

**SAN JACINTOSM
COLLEGE**



2024
HONORS PROGRAM
ANNUAL REPORT

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August 28, 2024

Dear San Jacinto College family and friends,

Greetings from the honors program! This year’s annual report celebrates the exciting accomplishments and events of the 2023-2024 academic year. The pandemic is now in our rearview mirror. The fall enrollment numbers were the highest since 2019, while the spring numbers were the largest ever for the spring. Again, we had a full schedule of activities and events. While taking advantage of these opportunities, our students have excelled in numerous ways. As we completed our 27th year, we have much to look back on with pride and even more to look forward to in the future. The best is yet to be at San Jac!

Since its inception, the honors program has asked the question, “Why not the best?” Each year students have answered by striving to be second to none. Their accomplishments are amazing, and the depth of their research is outstanding. Their actions at San Jac have launched them across our state and globe. In Texas, students have transferred to the University of Texas, Texas A&M University, Rice University, the University of Houston, Lamar University, Texas State University, Sam Houston State University, Stephen F. Austin State University, and many more. Other students have transferred out of state to prestigious institutions.



In this annual report you can read about our students’ many successes. For instance, we had 13 individual projects and four group projects accepted at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, or NCUR. Twenty-two students had their work accepted for presentation at NCUR, the most prestigious research conference for undergraduate students. More than 95% of NCUR participants are juniors and seniors from universities around the country. Another example of outstanding student research was found in Texas history. San Jac honors students took first, second, and fourth place in the C.M. Caldwell Memorial Awards for the best research papers in Texas history by freshmen and sophomores. In addition, four of the eight articles published in “Touchstone” for 2024 were by our honors students. This was competing against all Texas undergraduates.

In activities, we took many students on a retreat in September to Trinity Pines, where they worked together on a theme-based skit while making lasting friendships. This year North Campus coordinator Cody Pogue led 29 students on a Spain trip for more than a week, visiting Barcelona, Madrid, Segovia, Toledo, and Escorial. This easily surpassed our largest prior group, when we took 18 students to London in 2016.

Have fun reliving a year in the life of the honors program!

Eddie Weller, Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor of History
District Honors Program Director



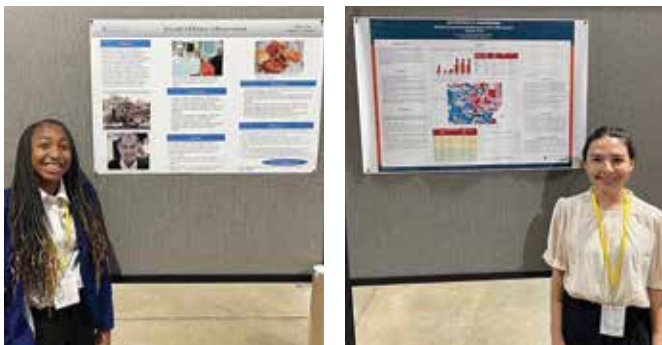
HONORS PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2023-2024

The honors program had an incredible year! These many accomplishments have occurred across San Jac campuses throughout the entire year.



NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Seventeen students presented their individual and group research projects at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, or NCUR, hosted this year by the University of California, Long Beach, April 8-10. They completed their research in their honors classes or as part of an REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) at Rice University (read more about the papers on pp. 6-7). NCUR is the top undergraduate research conference in America, sponsored by the Council on Undergraduate Research (cur.org). Out of the more than 3,000 student projects chosen for presentation, only 87 community college student proposals were accepted based on research abstracts. Of the accepted community college proposals, 20% came from San Jac. Four faculty accompanied the students on the trip. In Texas, 28 higher education institutions sent students to the conference. San Jac had the second highest number of proposals accepted in Texas, accounting for 12% of Texas presentations. Institutions that sent students included the University of Texas, Rice University, Texas Tech University, the University of Houston, The University of Texas at El Paso, Southern Methodist University, and Trinity University.



GREAT PLAINS HONORS CONFERENCE

Nineteen students presented their research at the Great Plains Honors Conference March 22-24 at Oklahoma State University. Three faculty also attended the conference. Approximately 80 colleges and universities from six states (Texas through Nebraska) belong to this conference. This was one of the largest contingents brought by any college or university in the region. San Jac students gave both oral and poster presentations.



