Welcome to the Honors Program!

On behalf of the governing board, faculty, and staff, we welcome you as a member of the Honors Program. As an Honors Program student, you are now part of a vital community that represents academic integrity, community leadership, and cultural awareness. Our program encourages you to exceed your potential, strive for academic excellence, and become a future leader. We hope you will enjoy your participation in the program, and take advantage of the many benefits our program has to offer.

The Chaffey College Honors Program will provide you with unique resources to help you reach your academic goals. You will have access to smaller classes offering close mentorship with faculty members, and challenging curriculum. These classes will give you the opportunity to experience the coursework and faculty-student interaction you will encounter at the four-year university level. Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to tailor a curriculum around your research interests through our contract system. Honors contracts require students to work with faculty mentors on independent research projects.

You are also encouraged to present your scholarly or creative work at conferences. Our program is affiliated with the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC), the Western Regional Honors Council (WRHC), and the Honors Transfer Council of California (HTCC). Each of these organizations hosts annual conferences, which provide you with the opportunity to present your work. These conferences are also spaces where you can interact and collaborate with other honors students from across the country. We also encourage you to publish your writing and art in the WRHC literary and artistic magazine, Scribendi.

We welcome you and wish you the best with the Chaffey College Honors Program. This resource book will help you to better understand the benefits of the program and your obligations as a member. Please read it carefully, and refer to it often. Good luck!

Yours truly,

Julie H. Song
We are here to help you reach your goals!

Honors Program Office
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Email: honors.program@chaffey.edu

Julie H. Song PhD
Director, Honors Program

Helen Leung
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To make an appointment with Helen, please call:(909) 652-6200
Benefits of the Chaffey College Honors Program:

- Preferred registration
- Personalized honors academic counseling
- Smaller classes offering mentorship with dedicated faculty
- Free access to the UCLA and UCI library system
- Priority consideration and transfer agreements with prestigious colleges and universities
- Special access to scholarships, including the Chaffey College Honors Scholarship, the Honors Transfer Council of California Scholarship, and UCLA Transfer Alliance Program scholarship
- Honors graduation transcript designation for each honors course completed, and program completion
- Opportunities to publish and present creative projects and scholarly work
- Increased self-confidence, enhanced leadership skills, and better preparation for transfer to four-year institutions

Completing the program

Our program requires you to complete 15 units of honors credit, 10 hours of community service, and attend one Honors seminar. Additionally, you must maintain an overall 3.2 grade point average, and complete at least two stand alone courses. 

The next section of the booklet will elaborate on each of these requirements.
Complete Honors Units

There are two ways of completing honors units: stand alone classes and contracts:

1. Every semester Chaffey College offers a limited number of “stand alone” Honors courses. These are also called “designated Honors courses.” Honors students have preferred registration for these classes. Stand alone classes are smaller in size, offering student insight to the classroom experience at a private university.
   - We require at least 6 of the 15 units required for completion of the Honors Program to be completed through stand-alone Honors courses.
   - In order to receive Honors notation for the class a student must earn a B or better (not a B-) to qualify to receive the Honors notation.

2. Honors students can complete up to 9 units of honors credit through contracts. Only transferable courses (numbered at Chaffey 1-99, i.e. ENGL-1A or BIO-1) can be contracted, with consent from the professor of the class. The student will complete additional work in a transferable course in order to earn an Honors notation in that course (thereby receiving Honors credit for a non-Honors course).
   - Honors Contracts are considered on a case by case basis, and the decision as to whether or not to allow a contract is at the discretion of the faculty member, and the Honors committee, including the director, dean, and counselor. Faculty participation on contracts is completely voluntary.
   - Contracts are only available to Honors Students in good standing.
   - Expectations for the contract include: a ten page (minimum) research paper, 10 to 15 minute presentation, and outside class activity.
   - The Honors Program office must receive the proposal by the deadline, no exceptions, and the student and faculty will be notified if the project needs revising or is accepted.
   - The Honors Program office will contact the faculty member at the end of the semester to ensure the contract obligations have been fulfilled. If the student completed all components of the contract, the student will earn Honors notation for the course.
Submitting your proposal:

In addition to the contract form (found on the Honors website: www.chaffey.edu/honors), the student must submit a proposal describing the honors project. Your proposal should include a description of the following components:

1. A written research project, including a tentative thesis and, or research question. The writing portion of the project should be at least 10 pages, and be research intensive. If a research-based writing-project is inappropriate in the discipline, the Honors Program will accept an equivalent project appropriate for the discipline.

2. An out of class component or fieldtrip (lecture, museum, play, i.e.). Ideally, the out of class activity should be related to the research project. The student should describe what the activity will be, and how it pertains to the project.

3. A 15 minute presentation of the project to the class. Generally, these presentations occur during class time. The student should arrange a day/time of the presentation well in advance with the professor, and include the day in the proposal.

The faculty member should approve of the proposal, and sign the contract. All documents must be submitted to the Honors Program office by deadline. Late submissions may not be considered.

Examples of approved outlines

Biology 22

1. Research Title and Thesis:

   The Effects of a Ketogenic Diet on the Frequency of Seizures. The significance of a ketogenic diet is an effective therapy to lower the frequency of seizures because it continues to provide the fats necessary that will cause less adverse affects than fasting. The project will incorporate the three goals that include but are not limited to defining ketogenic diet, seizures, and epilepsy.

2. Outside Classroom Activity:

   Interview a neurologist and obtain their perspective on effective treatments used to reduce the frequency of seizures.

3. Oral Presentation

   1. Defining ketogenic diet, seizures, and epilepsy
   2. Finding the importance of the ketogenic diet in the human body
   3. Finding whether the ketogenic diet has an impact on reducing the frequency of seizures in epileptic patients.
Honors Program Exit Criteria

To be granted priority transfer privileges by colleges and universities allied with the Chaffey College Honors Program, you must meet the following obligation:

Enrollment in the Honors Program for a minimum of two semesters.

1. At least 15 units of honors credit through classes and contracts completed with a “B” or better. You should take at least two standalone classes and three contracts to complete your 15 units of honors course work.

2. Maintenance of an overall GPA of 3.2 or higher.

3. Completion of 10 hours of community service.

4. Submission of “Intent to Complete Honors Program” form to the honors office in your last semester by the stated deadline.

5. Completion of an Associate’s Degree OR fulfillment of admissions’ requirements to a four year school.

Through informal degree checks and personalized academic counseling, your Honors Counselor will help you fulfill completion requirements as efficiently as possible.

Also consult the transfer websites:

University of California – www.universityofcaliforni.edu

Articulation - www.assist.org

California State University- www.csumentor.edu

Graduating from the Honors Program is not the same as graduating from Chaffey College with Honors. To learn more about graduating from Chaffey College with Honors please contact Student Activities (909) 652-6590.