Table of Contents

HONORS PROGRAM
LOS MEDANOS COLLEGE

Honors Handbook

1. **2026-2028 Honors Courses** **3**
2. **Membership Requirements** **4**
3. **Honors Scholar Award** **5**
4. **The Honors Curriculum** **6-7**
   - Honors Courses
   - The Honors Seminar
   - Automatic Honors Courses
5. **Honors Contracts** **8-9**
6. **The Honors Club** **10-11**
   - Club Overview
   - Club Committees
   - Club Officers and Election Policy
7. **Who's Who in the HP** **12**
8. **Honors Center Code of Conduct** **13**
9. **More Honors Details** **14**
   - The Honors Canvas Site
   - The Honors Research Symposium
   - UCLA TAP Certification & UC Irvine Honors to Honors

Appendix

- Honors Philosophy Statement
- Honors Contract Cover Sheet
- Sample Honors Contract Proposal

Honors Courses 2026-2028

	Honors Course	Section	Professor	Honors Category
Fall 2026	**Biological Science 8** Honors Human Biology	#0003	Bouchard & Rickman	Math/Science
	Early Childhood Education/ Child Development 10 Child Growth & Development	#0358 or #0359	Moore	Social/Behavioral Sci
	Communication Studies C1000 Honors Intro to Public Speaking	#0193	Feere	Social/Behavioral Sci
	History C1001 Honors US History to 1877	#2017	Weber	Social/Behavioral Sci
	Humanities 60 The Great American Musical	#0164	Reyes & Saito	Humanities/Fine Arts
	Philosophy 100 Honors Introduction to Philosophy	#0284	Morgan	Humanities/Fine Arts
	Philosophy 122 Honors Contemporary Moral Issues: *Ethics & Democracy*	#0291	Sterling	Honors Seminar
Spring 2027	**Art 33** Honors Architectural Art History	#0132	Nabas	Humanities/Fine Arts
	Astronomy 10 Honors Introduction to Astronomy	#7415	Berryhill	Math/Science
	English 230 Honors Thinking & Writing about Lit	#0363	Green	Humanities/Fine Arts
	Ethnic Studies 121 Honors Critical Race Feminisms	#7214	Simone	Social/Behavioral Sci
	Humanities/Art 35 Mesoamerican Culture through Sculpture	#0164 or #0163	Snow	Humanities/Fine Arts
	Political Science 43 Honors International Relations	#0129	Hiscocks	Social/Behavioral Sci
	Philosophy 122 Honors Contemporary Moral Issues: *Ethics of Information*	#2216	Goff & McGrath	Honors Seminar
2027-28	**Summer 2027**			
	Philosophy 122: Honors Seminar *Professor Jennifer Smith*			
	Fall 2027 & Spring 2028			
	Art 16: Asian Art History *Professor Nicholas Nabas*			
	Astronomy 10: Introduction to Astronomy *Professor Katie Berryhill*			
	Communication 130: Interpersonal Communication *Professor Star Louis Steers*			
	English 133: Race, Ethnicity & Gender in Popular Fiction & Film *Professor Yollotl Lopez*			
	Ethnic Studies 103: Racial & Ethnic Justice Movements *Professor Max Trujillo*			
	Journalism 100: Mass Communication *Professors Cassie Dickman & Cindy McGrath*			
	Political Science 43: International Relations *Professor Ryan Hiscocks*			
	Philosophy 122: Honors Ethics Seminar – *Offered both Fall (Sterling) & Spring (Haven)*			
	+ 5 More including classes to be announced			

Membership Requirements

Active Membership

To be an "Active Member" of the Honors Program for 2026-27 students must fulfill **both** of the following requirements:

1. **Honors Course/ Contract Completion**
2. **Honors Club Involvement**

Honors Course/Contract Completion

To fulfill this requirement, you must complete **two** Honors Courses or Contracts this academic year (Summer 2025 through Spring 2027) with a grade of C or better. Most students take one per semester, but if it suits your schedule you can also take two in one semester. For example, you might take two Honors Courses for Fall 2026 but none in Spring 2027.

NOTE: *Students who begin in January only need ONE Honors Course/Contract to fulfill this requirement. That is, if your first semester in Honors is Spring 2027, taking one Honors Course/Contract is sufficient.*

Honors Club Involvement Requirement

All Honors Program members are automatically members of the Honors Club. To be an Active Member of the program, you must be "involved" in the Club both semesters this academic year. **Involvement is defined by fulfilling four hours of Honors Club activity per semester for a total of eight hours for the year.**

Examples of involvement might include: attending an Honors Club meeting, participating in an Honors community service event, ushering at an Honors sponsored political debate, or donating food or supplies to the LMC Marketplace Pantry. See pp. 10-11.