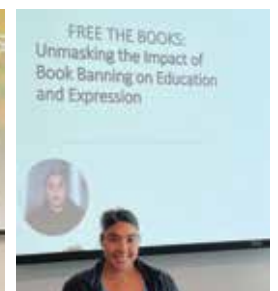
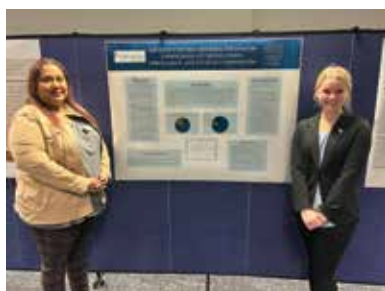
HONORS RETREAT

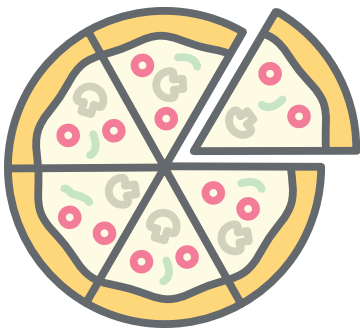
This year's retreat theme was "Transformations: Acknowledging, Assessing, and Achieving Change," taken from a Phi Theta Kappa study topic. More than 50 students attended the successful gathering. Dr. Joseph Stromberg, Central Campus honors history professor, keynoted the event with the thoughtful speech "What Is Environmentalism?" After the movie "Hunger Games," the students enjoyed a campfire and s'mores, then discussed the topic in groups and developed skits to address a question each group was given. While getting minimal sleep, most students made many new friends.



HONORS SHOWCASES

This year Central, North, and South Campuses hosted an honors showcase in the fall and spring — from Nov. 30-Dec. 6 and April 30-May 2. These campuses celebrated honors research and education with more than 100 students presenting their research for other students and faculty each semester. This was the 10th year for the college-wide event, with the students honoring their professors by highlighting their research. Without the support of a large cadre of honors faculty, the honors program could not exist.





PIZZA WITH THE PROFS

Each semester campuses host a “Pizza with the Profs” to introduce the upcoming schedule of honors courses to students. This event brings students and faculty together in an informal setting outside the classroom.

TAKE FLIGHT

The first full year of the Take Flight program — a joint program among Rice University, San Jacinto College, and Lone Star College for STEM majors — was a success. Many students attended events at Rice and prepared to apply to Rice and to summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) at Rice. The REUs lasted 10 weeks, with students working on a major research project alongside Rice professors. Funded by the National Science Foundation, REUs are considered steppingstones into graduate education in STEM fields. After students complete their research, they share research posters at conferences and earn a stipend of about \$4,000 for their work. This year two San Jac students were accepted into Rice STEM fields.



DISTRICT-WIDE CHESS TOURNAMENT

Honors students hosted their first annual San Jac chess tournament. Central, North, and South Campuses held individual events before the final showdown. The winner of the tournament was the Central Campus. Because of the fun and camaraderie, everyone agreed to make the chess tournament an annual event.



TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Every year, Texas students attend the annual Walter Prescott Webb Society meeting in conjunction with the Texas State Historical Association annual meeting. The event’s highlight is the presentation of the C.M. Caldwell Awards for best research papers in Texas history. Of the four awards given to freshmen and sophomores, three went to San Jac honors students. Congratulations to Victoria Gorton, Vanessa Maciel, and Tatum Dixon!

In addition to the awards given this year, four San Jac honors students were published in the 2023 edition of “Touchstone,” a refereed journal of the Texas State Historical Association. Congratulations to Lana Tran, Tony Gamage, Annie Forte, and Nancy Zamora! (For more information, see p. 7.)





NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

Continuing its annual service to honors education, the San Jac honors team and three faculty (Jessica Goodfellow, Aaron Love, and Igor Yakushkin) participated in the 58th annual meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council in Chicago Nov. 9-11, 2023. As president-elect, honors director Eddie Weller served as the conference chair, overseeing the convention's planning and operation.



GRADUATION

This year nearly 50 students graduated with honors during the calendar year. Between December 2023 and May 2024 graduations, 48 students completed at least 15 hours of honors courses with an A or B grade and an overall GPA higher than 3.0. Of those students, six graduated with at least 24 hours of honors credit, earning the “distinguished honors graduate” designation. At the end of each long semester, family and friends attended the honors program celebration for those graduating with honors.





NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

This year 17 research projects encompassing the work of 22 San Jac honors students were chosen for inclusion at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research — the most prestigious undergraduate research conference in the U.S. To put this in perspective, in the last conference pre-COVID, only 73 community college proposals were accepted, including 19 from San Jac, out of more than 2,500 abstracts accepted. Approximately 500 colleges and universities participate each year.

GROUP PROJECTS

Marissa Ortega and **Emily Perez**, “Free the Books: Unmasking the Impact of Book Banning on Education,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dr. Judith Maima Skeele*

Kenya Arias and **Yaretzzi Salazar**, “From Fear to Safety: Unveiling the Safety Dilemma in Schools and the Quest for Solutions,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dr. Judith Maima-Skeele*

Laura Ortiz and **Siney Lira**, “Latinos in Education. Bridging the Gap: A Comprehensive Exploration of Educational Inequity Faced by Latinos in the United States from Historical Struggles to Current Challenges,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dr. Judith Maima-Skeele*

Chloe Stegner, **Michaela Todd**, and **Denise Toledo**, “The Effect of Test-Optional Policies on Undergraduate Applications, Enrollment, and Student Composition,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dr. Tonja Conerly*

INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

Emma Burke, “The Origins of the Comanche Nation in North America,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dawn Shedd*

Tyler Cutshaw, “Jeremy Soule: An Innovator in Video Game Music,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Jordan Tucker*

Paola Diaz Lopez, “Life Expectancy by Neighborhood: Do Lower-income Households Have Worse Health Impacts?” North Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dr. Liana Boop*

Tatum Dixon, “Frenchy’s Fried Chicken: A Houston Icon,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dr. Eddie Weller*

Meggy Gabadadze, “Quantum Uncertainty: Surprising Implications for Ethics,” North Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Ed Aiman*

Vanessa Maciel, “Ann Richards’ Road to Governor of Texas,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dr. Eddie Weller*

Mohammed Meje, “Diversifying RNA-based Memory Storage Devices for Studying Promoter Activities in Non-model Bacteria,” North Campus, *Rice Research Experience for Undergraduates*

Deannery Muankaew, “Low-Iridium Catalyst for Proton Exchange Membrane Water Electrolysis,” South Campus, *Rice Research Experience for Undergraduates*

Dayanara Najera, “Minimally Invasive Deep Brain Stimulation Through Temporal Interference,” South Campus, *Rice Research Experience for Undergraduates*

Arnold Nguyen, “Critiquing Fukuyama: Unraveling the Complexities of 21st Century Challenges Through Deconstruction and Hauntology,” North Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Ed Aiman*

Liz Olivera Fonseca, “Brown Weasel Woman: An Exhibit on the Shattering of Norms,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dawn Shedd*

Janis Richards, “Creation of U.S. Money by the Private Sector,” North Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Cody Pogue*

Emily Van, “The Complexities of Online Gambling Addictions,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Stephen Bonnette*

Texas State Historical Association Success



At the beginning of March, honors students competed in the C.M. Caldwell Awards for the best research papers in Texas history, as decided by the Texas State Historical Association. The papers are judged based on the number of hours a student has completed, so San Jac honors students competed with freshmen and sophomores from colleges and universities statewide. Of the four awards given to freshmen and sophomores, three went to San Jac students:

- **Victoria Gorton** from Central Campus won first place with her paper “Elisabeth Ney: The Sculptress of Texas.” She is Luis Reyes’ student.
- Second place went to **Vanessa Maciel** for her paper, “Ann Richards’ Road to Governor.” She is Eddie Weller’s student.
- Fourth place went to **Tatum Dixon** for her paper “Frenchy’s Chicken: Founding and Growth.” She is also Weller’s student.

All three of these papers are now being considered for publication in the 42nd edition of “Touchstone,” a refereed journal of the Texas State Historical Association, which will come out in March 2025.



In addition to these awards, four San Jac honors students were published in the 2023 edition of “Touchstone.” A total of seven articles were selected for publication:

- **Lana Tran** wrote “The Legacy of Hurricane Ike on Galveston, Houston, and the Southeast Texas Coast.”
- **Tony Gamage** wrote “What Provoked the Houston Riots of 1917? Who Was at Fault?”
- **Annie Forte** wrote “The Life and Career of LGBTQ+ Activist William Wellbourn.”
- **Nancy Zamora** wrote “The Immigration of Thousands of Jews Through the Galveston Movement.”

