Would you like to learn the difference between dark energy and dark matter or how to calculate the number of detectable civilizations in the Galaxy? If your answer is “yes,” then take this class! We will explore the Cosmos with a profusion of inquiry scenarios as you learn about the world’s oldest science. New discoveries abound as we learn about planets, stars, and black holes. We hope to be able to use the LMC Planetarium occasionally, but if not, there’s a lot you will be able to observe with specially crafted viewing experiences.

**Honors Astronomy 10**
*Introduction to Astronomy*

MW 11:10-12:35PM  #3657  IGETC 5A, CSU B1, Honors: Math/Science Synchronous

Professor Scott Cabral has loved astronomy since as long as he can remember. After getting a B.A. at U.C. Berkeley, he started teaching astronomy at Los Medanos in 1989 while still working on his M.S. at San Francisco State University. Scott is a veteran of countless public planetarium shows and telescope viewing parties, besides being the proud owner of over 15,000 astronomy slides. In addition to that, he loves participating in Honors activities, whether it is delivering a bad poem at the Honors Yosemite Retreat or moderating at the Honors Research Symposium. Most weekends you can find Scott mountain biking on Mount Diablo.

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**Honors English 100**
*College Composition*

- *Is the amount of time you spend on social media good or bad for your writing skills?*
- *Can an algorithm create written language as well as humans?*
- *How have text messaging and tweets changed the way we communicate?*

What do tweets, texts, and college essays have in common? They’re all types of composition: writing constructed to serve a particular intent. This class explores different modes of writing and the ways we compose texts to serve various purposes: persuasion, explanation or just the communication of ideas. Writing has changed over time, from print-based to digital culture, but does this mean that we express ideas differently? Should we? This course starts with the notion that computer technology has fundamentally changed communication, and by extension, we will focus on the interconnectedness of humans with the technologies we create.

#1491  Asynchronous  IGETC 1A, CSU A2; Honors: Humanities/Art

Professor Jim Jackson has a BA in English and MFA in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University and is currently completing a PhD in Literature at the University of California, Santa Cruz. His research interests are the co-evolution of technology and culture, genre ideology, and systems philosophy. But when he’s not reading or teaching, he enjoys getting outside and going for hikes with his wife, Marisol, and their two dogs. Otherwise, he’ll watch as much television as one could imagine.
Honors Humanities/Art 35
Mesoamerican Culture through Ceramics

Why are skull emblems so popular in Mexico? What is the artistic significance of pyramid imagery? Do you like hands-on projects? Then take this unique Honors Course that presents an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Mesoamerican civilizations. You'll explore the spiritual, intellectual and political foundations of Mesoamerican art, both ancient and contemporary. Taught partly online and partly in LMC's sculpture lab, you'll immediately apply what you're learning by getting your hands dirty with clay as part of class assignments. No previous art experience is necessary, just an interest in developing your own creative skills while learning about ancient Mexico. This fascinating course counts either in the Art or Humanities Departments.

MW 2:20-4:35PM #0193/0191 IGETC 3B, CSU C1, Honors: Humanities/Art
Synchronous/Asynchronous with occasional in-person meetings

Professor Lucy Snow has worked and/or studied in Colorado, Costa Rica, Maine, Massachusetts, and Oklahoma before moving to California to get an M.F.A. in sculpture from UC Berkeley. She runs the LMC ceramics studio with the help of thirteen community artists, and loves to play the bass guitar when she gets a chance.

Social media, internet media, and legacy media — print and broadcasting — pervade our daily lives, and never more so than during the current Coronavirus pandemic. Yet many citizens lack “media literacy” — the ability to analyze and evaluate this information. With the presidential election sure to be dramatic, this course will examine the media’s role in the 2020 election, among other emerging topics. You’ll also study controversial issues such as the portrayal of sex, violence and stereotypes; freedom of expression and “political correctness”; the public’s right to know vs. the need to protect national security; the effects of media on political movements, democracy and international relations; fact vs. “fake news”; and how the media affects childhood in the 21st century. You’ll get lots of chances to interact with your fellow students in this popular Honors Course.

TuTh 9:35-11AM #0817 IGETC 4G, CSU Area D; Honors: Soc/Beh Science
Synchronous

Professor Cindy McGrath stepped out of the newsroom and into the classroom in 1988. She has won numerous statewide awards for her teaching and also serves as the advisor for The LMC Experience. Cindy spent 11 years in Florida as an editor at the St. Petersburg Times. She writes in inches, measures in picas and tosses terms around the journalism lab like “dogleg”, “raw wrap” and “bastard type.” Cindy is also well-known for teaching archery at the Honors Retreat.
Honors Music 10
Music Literature

Do you think classical music is “boring” or “outdated”? Are you intimidated by people who know about Beethoven or Mozart? This ear-opening Honors Course introduces you to the story and ideas behind Western classical music so you can understand what a dynamic and creative art form it really is. We’ll listen to music (a lot!) in this class, both recorded and through unique remote concert viewing opportunities and you’ll learn about its roots in famous political movements and social trends. With guest speakers who are professional musicians and conductors, you’ll learn why this music matters.