What if I Don't Fulfill the Participation Requirements?

Each spring all students who have not fulfilled the membership requirements are removed from membership lists. These students will be notified and must reapply if they wish to participate in the future. Only Active Honors Students receive a membership certificate and recognition in the award ceremonies. Students who have been unable to be active because of unusual personal circumstances may petition the Honors Board for a waiver so they can continue in the program.

Mid-Year GPA Check

Honors Students are expected to keep their grades up. As detailed below, you need a 3.25 or higher GPA to continue in the program and/or receive your Honors Scholar award. To help you track this, your cumulative GPA will be checked after the fall semester ends. Students whose GPA has fallen below 3.0 may be required to regularly touch bases with the Honors Counselor and submit grade-check reports to the Honors Office.

Membership Renewal

To continue in the Honors Program for the 2027-28 academic year, Active Honors Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.25+. Once spring grades are reported, the Honors Director checks GPAs. Students who have dropped below 3.25 might not have their membership renewed, though they may reapply when they've brought up their grades. In special circumstances, students may petition the Honors Board to waive this requirement.

2026-27 Member Checklist

- \+ **Complete 2 Honors Courses or Contracts**
- \+ **Be active in Honors Club 2 semesters**
- \+ **Maintain a 3.25 cumulative GPA**

Honors Scholar Award

Scholar Requirements

The Honors Scholar award is the highest academic award granted by Los Medanos College. To become an Honors Scholar a student must fulfill **all three** of the following:

1. **Complete Five Honors Courses or Contracts with a grade of "C" or better including**:
   - ◊ **The Honors Seminar,** a Philosophy 122 ethics course offered every semester;
   - ◊ One Honors Course/Contract in **Humanities or Fine Arts;**
   - ◊ One Honors Course/Contract in **Social or Behavioral Sciences;**
   - ◊ One Honors Course/Contract in **Science or Mathematics.**
   - ◊ One **elective** Honors Course/Contract in any discipline
2. **Complete all Honors Club hours**
3. **Have a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher.**

NOTE: *If a student has already taken Philosophy 122 prior to joining the program, he/she/they may substitute any Honors Course in its place.*

Credit/No Credit

One of the five Honors Courses (or courses attached to an Honors Contract) may be taken on a Credit/No Credit basis to become an Honors Scholar.

Benefits Of Being An Honor Scholar

As a proud Honors Scholar you'll receive:

- ◊ A gold Honors Scholar medal bestowed in the Honors Awards Ceremony
- ◊ A certificate recognizing your accomplishment

UCLA & UCI Transfer Certification GPA

Honors Scholars who have a 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA may be certified to receive priority admission consideration at UCLA. Scholars whose GPA is at least 3.7 also qualify for UC Irvine's Honors to Honors agreement. **See pg. 14.**

Must I Become An Honors Scholar?

No. For a variety of reasons, many students choose to take only a few Honors Courses. For example, if you join with only a few classes left to take at LMC, you might not be able to fit five Honors Courses in your schedule. But remember, even one or two Honors Courses/Contracts look great on your transcript and you can still highlight your program membership on applications and participate in all our activities.



The Honors Curriculum

Honors Courses

Honors Courses are special sections of LMC classes which are more advanced and are only open to Honors Students. Honors Courses are the best way to get honors credit on your transcript because they offer an intensive and personal experience in a community of highly-motivated students. We choose some of LMC's best professors to teach these courses which meet most students' transfer and AA/AS general education requirements. To help students progress through LMC, we rotate these courses on a regular basis. Students are recommended to plan their schedules around them. See page 3 for the 2026-28 classes.

Do They Have A Lot More Work?

No. Honors Classes don't have *more* work than their regular counterparts, rather they have *different* work. For example, whereas the honors section of a course might allow students to choose their own essay topics, the regular section might have one mandated by the teacher. In addition, Honors Courses often use more advanced books and cover more sophisticated material so you'll get to dig deeper.

Bottom line– you will work harder in your Honors Courses, but they will likely be your favorites because of the fascinating material and the stimulation you'll get from your fellow Honors Students. Plus, the Honors Courses are great preparation for the advanced work you'll encounter when you transfer!

How Will Honors Courses Be Graded?

Honors Courses are not graded on a curve so you will not be forced to compete for a limited number of A's. Your Honors Professors know that you are being graded on material which requires more. This additional effort required in an Honors Course will be reflected in your grades, but as in any class, students who fail to meet course standards will be assigned low marks.