All four of these were Caldwell Award winners last year. In addition, the Walter Prescott Webb Society, the history club for colleges and universities, named the San Jac South Campus chapter (advised by Dr. Abbie Grubb) its Chapter of the Year.

With more than 75 years of combined experience at San Jac, the honors program team includes five people: a district-wide director, three campus honors coordinators, and an administrative assistant.



JANNA LASATER

Janna Lasater, program administrative assistant, has been at the College 25 years, having worked in many of the South Campus academic departments before coming to the honors program in fall 2008. In 2016, she was named one of three finalists for the Administrative Assistant of the Year by the National Collegiate Honors Council.



DILLON MILLER

After earning his M.S. in mathematics from Louisiana Tech University, Dillon Miller joined the faculty at San Jac part time in 2016 at the North and South Campuses while teaching high school full time. He soon transitioned to full-time status at the Central Campus. In 2019, Miller joined the honors program, teaching several math courses. His passion for serving honors students inside and outside the classroom is what motivated him to take on the role of Central Campus honors coordinator in 2020. In addition, Miller serves on many committees throughout the College. In his spare time, he enjoys playing recreational sand volleyball and attending Astros games.



CODY POGUE

At the North Campus, Cody Pogue became the honors coordinator in fall 2017, after teaching in the program for four years. Having earned his M.A. in history from Sam Houston State University, he also has graduate hours in government, allowing him to teach both history and government. In addition, he sponsors the Great Outdoors Club, leading students on camping trips throughout the year. Before coming to San Jac in 2012, he worked as a museum technician at the George Bush Presidential Library, ran as a candidate for the Texas House of Representatives, and held numerous positions on local political campaigns. In his free time, he enjoys backpacking through the scenic wonders of nature with his dog, holding long philosophical discussions with anyone who will listen, and playing an active role in local politics.



DR. ABBIE GRUBB

A well-known expert on Japanese internment during World War II, Dr. Abbie Grubb joined the honors team in 2015 as South Campus coordinator. After completing her Ph.D. in American history from Rice University, she worked at the Maritime Museum until San Jac hired her in 2010. Since then, she has developed the museum studies course for the College and served as the local Walter Prescott Webb Society advisor. She is a former member of the Houston History Alliance Board of Directors and co-chaired the alliance's annual conference in 2015. She has organized four honors trips to Europe — all highly successful! As a historian, she has served twice as vice president and program chair of the Southwestern Historical Association and on the executive council of the Southwestern Social Sciences Association. Her husband, Ken, is a history professor at Wharton County College. They have an adorable son, Tony.



DR. EDDIE WELLER

Honors program director Eddie Weller earned a Ph.D. in American history from Texas Christian University. His dissertation became a biography of the New Deal Senate Majority Leader: “Joe T. Robinson: Always a Loyal Democrat” (University of Arkansas Press, 1998). He founded the honors program in 1996 and has taught in it every year since then. He served as director until 2006. He also served two stints as department chair, first of social sciences and later of behavioral and social sciences and education. In 2013, he once again became the honors program director. As a historian, he has served as the president of the Southwestern Social Sciences Association and the Southwestern Historical Association, as secretary and member of the Texas State Historical Association Board of Directors, and on the East Texas Historical Association Board of Directors. He has also served as the president of the Great Plains Honors Council and as the chair of the Two-Year College Committee of the National Collegiate Honors Council. He received the 2018 Ron Brandolini Award for Excellence at a Two-Year Institution from the National Collegiate Honors Council. He was elected to the National Collegiate Honors Council Board of Directors in 2019 and as vice president in 2021. He currently serves as the organization's president.

What Makes an Honors Course?

CLEAR Rubric

San Jac has adopted an easy-to-remember definition: A course should be CLEAR. Every honors course should have some of these components — at least three and up to four or five.



