from years of schooling to create a piece of work that is important to you. It affords the opportunity to work closely with brilliant professors and allows you to graduate from NYU with a tangible piece of work that showcases your research, writing and critical thinking skills.

Derek Hedbany ‘15