Honors Course Characteristics

No single model of an Honors Course can be superimposed on all disciplines. There is rich variation among different departments and professors in their modes of inquiry, pedagogical approaches and types of assignments. However, certain characteristics are often present in the most effective Honors Courses:

Honors Courses emphasize advanced topics and deeper understanding

- ◊ More sophisticated reading assignments; primary sources instead of excerpts, anthologies and summative textbooks; novels instead of short stories, etc.
- ◊ Exposure to more advanced material and cutting edge ideas, research and trends
- ◊ Emphasis on challenging writing assignments that require generative rather than responsive work and higher levels of synthesis
- ◊ Assignments which involve substantial research and which emphasize problem solving

Honors Courses emphasize creative & collaborative teaching & learning.

- ◊ More student-directed and generated teaching, projects and assignments
- ◊ Collaboration and group projects encouraged
- ◊ Dialogue used as a learning tool as students are guided through the preparation, presentation, critique and counter critique process
- ◊ Team-taught, paired or themed Honors Courses encouraged
- ◊ Healthy competitions used to motivate students: quiz games, debates, etc.

Honors Courses give students more opportunities to engage with material in the real world.

◊ A "beyond books" or "out-of-the-classroom" approach to material: field trips, surveys, laboratories, field work

◊ Service Learning/ Community Engagement part of class assignments

◊ Wider variety of knowledge sources: conferences, guest lecturers, etc.

◊ Assignments that encourage students to relate material to their own lives

Honors Courses create a safe community of learners that stimulates students' intellectual courage

◊ Honors Professor as a model of a curious and enthusiastic learner

◊ Emphasis on intellectual intimacy and a shared delight in exploring a topic

◊ Establishment of an authentic classroom community to create more self-confidence and bonding for students

The Honors Seminar

The Honors Seminar is a semester-long interdisciplinary Philosophy 122 course which helps students engage with real world controversies about challenging ethical dilemmas. Each Seminar covers cutting edge topics and has all the same benefits of Honors Courses: small size, great professors and wonderful classmates. *We recommend that you take this course towards the end of your time at LMC.* It is offered every fall, spring and summer and is required for all Honors Scholars.

2026-27 Honors Seminar Topics

Fall 2026: *Ethics and Democracy*

Spring 2027: *Ethics of Information*

Summer 2027: *The Ethics of Technology*

Automatic Honors Courses

The Honors Program grants "automatic" honors credit for students taking certain advanced courses. These courses count towards the Honors Scholar requirements but are not designated for honors on students' transcripts.

Note that Automatic Honors Courses do NOT apply towards UCLA Honors TAP Certification. This means that while Automatic Honors Courses will help you receive your LMC Honors Scholar medal, you cannot count them among the five required Honors Courses for UCLA. If you are not applying to UCLA, this doesn't concern you at all. But if you are, please be sure you have at least five non-Automatic Honors Courses/Contracts and your Honors Scholar medal.

The Automatic Honors Courses are

◊ **Biological Science 20, 21, 40, 45 & 50**

◊ **Chemistry 28 & 29**

◊ **Engineering 45**

◊ **ETEC 20, 30, 40 & 50**

◊ **Math 230, 240 &250**

◊ **Physics 40, 41 & 42, and**

◊ **Registered Nursing 22, 26, 31 & 36.**

Honors Contracts

Honors Contracts are individually designed projects attached to non-Honors sections. They give program members who cannot fit Honors Courses into their schedule the opportunity for academic work in the Honors Program. Honors Contracts give you the unique opportunity to work one-on-one with your professors on personally created projects which complement the regular work in the course attached to the Contract. This is a great opportunity to get creative and receive Honors transcript credit at the same time. However, you should be aware that Honors Contracts take a lot of self motivation, organization and discipline, so be prepared. *See the next section for more information on Honors Contracts.*

Honors Contracts

Honors Contract Eligibility

Honors students must obtain the approval of the Honors Director by the end of the second week of classes to initiate an Honors Contract. The Director will give approval when:

◊ The Honors Contract is in accord with the student's educational plan and is reasonable given the total units being taken; and

◊ The student has a strong interest in a self-directed project and demonstrates appropriate planning skills likely to make the Contract successful.

Honors Students are strongly encouraged to begin the planning process *the semester before* the Contract.

Honors Contract Guidelines

1. The Honors Contract Project should take about **25 hours** for the student to complete.

2. The Honors student should have **regular contact with the professor** for guidance. There should be at least seven contacts: about one every two weeks.

3. There should be **clear outcomes** for the project which may include one or more of the following:

- 12-15 page Research Paper
- Demonstration of an advanced skill
- Creative Project such as a musical performance or artwork
- Class Presentation
- Service/Community Based Learning Project

What Courses Are Eligible?