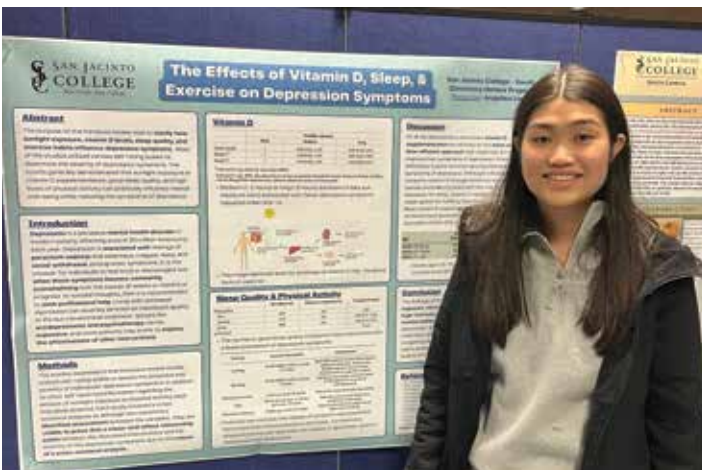
Critical Thinking: Courses will emphasize problem solving and critical thinking over memorization. Critical thinking is the basis of higher education.

Leadership: Courses allow students to show leadership abilities. These might be through service learning, group presentations, or other activities. Students will also have leadership opportunities outside class.

Enrichment Activities: These activities can be varied. They might include a trip to a museum, an art event, a location that uses what they are studying, etc. The activities should be appropriate to the course and the discipline. This might also include a different way of teaching that might not work in a traditional course.

Academic Rigor: Every honors course should have academic rigor. San Jac does not give away grades, nor are the courses fun and games. These courses should prepare students to take any course at any university in the country.

Research: Each course should incorporate research that is appropriate to the field of study. This research should be more in-depth than traditionally done in a freshman or sophomore class. The honors program highlights student research, seeking places the students can present their research, either through delivering papers or through poster sessions.



HONORS PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

The San Jacinto College Honors Program offers academically talented and highly motivated students special opportunities for enriched learning and recognition. The program provides a stimulating range and depth of scholarly pursuits within an interdisciplinary context.

The honors program also offers students the opportunity to receive scholarships; to make presentations at local, state, regional, and national conferences; to be published in academic journals; to attend cultural events; and to interact with other academically motivated students.



Course Vetting Procedure

At the meeting the professor can take up to 15 minutes to explain what makes the course an honors course. Afterward, the council members can ask questions concerning the course for up to 15 minutes. Then the faculty member will leave, and the council will discuss the course. Each course will receive one of the following ratings:

- Approved for inclusion in the honors program
- With minimal changes, approved for inclusion in the honors program
- Please revise and resubmit for reconsideration for inclusion in the honors program
- Declined for inclusion in the honors program

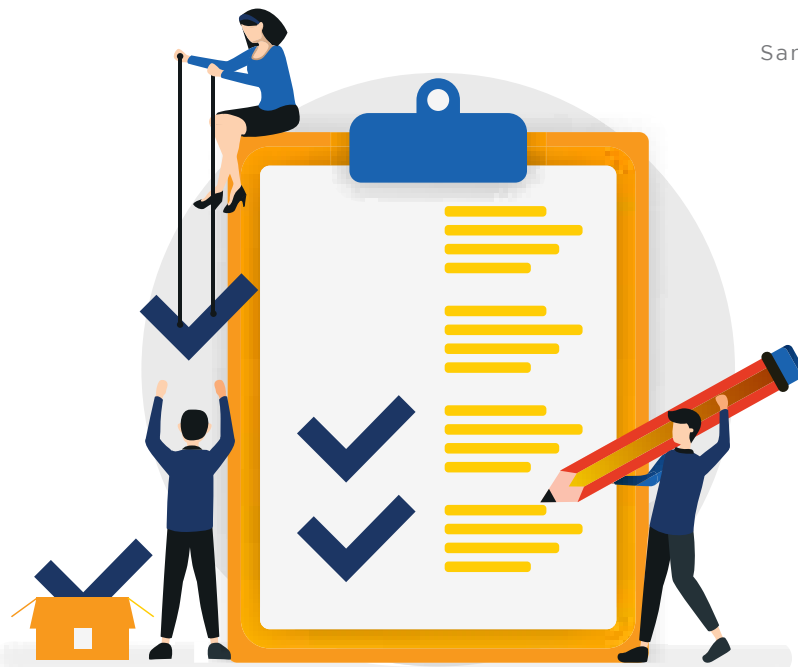
Each rating will have constructive comments from the committee members with ideas that a faculty member might want to include in the future. Even faculty members with approved courses may want to consider the council's suggestions.

