

Finding a Mentor

For your honors project, you and your parents will need to find a mentor to work with you. A mentor is an adult who provides expertise and guidance during the Honors Project process. A mentor can provide two kinds of expertise: subject expertise and writing/research expertise. Some mentors provide both and this is ideal. You only need one mentor.

Possible sources for "subject" mentors:

- St. Olaf and Carleton students or professors
- Members of organizations related to your topic (i.e. birding groups, historical reenacting societies, political groups).
- If you attend a church, ask people you know there.
- Businesses or non-profit organizations related to your subject
- Ask your teacher if they know anyone.

Possible sources for "writing/research" mentors:

- Former teachers
- Family friends
- College students

Make sure your mentor understands what the project is about by sending them to the Prairie Creek website and having him or her explore this section.

We strongly suggest family members not act as mentors. However, family members with expertise in your area can be very useful resources. Your parents and teachers can help with the research/writing if your mentor is not able to do so.

Try to set up a regular meeting with your mentor, perhaps every two weeks. They will check in on your progress, set goals, and even help you arrange field trips and interviews.