Any credit-bearing, college-level course is eligible for Honors Contract credit.

How Do I Initiate An Honors Contract?

First, attend the Honors Contract Workshop and start conversations with your mentor professor. Then, by the end of the second week of class, fill out the online Honors Contract Director Approval form. If the Director grants this approval, you will develop a proposal for your Contract project which is due by the end of the fourth week of class. This proposal will clarify exactly what you plan on doing for your Honors Contract, how you will do this, and when it will all be done. The "Honors Contract Proposal Form" and sample proposals are in the Appendix.

Proposal Development

Typically you will bounce back and forth between your professor and the Honors Director as you develop your proposal. Your professor is the expert on the subject matter, while the Honors Director is the expert on the proposal review process. Most students find that they go through multiple drafts as they refine their idea and clarify their project.

Be sure you design a project that is the right size. 25 hours may sound like a lot, but most first drafts are way too ambitious in their scope.

Develop a precise question that drives the research. You want to pursue something that is neither too general, nor too specific. For example, saying your project will investigate race relations in the U.S. military is way too broad. A better topic would be to research how the creation of African American battalions during the Civil War affected the next 20 years of integration policies in the Army.

Be specific about outcomes and quantify whenever possible. If you're writing a paper, how many pages will it be and when will you turn in your drafts? If you're composing a piece of music, be specific about the length of its performance and how many musicians will be involved.

Submitting Your Proposal

When your proposal is finalized, have your professor approve it and submit the Honors Contract Proposal Form to the Honors Director by the deadline, typically the end of the fourth week of classes. The Honors Advisory Board then meets to review all proposals and decide whether they are approved, need revision, or are not approved.

Notification of Proposal Status

Within one week the student and professor will be notified by e-mail of the Board's decision. If the Board has requested revisions, the student has one week to get an updated proposal back to the Honors Director.

Completing the Contract

Once the Honors Contract has been approved, the student proceeds according to the plan. At the end of the semester, the project is turned into the professor who determines whether it meets the guidelines agreed upon. If it is deemed satisfactory, the professor contacts the Honors Director who will ensure proper credit is given for the Honors Contract.

How Will Honors Contracts Be Graded?

The Honors Contract is graded on a "Pass/No Pass" basis and will in no way affect the student's grade in the course. Successful completion of the Honors Contract will result in the student's receiving honors credit for the course on her/his transcript and a certificate noting the accomplishment. Note that you must receive a "C" or better in the course to receive this honors credit.

Can I Drop My Honors Contract?

Honors students may drop out of the Honors Contract obligation at any time during the semester. This termination of the Contract will not go on the student's transcript, however s/he/they will not receive Honors credit for the class. Failure to complete an Honors Contract will be taken into account the next time the student submits a contract proposal and if this happens twice, the student's membership in the Honors Program will be reviewed by the Board.

Can I Get An "Incomplete" In My Contract If I Don't Finish In Time?

The Honors Contract must be completed before the end of the semester. There are no Incomplete grades allowed for honors contracts. However, in the case that the student receives an Incomplete in the overall course in accordance with college guidelines, the student shall be permitted time to complete the Honors Contract along with the course.

Honors Contract Checklist

- **Honors Director Approval by Week 2**
- **Obtain Your Professor's Agreement**
- **Collaborate with Honors Director and Professor on Proposal**
  - **What topic or skill from the regular class do you want to expand?**
  - **What will the final outcome of your project be? Paper? Performance? Artwork? Etc.**
  - **Conduct initial research to determine feasibility**
  - **Refine drafts of your proposal until you have both the Honors Director and your Professor's approval**
- **Turn in Approved Proposal by Deadline**
- **Respond to Honors Board Review**
- **Get to Work and Complete Project by Agreed Upon Deadline.**

The Honors Club

What is the Honors Club?

The Honors Club is an extra-curricular student organization which adds a social and leadership dimension to the Honors Program. We are one of the most active groups on campus and organize lots of fun, stimulating and helpful events for our members and the LMC community. Honors Students are encouraged to get involved with the Club, make friends and have fun – all important parts of the college experience! And, of course, you know that universities and scholarship agencies are looking for students who combine academic excellence with extra curricular activities. Why not get involved or become an officer this year?

Club Membership & Purpose

All members of the Honors Program are automatically members of the Club. The Club's purpose is to enrich the Honors Program, LMC and our community by organizing intellectual, cultural and social events.