Rating Rubric

Courses under consideration for honors will be rated using the CLEAR standard:

- Critical thinking
- Leadership
- Enrichment activities
- Academic rigor
- Research

All honors courses are required to uphold “academic rigor.” Academic rigor is not merely “more work.” It may include different assignments, testing, or activities than found in non-honors sections of the course. Writing is considered an important part of most honors courses, whether essay exams, research papers, or reflective pieces. In addition to “academic rigor,” a good honors course will include at least one, if not two or three, of the other CLEAR components.



Overview

Each faculty member, whether teaching an honors course for the first time or for the 17th year, must make a presentation to an honors council committee describing what makes the course an honors course. For instance, if a professors teach HIST 1301 and HIST 1302, they must present for each course, although each presentation may be similar.

Presentations will be given before the semester the course is offered. Once approved to teach a specific honors course, a faculty member will not be required to present to the honors council again regarding that specific course.

Process

Professors will prepare and email a copy of their proposed syllabus with a cover sheet for the honors course to Janna Lasater, honors program administrative assistant, who will forward it to the committee members in advance. The cover sheet will explain what is different in this class from a similar non-honors course in the discipline. This will allow the members to read the sheet and the syllabus in advance of the presentation.



HONORS PROGRAM FACULTY AND COURSES 2023-2024

	Central	North	South	Total
Courses and Labs Offered*	31	18	24	73
Faculty Involved	20	16	20	56

*Courses and lab sections are counted only once. Sections are counted only once per campus.

HONORS PROGRAM FACULTY AND COURSES FALL 2023

	Central	North	South	Total
Courses and Labs Offered	24	15	16	55
Faculty Involved	23	11	18	52
David Lang	BIOL 1106	102	Central	
David Lang	BIOL 1306	102	Central	
Kristen Russ	BIOL 1108	104	Central	
Kristen Russ	BIOL 1308	104	Central	
Mindy Murray	BIOL 1322	102	Central	
Crystal Higgs	BIOL 2101	103	Central	
Crystal Higgs	BIOL 2301	103	Central	
David Peters	CHEM 1111	103	Central	
David Peters	CHEM 1311	103	Central	
Judith Maima-Skeele	EDUC 1301	101	Central	
Jessica Goodfellow	ENGL 1301	103	Central	
Jessica Goodfellow	ENGL 1301	110	Central	
Malcolm Sadler	GEOL 1303	101	Central	
Malcolm Sadler	GEOL 1103	101	Central	
Ronda Wilson	GEOL 1304	101	Central	
Ronda Wilson	GEOL 1104	101	Central	
Nykeba Jones	GOVT 2305	128	Central	
Dawn Shedd	HIST 1301	121	Central	
Joseph Stromberg	HIST 1301	139	Central	
Luis Reyes	HIST 2301	101	Central	
Luis Reyes	HIST 2301	102	Central	
Aaron Love	HUMA 1301	105	Central	
Kelly Anderson	MATH 1314	143	Central	
Kelly Anderson	MATH 1314	154	Central	
Tammil Rice	MATH 1350	103	Central	
Dillon Miller	MATH 2415	102	Central	
Joseph Schenck	MUSI 1306	101	Central	
Jordan Tucker	MUSI 1310	101	Central	
Thi Lam	PHIL 1301	101	Central	
Thi Lam	PHIL 2306	101	Central	
Sunshine Gage	PSYC 2301	113	Central	
Sunshine Gage	PSYC 2314	112	Central	
Tina Mougouris	SOCI 1301	110	Central	
Shera Carter Sackey	SPCH 1315	108	Central	
Craig Slaven	ENGL 1301	211	North	
Liana Boop	GEOL 1103	204	North	
Liana Boop	GEOL 1303	204	North	
Nicholas Coulombe	GOVT 2304	201	North	
Patrizio Amezcua	GOVT 2305	207	North	
Cody Pogue	GOVT 2305	211	North	
Cody Pogue	GOVT 2306	206	North	
Cody Pogue	GOVT 2306	224	North	
John Gillespie	HIST 1301	204	North	
John Gillespie	HIST 1302	202	North	
Alejandra Jaramillo-Fontenot	HIST 2327	201	North	
William Ollis	MATH 1314	250	North	
William Ollis	MATH 2412	251	North	
Edwin Aiman	PHIL 1301	205	North	
Edwin Aiman	PHIL 1301	206	North	
Edwin Aiman	PHIL 2306	202	North	
Tammy Miller	PSYC 2301	201	North	
Huong Le	SOCI 1301	202	North	
Kristen McAuliffe	ACCT 2301	301	South	
Olivia Huffstetter	ARTS 1301	301	South	
Igor Yakushkin	BIOL 1106	350	South	
Igor Yakushkin	BIOL 1107	350	South	
Igor Yakushkin	BIOL 1306	350	South	
Christopher Cunningham	BIOL 2101	350	South	
Christopher Cunningham	BIOL 2301	350	South	
Elizabeth McKinley	BUSI 1301	304	South	
Phuong Doan	CHEM 1111	350	South	
Phuong Doan	CHEM 1111	351	South	
Phuong Doan	CHEM 1311	350	South	
Phuong Doan	CHEM 1311	351	South	
Jayme Long	ENGL 1301	320	South	
Greg Smith	ENGL 1301	324	South	
Greg Smith	ENGL 1301	399	South	
Marcia Bumgardner	GOVT 2305	309	South	
Jason Russell	GOVT 2306	311	South	
Abbie Grubb	HIST 1301	311	South	
Abbie Grubb	HIST 1301	315	South	
Eddie Weller	HIST 1301	325	South	
Ross Kelsey	HIST 1301	326	South	
Farran Beehler	HUMA 1301	311	South	
Abigail Payne	MATH 2414	306	South	
Ferdinand Durano	PHIL 1301	303	South	
Stephen Bonnette	PSYC 2301	319	South	
Stephen Bonnette	PSYC 2314	301	South	
Tonja Conerly	SOCI 1301	320	South	

