

Call for Honors Course Proposals

The [Honors Program](#) seeks proposals for two types of courses: team-taught and linked courses.

Why should you submit a proposal?

- Teaching an Honors class is rewarding!
 - Lead small classes (capped at 20) filled with intellectually curious and engaged students.
 - Embrace the chance to engage in deep discussions with a colleague & students outside your field
 - Gain experience in a high impact teaching practice and develop your professional teaching repertoire
 - Rejuvenate your research & teaching agenda, explore topics that might not be possible to teach otherwise
 - Have fun! Team-teaching with a colleague often leads to new projects, papers, and friendships.
- Teaching a team-taught class carries an additional stipend of \$3,000 for each of the instructors for new courses and \$1,500 for previously-taught courses (and your department will be compensated for your absence).
- Teaching a linked class carries a stipend of \$1,000 for each of the instructors.

Team-Taught Courses

What are honors Team-Taught Courses?

- Honors team-taught courses are interdisciplinary courses offered at the upper-division level by faculty from two different departments who teach in the same classroom at the same time for the duration of the semester.
- Courses are expected to be rigorous & innovative, and they should include a substantive, interdisciplinary final project. Both faculty grade student work.
- Students earn 4 units of credit for taking a team-taught course.
- Team-taught courses are scheduled by the Honors Program 1-2 years in advance in coordination with instructors' departments.

What are team-taught courses about?

- Honors team-taught courses can be about any topic, issue or problem that can be addressed by the two respective disciplines of the faculty instructors. Topics that address timely or timeless issues are ideal.
- Faculty from two different units may propose a course, as may members from within an individual college.
- To maximize the value of having two instructors, readings, assignments and class time should be cohesive and integrated. Team-taught instructors should refrain from simply combining two course loads into one class.
- To see examples of upcoming team-taught Honors classes, [visit our website](#).

Linked Courses

What is a Linked Honors Class?

- A linked Honors course constitutes an honors section of any individual course taught by a single instructor, that is intentionally paired together with another Honors course based on a common theme, concept, or problem. Each class follows its own unique course syllabus and learning outcomes, except for select planned points of cross-over between classes intermittently scheduled throughout the semester (e.g. for joint discussions, guest speakers, and other common activities). Students enroll in just one of the pair of linked classes.
- Linked classes can be at the lower or upper division level
- Linked Honors courses can be structured in various ways but should include, at minimum:
 - Honors designated sections of a course from different departments
 - A clearly defined theme, topic, or problem to be addressed in the linkage between classes
 - 4+ cross-class gatherings/events over the course of the semester
 - An assignment within each class, or a cross-class assignment, in which students synthesize and apply knowledge and/or skills from the different perspectives represented by each of the linked courses

What are linked classes about?

- Linked classes ideally involve two courses that fulfill Core requirements for students. The linkage between the classes can be substantive, methodological, thematic, or otherwise, so long as they showcase two different disciplinary lenses.
- Linked course instructors should plan the linked portions of their classes together in advance. Each instructor is responsible only for grading his/her own students' work.

Who is eligible to teach honors courses?

- All USD faculty on full-time contracts are eligible to teach honors classes.

Other FAQs

What makes for a strong and compelling honors course proposal?

- The most attractive classes for students are those that:
 - extend USD's existing curriculum
 - invite deep intellectual engagement
 - fulfill one or more Core requirements (CINT Advanced Integration flag required for team-taught courses)
 - do not require highly specific coursework as prerequisites for the team-taught course
 - celebrate diversity and inclusion

What is the process for securing approval to teach an Honors course?

1. Together with your co-instructor, design your course (team-taught) or develop your ideas for linking classes (linked). For team-taught classes, carefully consult the [guidelines for Core attribute requirements](#), especially CINT.
2. Complete the relevant cover page (available upon request from honors@san Diego.edu or [online](#)).
 - for team-taught classes, department vote & chair approval is required for both instructors/classes. Email the completed cover sheet and proposal to the Honors Program at honors@san Diego.edu.
 - for linked classes, chair approval for each class is necessary
3. Proposals will be reviewed by the Honors Program Committee for consideration. Revisions may be requested.

What if I want to re-teach an honors team-taught course I've already taught in the past?

If you are interested in repeating an Honors team-taught course you have taught in the past, please email the Honors Program declaring your interest and explaining any intentions to update or revise your course.

What if I'd like to teach an honors section of a single instructor class (that isn't linked)?

Consult with your Department Chair about the possibility of teaching an Honors course in your department, and then contact the Honors Program directly to notify us. We will work with you to arrange, discuss scheduling, and promote your course. We welcome your class!

To discuss any ideas or ask questions about team-taught or linked proposals prior to submission, please email the Honors Program Director at honors@san Diego.edu or call 619-260-7847.