Club Structure

The Honors Club focuses on four main initiatives each of which has an officer in charge known as the "Ambassador" who organizes events. The four main officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer) work with these Ambassadors to coordinate all the Club's activities and priorities. All officers sit on the Executive Board which meets weekly.

Honors Club Initiatives

Enrichment Event Initiative

This branch of the club organizes intellectually and artistically stimulating events to enrich all of LMC. Examples include film festivals, political forums, and guest speakers.

Social Initiative

The Social Ambassador plans fun events for LMC Honors Students and their guests. Examples include pizza/holiday parties, game nights, fun contests and outings like ice-skating, hiking or museum expeditions.

Fundraising Initiative

This important branch of the Honors Club raises money to help support Club activities. Examples include organizing our famous Pie in the Face Contest, See's Candy and food or merch sales.

Outreach Initiative

The Outreach Ambassador organizes ways for Honors Students to help our community. Examples include volunteering at local food distribution centers, donations to charity drives, park clean-up events etc.

Club Requirement

To be an Active Honors Student, you must help for **four hours per semester** with club events. Hours can be attained by attending club meetings or volunteering at an Honors-sponsored activity. Note that only half of your hours can be fulfilled by attending club meetings.

Officer Elections

Officer Elections are held in two waves. At the end of each spring, the President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising and Communications & Publicity Officers will be elected from continuing Honors Students for the following year. In the fall the remaining officers will be elected. This allows new students to run for an office, but ensures summer planning can take place.

All Honors Students are eligible to run for any position and you are allowed to run for more than one office. This is encouraged as most of the races are competitive. Up to two people can share any office except the President and Vice President roles.

Honors Club Officers

Club Officer Duties

President

Set direction for and help coordinate all club activities; chair the Executive Board.

Vice-President

Assist the President and perform the duties of President in her/his/their absence.

Secretary

Keep minutes of all Executive Board meetings.

Treasurer

Keep track of all Club monies and facilitate our deposits and check writing.

Enrichment Event Ambassador

Organize events that enrich the greater LMC community such as guest speakers, film festivals etc.

Fundraising Ambassador

Raise money to help fund club events.

Social Ambassador

Organize fun social events for Honors Students.

Outreach Ambassador

Arrange opportunities for Honors Students to help our community with events such as park cleanups, food pantry volunteering and collecting clothing donations for local charities.

Inter Club Council Ambassador

The Inter Club Council (ICC) is made up of representatives from all LMC Student Clubs. Its purpose is to facilitate communication between the clubs and to distribute funds to assist them with events they organize for the entire campus. The Honors ICC Ambassador attends the weekly ICC meetings, shares details about Honors Club activities and reports back on other clubs' plans. The ICC Ambassador also facilitates Honors Club requests for ICC funds.

Communications and Publicity Ambassador

Post announcements on the Honors Instagram account and Honors Center bulletin board. Work with the *LMC Experience* and Student Activities to publicize upcoming events.

Historian

Maintain a scrapbook and/or blog for the Honors Program, Take and post photos on the Honors Instagram account and Honors Center bulletin board.

Honors Club Past Events

- **Multicultural Food Festival**
- **Ice Skating & Bowling Trips**
- **Homemade Chai & Bake Sales**
- **Parol Lantern Workshop**
- **Halloween & Friendsgiving Parties**
- **Sees Candy & Jamba Juice Fundraisers**
- **Ice Skating**
- **Debates & Panel Discussions**
  - **East County Housing Crisis**
  - **Immigration**
- **Karaoke & Game Night**
- **Pie in the Face Pi-Day Event**

Who's Who in Honors

Honors Directors

As the Honors Director, Professor Jennifer Saito oversees and coordinates all program details. She also maintains the program's ties with honors organizations and transfer partners. Jennifer is responsible for certifying students as Honors Scholars and works closely with them in the transfer admissions process. Any issues Honors Students have besides planning their academic schedules should be brought to Jennifer; she's here to help you be successful and have an enjoyable experience.

Honors Assistant

Maureen Willhoite assists Jennifer in making everything happen. Whether it's ensuring you get the right certificates, arranging details for Honors trips or co-advising the Honors Club, Maureen is the glue that holds everything together. Her office across the lounge from the Honors Center; come ask her anything!

Honors Counselor

Luis Morales meets with Honors Students in workshops or one-on-one to help them choose their classes, discuss their major, pick transfer universities and other academic planning details. We recommend you plan to see him at least once per semester.

Honors Advisory Board

The Honors Program Advisory Board is made up of Los Medanos faculty, classified staff, students and administrators. Its role is to create policy and procedures, oversee admissions, select the honors courses and approve Honors Contract proposals.

