



The Honors Program at Mt. San Antonio College

MyHonorsSpace

Honors Office: 15- 3
(909) 594-5611, ext. 4665
M, T, Th: 9:30—4:00, W. 9:30—6:30

<http://honors.mtsac.edu>
honors@mtsac.edu

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This Fall in Honors

Welcome to an exciting new school year in the Honors Program. This fall we will offer a variety of opportunities to enrich your Mt. SAC experience and strengthen your chances of transferring and winning awards. This fall's highlights include opportunities to present your work at a conference at Occidental College, visiting UCLA .

Check out the Honors workshops, which focus on getting into the UCs, winning scholarship \$\$, writing personal statements, and more. You'll find details in this newsletter and on our website under "Events and Workshops." Please RSVP to Honors@mtsac.edu if you plan to attend.

Get Involved this year by becoming an **Honors Ambassador** and or joining the **Honors Leadership Team**. Details are on the last page of this newsletter. You might also want to join an Honors Society like : **Phi Theta Kappa** (ptk@mtsac.edu) or **Alpha Gamma Sigma**.

Stay up to date by checking your email and visiting the Honors Office. Hope to see you soon!

A Bridge to Success

The Honors Program is partnering with Bridge to offer outstanding Bridge students a chance to try Honors. This spring, Professor Tamara Karn's English 1AH will be linked with Leadership 55. This means that students will enroll in both classes, and the classes will share common discussions, themes, and assignments. This will provide a sense of community and help students build confidence and leadership skills. We hope the Bridge students will love their Honors English class so much that they join Honors! Contact Patricia Maestro at ext. 6231 to learn more.

Important Deadlines

Oct. 9 Abstract deadline for SCCUR Conference at Occidental College (<http://sccur06.oxy.edu/index.shtml>)

Oct. 26 Deadline to signup to visit UCLA on November 7th

Nov. 30: UC Application Deadline

Dec. 4 Abstract deadline for Honors Transfer Council of California (HTCC) Conference at UC Irvine (March 17, 2007). Details will be emailed in late October.

Feb. 19-22, 9 to 2:30 p.m. Deadline for this year's UCLA TAP applicants to sign their TAP form in Honors to be TAP certified.

Want to transfer to UCLA? Consider TAP!

You may have heard us talking about "TAP," which stands for UCLA's "Transfer Alliance Program." Mt. SAC Honors students who complete six Honors classes with at least a C, as well as all of UCLA's requirements for their major by the end of the fall that they apply to UCLA, can be **TAP-certified**. TAP certified students receive priority consideration for transfer from UCLA's College of Letters and Sciences (not engineering, communications or film), and may opt for a second choice major. In Fall 2004, while only 42% of Mt. SAC applicants to UCLA were accepted, over 90% of Mt. SAC's TAP students were accepted!

Come visit UCLA with Honors on Tuesday, November 7

UCLA's TAP will provide a day of transfer workshops and programs. Honors will take the first 40 Mt. SAC students who sign up in the Honors Office and deposit \$10. This is open to all Mt. SAC students who plan to transfer. **The deadline to sign up is October 26th.**



Workshops and Events

Workshops are in the Honors Office unless noted

Oct. 3, 4 to 5 p.m. Berkeley through the back door: Creative ways to get into your dream school

Oct. 18, 3 to 5 p.m. UC Online Applications Hands-on workshop. **Bldg 6 Rm. 122**

Oct. 18, 5 to 6 p.m. Honors Ambassadors Trainings, Required

Oct. 24, 4 to 5 p.m. Personal Statement Workshop 1: WHAT do I write?

Oct. 31, 3 to 5 p.m., Bldg 6 Rm. 122 UC Online Applications Hands-on workshop

Nov.1, 12:55 to 2 p.m. Personal Statement Workshop 1: WHAT do I write?

Nov. 7, 9 to 3 p.m. (Bus leaves Mt. SAC at 6:45a.m.!) Visit UCLA with Honors. Sign up by Oct. 26th.

Nov. 8, 3 to 5 p.m. Personal Statement Workshop 2: HOW do I write? *Bring an outline or rough draft to participate*

Nov. 18 Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research at Occidental College. Apply by Oct. 9 (<http://sccur06.oxy.edu/index.shtm>)

Nov. 28, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Workshop: Choosing classes for the UCs

Dec. 5, 2 to 3 p.m. Scholarship Workshop: How to win free money!

Stay on track! Insider Tips from Linda

Start preparing *now* to transfer.

Meet with Linda Diaz, Honors Advisor extraordinaire, to develop or review your educational plan. She will design a plan that gives you lots of transfer options and a competitive edge .

Focus on your major: If possible, plan to complete most of the courses required for your intended major by the *end of the Fall semester* before you transfer, since this will be the transcript that most affects the selection process.