#0216  Asynchronous  IGETC 3A, CSU C1, Honors: Humanities/Art

Professor Luis Zuniga is from Panama and grew up listening to merengue and salsa. He discovered the saxophone at age ten and his passion drove him to the United States to obtain his PhD at the University of Colorado and his M.M. at CSU Los Angeles in conducting. Dr. Zuniga conducts the LMC Orchestra and Concert Band and has created classes in Hip Hop Culture, the Philosophy of Music and the History of Opera. He spends his spare time fishing and going to old car shows. One day he aspires to own a ’67 Mustang.

Honors Speech 110
Honors Speech Communication

Want to become a YouTube star or more confident public speaker? Whether you’re nervous about talking in public, or just want to get better, this Honors Course is for you! We’ll ground this class in the context of the 2020 Presidential election, looking at the rhetoric of public address in the political sphere. You’ll also give a persuasive speech advocating for a public policy proposal you care about. And, in our persuasive speaking unit you’ll learn skills to engage in mini-debates about issues that matter to you in art, public health and more. Take advantage of a small class size, lots of collaboration and special instruction in making great online videos. Requires a webcam, and reliable high-speed internet.

MW 9:35-11AM #2093  IGETC 1C; CSU A1; Honors Soc/Beh Sci
Synchronous/Asynchronous

Professor Zack Feere is a proud LMC graduate and was one of the first students to transfer as an Honors Scholar. He earned a B.A. in English from Sonoma State, an M.A. in Mass Communication & Media Studies from San Diego State, an M.A. in Speech Communication from San Jose State, and an M.A. in Middle East Studies from the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Be’er Sheva, Israel. He also spent two years in Colombia as high school teacher and volunteer. He enjoys traveling whenever possible, and has been to 25 countries. Professor Feere speaks excellent Spanish and terrible Hebrew. In his spare time he enjoys reading, playing basketball, and collecting historical African art.
Honors Philosophy 122

The Ethics of Interpersonal Relationships

Honors Seminar

Your parents will pay for college on the condition that they choose your major: is this morally permissible?

Your boss puts her hand on your shoulder and asks you for a date: is this sexual harassment?

You notify authorities when your neighbor violates quarantine; have you done something immoral? There’s no avoiding it, life is complicated but that’s where philosophy comes in! Using the tools of philosophy as our guide, we’ll examine the ethics of interpersonal relationships in friendship, dating and sex, and family and professional life. This team-taught Honors Seminar will help you think deeply about moral quandaries, sharpen your writing skills, and features lots of lively discussion during synchronous classes.

MW 12:45-2:10 PM #0103 IGETC 3B; CSU C2; Honors Seminar

Synchronous /Asynchronous

Professor Jennifer Saito is the founder and director of the LMC Honors Program and teaches in three departments: mathematics, philosophy & humanities. She loves leading study abroad programs to Paris and Barcelona and enjoys solo trips to her two favorite places: the Mojave Desert and the High Sierras. For fun Jennifer explores hole-in-the-wall ethnic food joints, sings in a choir and attends Alfred Hitchcock film festivals with her teenage daughters. Ask her about great Bay Area hiking.

Professor Alex Sterling has a BA in philosophy from Macalester College, an MA in philosophy from Purdue University, and an MA in English from Cal State East Bay. Alex has been married to Julianne since 1999, and they have two sons, Jasper and Adlai, who are both in high school. Alex loves to read (especially on his patio in Albany), and has lately been reading about the conspiracist mind-set, the “outrage industry,” and sexism in high-tech, in addition to novels, ethics, and various nonfiction.

Honors Online Course Instruction Mode Details

Asynchronous: Students meet weekly deadlines and follow course pacing, but log into the course to do the work at times of their convenience. There may be optional (non-required) live sessions.

Synchronous/Asynchronous Combination: Students are required to participate in some synchronous online meetings, though less than the total number of required course hours. Remaining course hours are accomplished through equivalent online activities, presented and completed asynchronously.

Synchronous: Professors and students will log into the course via video conference on defined days and at scheduled meeting times (equal to the total number of required course hours) during the duration of the course.

Exact dates for synchronous classes will be announced on the first day of each Honors class so you can plan well in advance. These meetings will only happen on the days and times listed in this guide so they should not interfere with other courses you have at LMC.