2026-2027 Board Members

Rachel Anicetti, Marie Arcidiacono-Kaufman, Katie Berryhill, Roseann Erwin, Ali Asghary Karahroudy, David Belman, Roseann Erwin, Ryan Hiscocks, Cindy McGrath, Yollotl Lopez, Luis Morales, Tiffany Morgan, Sandra Parsons, Ryan Pedersen, Jancy Rickman, Jennifer Saito, Eric Sanchez Richard Stanfield, Alex Sterling, Jamila Stewart, Max Trujillo, Kimberly Wentworth, and Maureen Willhoite.

Active Honors Members

Every student who is admitted to the Honors Transfer Program and fulfills the participation requirements (see pg. 4) is considered an "Active Member" and may place this designation on her/his/their scholarship and transfer applications. Active Members receive a certificate of membership at the end of each academic year.

Honors Scholars

Any student who completes the five required Honors Courses with a 3.25 or higher GPA and has two semester of Honors Club participation and is considered an "Honors Scholar". This is the highest academic award granted by Los Medanos College. See pg. 5.

If you will be continuing at LMC after receiving your Honors Scholar award you have "emeritus status" in the program which means you no longer need to take Honors Courses to be an active member. You do, however, need to maintain your Club Hours.

The Honors Center

Okay, technically this shouldn't be in the "Who's Who" section, but you'll find that the Honors Center plays just as important a role in the program as all the folks listed above. The Honors Center is the hub of the program -- a great space for Honors Students to collaborate on projects, study, meet with the Honors Director, work on the Honors Club, and (of course) hang out!

The Honors Center

Honors Center Hours

We're typically open Mondays through Fridays during business hours. Check the Honors Canvas site for current details.

Honors Center Resources

The Honors Center has computers, study tables and comfortable seating. We also have most office supplies you'll need. Printing is free for Honors Students but please don't take advantage of this policy. Try to limit your printing to 20 pages at one time and whenever possible print on *both sides* to conserve paper.

Your guests are welcome to be in the Honors Center with you, but please be sure they respect the Honors Center Code of Conduct as explained below.

Code of Conduct

The Honors Center is a public space and it is a place of business for faculty, staff and students. To help foster an environment that supports these efforts, here are some community guidelines to keep in mind:

Honors Center Environment

The primary purpose of the Honors Center is to be a quiet place where Honors Students can study, hang out and collaborate quietly with their fellow students. In general loud socializing and amplified music/videos are not permitted, but feel free to adjourn to the nearby lounge for noisy fun. The lounge also has computers you can use if you need to participate in online classes while on campus.

Professional Dialogue

The way we speak and act together should demonstrate our mutual respect. Avoid profanity and/or derogatory ethnic, gender or sexual orientation slurs.

Computer Priority

Computer usage is primarily for homework, communication and research. **No games are allowed**. Also, please be ready to give up the computer if you are just watching YouTube when others need it for homework.

Amplified Sounds

Please use headphones when listening to music or watching videos so as not to disturb studying students.

Food and Drink

Eating is fine in the Honors Center, but please clean up after yourself. All food left (even for a few minutes) on a table may be thrown away.

Public Displays of Affection

While we all love being in love, nobody loves to have their studying distracted by "overly amorous" public displays. Please be respectful of your fellow Honors Students.

More Honors Details

The Honors Canvas Site

Los Medanos College uses Canvas to deliver online components of its classes and services. The Honors Canvas site is used to disseminate announcements, give you easy access to important links and forms, and has specialized modules to supplement this handbook. Be sure to check it regularly.

Honors Research Symposium

This statewide conference for community college honors students is the premier academic event of the year. Typically held every spring at either Stanford, UC Davis or UC Berkeley, the Honors Research Symposium gives you an opportunity to present your work in an academic setting to fellow scholars. Most students who participate call this the most important and life-changing academic event of their time at LMC.

Any research project you complete in an Honors Course can be submitted for presentation at the Symposium. The selection process is very competitive. Typically only about 35% of proposals are accepted, but don't worry - The Honors Director will help you. And, if you're selected, a team of professors will work with you to prepare and practice your talk.

The Symposium will be held in late April/early May 2027. There will be workshops to help you get started on your proposal to present which will be due around Valentine's Day.

UCLA TAP Partnership

Los Medanos is proud to be the one of only two East Bay community colleges to be part of the coveted UCLA Transfer Alliance Program (TAP). This program gives special admission privileges to qualified students. More details are found at their website at *http://tap.ucla.edu*

Who qualifies for UCLA TAP?