If you are applying to UCs this fall: You will apply through the new UC application website (www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply). You can access the UC application through this website beginning October 1, and you can submit completed applications from November 1 to 30. Plan to submit your application before November 25th in order to avoid a website crash . *Be sure to check out the UC website application tutorial, and attend the Honors UC Application and Personal Statement workshops.*

After applying to the UCs, watch for an email from the UCs in mid-January asking you to update your grades and courses in progress. Honors will have a workshop to guide you through this. *If you don't submit this update, you will jeopardize your application.*

If you are applying to CSUs this fall: Starting October 1, the user-friendly CSU application website www.csumentor.edu will be available. For most CSUs, the deadline is November 30. The Advising Center in building 9B offers CSU application workshops in October and November to answer your questions. Submit your CSU application before November 25th to avoid a website crash from procrastinators.



What are Honors Classes Like? What Students are Saying

- “There was more attention from the professor, and the environment was very friendly.”
- “I found the Honors classes to focus on critical thinking.”
- “In Honors courses students are encouraged to work in groups.”
- “The Honors courses are based on class learning, on individual reasoning and formulating of own opinions”

Get Involved!



Honors Leadership Team members plan social, educational, and service activities for Honors students. HLT members also have input into Honors policies. You can make a difference! We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 3 to 4 p.m. Email honors@mtsac.edu to apply.

Honors Ambassadors promote the Honors program on and off campus. This year you can even earn two units! Apply by October 9 and attend the training workshop on Wed., Oct. 18th 5 to 6 pm, Honors Office.

Phi Theta Kappa (ptk@mtsac.edu, ext. 3004) is an International Honor Society that offers service and leadership activities. Apply by November 1st.

Become a Certified Honors Program Scholar

If you complete at least 30 transferable units including, 6 Honors classes with at least a C, and maintain a 3.2,

then you'll be recognized as a Certified Honors Program Scholar on your transcript, and invited to the Honors Celebration Dinner the spring before

Welcome to New Honors Professor: Betsy Lawlor

by Landon Scott

At the head of a newly-assembled classroom, still smelling of paint and sawdust, stands a woman resembling the likes of pop culture hero Indiana Jones. From the iconic hat to the leather whip she dons at her side, her first impression is an exciting one and foreshadows the adventure we will all impart on in the coming semester.

As a second year Mt. SAC student and a proud first semester member of the Honors Program, I recently had the pleasure of talking with Dr. Betsy Lawlor, the professor of my Biological Anthropology Honors course. As daunting a course title as it may be, this class does more than fulfill biological science requirements; it ignites the curiosity of students.

Lawlor offers a unique perspective for those who may be intimidated or put off by

a class that focuses extensively on evolution: "It's important for students to show that they understand the science," Lawlor remarked. "You're a more effective debater if you know the other side very well." In fact, Lawlor explained that outspoken creationists actually tend to do better in her class than those who take the evolutionary theory for granted.

Lawlor's unique teaching philosophy is one of cooperation, meaning she likes to work together and allows the class to be more hands-on and open, a teaching style that is a breath of fresh air for most students. That is not to say she is not challenging; Lawlor says she would like to help students to, "better understand evolution, delve into details and be familiar with Names and controversies" in an environment that is

"interesting, helpful and friendly," all of which have been, and will undoubtedly remain, true.

This is Lawlor's sixth year at Mt. SAC and her first year teaching an Honors course. She received her Ph.D. at the University of California, Riverside and also studied at San Diego State, and Brown. She is also the author of various publications.



Welcome to New Honors Staff



We're delighted to welcome Dr. Maya Alvarez-Galvan as the new Assistant Director in Honors and advisor for our chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK). Maya has taught English as a Second Language at Mt. SAC for the past 6 years. Prior to that, she taught ESL at USC where

she earned a Ph.D. in Educational Policy. She enjoys working with students outside of the classroom and looks forward to a fun-filled year. You can reach her at ext. 4524 or via email at malvarez@mtsac.edu



Honors has a new Student Assistant, Leanne Dogoldogol

I am on my third year at Mt.SAC and my major is nursing. I hope to work in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), because I enjoy working with babies. On my free time, I enjoy volunteering, dancing, and eating pasta. I love ALL my friends from Phi Theta Kappa, Alpha Gamma Sigma, and Honors. Those people rock my socks.

So come visit me in the Honors Office. =)

We're on the web!
<http://honors.mtsac.edu>

New Honors Classes

Winter Intersession, 2007

GEOG 1H (may take without Lab) M-Th, 10:30 -12:35
GEOB 1H Lab (must take GEOG 1H) M-Th, 1:20-3:25

GEOG courses satisfy your IGETC Area 5 and Area B physical science requirement on the GE list

To learn more, contact Professor Dafna Kohn (ext. 4844 or dkohn@mtsac.edu)

Spring Semester, 2007

CHEM 50H MW 8:00 - 11:10 a.m.,
CHEM 50 Lab MW 11:30 - 12:55 pm



This will not conflict with BIOL 4H which will be TTh mornings

To learn more, contact Professor Terri Beam (ext. 4536 or tbeam@mtsac.edu,).



Honors course reference numbers will be emailed to Honors students in November.