

Call for *Honors Course Proposals*

The [Honors Program](#) is currently seeking two types of course proposals: team-taught and linked courses.

Why should you submit a proposal?

- Teaching an Honors class is rewarding!
 - Lead small classes (capped at around 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 you might not otherwise teach.
 - Have fun! Team-teaching with a colleague often leads to new projects, papers, and friendships.
- Teaching a new team-taught class also includes a stipend of \$3,000 for each instructor, while a previously-taught team-taught class includes a stipend of \$1,500. Also, your department will be compensated for your absence.
- Teaching a new or previously-taught linked class includes 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 perspectives 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 also 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/graded by a single instructor) that is intentionally paired together with another Honors course based on a common theme or problem. Each class follows its own unique course syllabus and learning outcomes, except for select planned points of cross-over between classes that are intermittently scheduled throughout the semester (e.g. for joint discussions, guest speakers, or shared 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.
- Linked classes ideally involve two courses that each 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.

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 on the faculty tab of <https://www.sandiego.edu/honors/resources/>
 - Team-taught classes require a department vote & chair approval for both instructors, and the completed/signed cover sheet and proposal should be sent to Honors at honors@sandiego.edu.
 - Linked classes only require chair approval for each class, and the completed/signed cover sheet and proposal should be sent to Honors at honors@sandiego.edu.
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 or linked team-taught course I've already taught in the past?

If you are interested in repeating an interdisciplinary course you have taught in the past, please email honors@sandiego.edu indicating your interest and explaining any intentions to update/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@sandiego.edu.