Honors students with at least a **3.5 GPA** who are **on track to complete, their Honors Scholar requirements including at least 5 non-Automatic Honors Courses/Contracts** by the end of Spring 2027 can be TAP Certified. At least three of these classes must have been completed by the end of Fall 2026. Note that the 3.5 GPA is *higher than* what you need to receive the LMC Honors Scholar award.

How does the TAP Certification Work?

When you apply to UCLA in November be sure to strategically choose an allowed "alternate major" after consulting with Luis and Jennifer. By early February, Jennifer will contact all UCLA applicant Honors Students who are on track to complete their Honors Scholar requirements by the end of the spring semester to start the online certification process. The deadline for this certification is generally early March.

How will TAP Certification Help Me?

All TAP certified students may choose an alternate major when applying, though some choices are off limits. For example, your primary major might be English, and your alternate Comparative Literature. You will be given priority consideration for your primary major, and if not admitted to this, you will be considered for your alternate. Statistically, TAP students are admitted to UCLA at more than three times the regular rate. *TAP Certification provides admission benefits ONLY for students applying to UCLA's College of Letters and Science. So, if you're an engineer, nurse, or performing arts major the certification won't help you unless you choose an alternate major in the College of Letters & Science.*

UC Irvine Honors to Honors

Honors Scholars with a 3.7 or higher GPA also qualify for the UCI Honors to Honors program, a streamlined way for accepted students to join the Campuswide Honors Program. More details can be found at *www.ivc.edu/honors/uci-honors*

Appendix

Honors Program Philosophy Statement

Honors Contract Proposal Cover Sheet

Sample Honors Contract Proposal

Program Philosophy Statement

The Los Medanos College Honors Program prepares highly motivated students for transfer to selective universities and gives them the opportunity to obtain their Associate's Degree with an enhanced academic experience. The program also helps create "lifelong learners" and builds the intellectual and social skills needed for success outside the classroom by offering students access to challenging courses, independent research projects, cultural events, and personalized academic and transfer guidance. To streamline this transfer process, the program is committed to negotiating priority or guaranteed admission and scholarship offerings for its graduates at competitive public and private universities.

The opportunities created by the Honors Program will extend to the entire college community which will benefit from Los Medanos' reputation as a first-rate academic institution. Faculty, in particular, will be supported and encouraged by the Honors Transfer Program to create innovative curriculum and sponsor cultural and intellectual activities for students.

Many of our students have struggled through adversity to achieve intellectual mastery. While talent itself is a resource, it needs expression and guidance. To this end, the Honors Program takes seriously its mission of both recruiting and cultivating honors students, nurturing and encouraging those who might never have considered themselves capable of success in an enhanced learning environment or prominent university.

Fall 2026

HONORS CONTRACT PROPOSAL OVERVIEW

Student Name:_____ **Student E-mail:**_____

Professor Name:_____ **Prof. E-mail:**_____

Course Number and Title:_____ **Section Number:**_____

Please submit a proposal to the Honors Program IN PERSON or ONLINE by Noon on Monday, September 21, which provides the following information. You must also submit evidence of your professor's approval via signature on the cover sheet or by forwarding an email from them.

1. **Background Information:** Briefly provide the background information needed to evaluate your project. This includes giving historical context and clarifying definitions, concepts and technical terms.
2. **Learning Goal, Driving Question & Personal Motivation:**
   - What is the ultimate learning goal for this project?
   - What question(s) do you hope to answer with this work?
   - What is the personal or/or academic motivation behind your project? What do you hope to learn or gain and why is this interesting to you?
3. **Project Outcomes:** What will be the outcome and/or evidence of completion of this project? Be specific about quantity (number of pages, length of speech/video/performance, survey sample size etc.)
4. **Paper Outline:** Provide a rough outline of your final paper, presentation or deliverable (if relevant).
5. **Project Resource List:** List various sources (books, magazines, personal interviews etc.) you intend to consult as you complete your project. Be specific and use proper MLA or APA citation formatting.
6. **Project Process & Timeline:** Delineate the steps you will take as you complete your honors project along with a timeline for each step's completion. Include your scheduled meetings with your professor.

I certify that I have reviewed and approved the final version of this Honors Proposal Contract. Its academic standards are of high quality and meet my expectations for an Honors Contract. I will meet with the student regularly and ensure that the final product fulfills this Contract.

Professor Signature_____

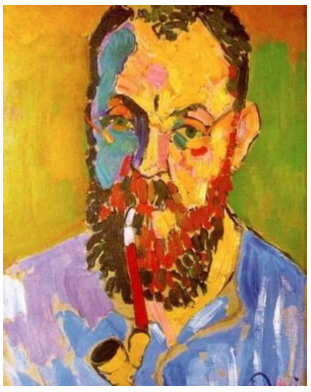
Approved Honors Contract
Intro 2D Design Concepts
Art-010-7068
Professor Lee

Honor's Contract Project Proposal

1) **Project Goal and Objectives:**

Goal: The goal of my project is to explore color theory and value study in three artworks from different artists to better adept my use of color in my own artwork. The artworks being explored are *Henri Matisse* by André Derian, *Self-Portrait* by Egon Schiele, and *Portrait of Mrs Cezanne* by Paul Cezanna.

Visual of chosen paintings:



Henri Matisse
by André Derian



Portrait of Mrs. Cezanne
-Paul Cezanne



Self-Portrait
Egon Sciele

2) **Project Outcomes:**

The outcome of this project will be an 18" X 24" figurative surrealism self-portrait utilizing the different applications of color and value examined in the chosen artworks. Included will be a 5 page reflection paper covering the use of color and value in the original artworks and how it is translated in my own painting. I will also be researching artist statements, writing my own artist statement, and organizing a visual documentation of the artistic process (both not included in the 5 page count of the reflection paper). The entirety of this project will be completed at least 1 week prior to finals.

3) **Paper Outline:**

a) About the artworks:

i) Introducing the artist and their painting.

ii) Comparing the paintings and addressing patterns/similarities between them.

iii) Talking about the use of color and value for each painting (*This will make up a majority of section "A" of the paper).

b) **Carrying into my own work**:

i) What use of color and/or value from **each** painting will I be carrying over into my own painting?

ii) What is my thought process behind planning this painting to showcase the chosen uses of color/value? (What's the plan?)

c) "Self-Analysis"

i) Comparing my execution of color/value to the original artworks (clarifying visual connections).

4) **Project Outline:**

One 18" X 24" acrylic/oil self portrait utilizing the uses of color and value specified in the reflection paper.

5) **Project Resources:**

"Color Theory." *Interaction Design Foundation*, https://www.interaction-design.org/literature/topics/color-theory.

Esaak, Shelley. "How to Understand Value in Art." *Thought Co.*, 17 October 2019, https://www.thoughtco.com/what-is-value-in-art-182474. Accessed 21 February 2021.

"Guidelines for Analysis of Art." *UA Little Rock*, https://ualr.edu/art/art-history-resources/papers-and-projects/guidelines-for-analysis-of-art/. Accessed 21 February 2021.

"'Henri Matisse' André Derain 1905." *Tate*, https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/derain-henri-matisse-t00165.

Hotchkiss, Sarah. "How to write an artist statement." *The Creative Independent*, 18 October 2018, https://thecreativeindependent.com/guides/how-to-write-an-artist-statement/. Accessed 21 February 2021.

"How to Write an Artist Statement for Your College Application." *Mail Munch*, https://theunstandardizedstandard.com/2020/01/21/how-to-write-an-artist-statement-for-your-college-application/. Accessed 21 February 2021.

6) Project Process and Timeline:

Weeks	Process	
Weeks 1- 4	Forming contract proposal and submitting final draft for board approval by **February 23rd.**	Meeting with Prof. Lee and Jennifer Saito weekly.
Weeks 4 & 5	- Conducting background research on color theory and value study. - Rough drafting my analysis of the 3 artworks (part "A" of the paper outline).	Meeting with Prof. Lee week 4 and 5.

Weeks 6 & 7	- Producing possible thumbnails; proposing thumbnails to Prof. Lee.
	  - Photographing for documentation.
	- Choosing possible color palettes.
	  - Photographing for documentation.
		Meeting with Prof. Lee week 6.

Weeks 8 & 9	- Begin painting (at least 2 layers of paint by the end of this time block). - Photographing for documentation. - Rough drafting my plan/execution of the painting (part "B" of the paper). - Begin researching artist's statements.	Meeting with Prof. Lee week 8.
Weeks 10 & 11	- Continue painting (painting should be nearing complete). - Photographing for documentation. - Compose my artist's statement.	Meeting with Prof. Lee week 10.
Week 12	- Finialize painting. - Photographing for documentation.	Meeting with Prof. Lee
Week 13	- Rough drafting self-analysis of painting (part "C" of paper outline). - Organizing all documentations of the painting process into a PDF document or slide show. - Adding any labels/comments if necessary.	
Week 14	- Finalizing paper. - Making any final touches/changes recommended by Prof. Lee	Meeting with Prof. Lee.
Week 15	- Organizing together my 5 page paper, visual documentation, artist statement, and painting into a single PDF. - **Submitted by the end of week 15.**	