HONORS PROGRAM FACULTY AND COURSES SPRING 2024

	Central	North	South	Total
Courses and Labs Offered	27	17	17	61
Faculty Involved	24	17	16	57
Pamela Maack	ANTH 2302	102	Central	
David Lang	BIOL 1107	104	Central	
David Lang	BIOL 1307	104	Central	
Kristen Russ	BIOL 1109	103	Central	
Kristen Russ	BIOL 1309	103	Central	
Crystal Higgs	BIOL 2302	109	Central	
Crystal Higgs	BIOL 2102	109	Central	
Jose Rivera	BIOL 2120	102	Central	
Jose Rivera	BIOL 2320	102	Central	
David Peters	CHEM 1112	102	Central	
David Peters	CHEM 1312	102	Central	
Jean Nono	CHEM 2123	101	Central	
Jean Nono	CHEM 2323	101	Central	
Judith Maima-Skeele	EDUC 1301	104	Central	
Judith Maima-Skeele	EDUC 2301	104	Central	
Aaron Love	ENGL 1302	103	Central	
Aaron Love	ENGL 1302	109	Central	
Ronda Wilson	GEOL 1104	106	Central	
Ronda Wilson	GEOL 1304	106	Central	
Nykeba Jones	GOVT 2305	129	Central	
Juli McShay	GOVT 2306	103	Central	
Dawn Shedd	HIST 1302	101	Central	
Joseph Stromberg	HIST 1302	102	Central	
Luis Reyes	HIST 2301	101	Central	
Luis Reyes	HIST 2301	102	Central	
Jessica Goodfellow	HUMA 1301	106	Central	
Kelly Anderson	MATH 1314	137	Central	
Kelly Anderson	MATH 1314	155	Central	
Virginia Hanning	MATH 1324	105	Central	
Dillon Miller	MATH 2412	103	Central	
Dillon Miller	MATH 2414	103	Central	
Joseph Schenck	MUSI 1306	101	Central	
Jordan Tucker	MUSI 1310	101	Central	
Thi Lam	PHIL 1301	105	Central	
Thi Lam	PHIL 2306	101	Central	
Sunshine Gage	PSYC 2301	108	Central	
Sunshine Gage	PSYC 2314	108	Central	
Tina Mougouris	SOCI 1301	113	Central	
Oluwaseun Alonge	BIOL 1107	208	North	
Oluwaseun Alonge	BIOL 1307	208	North	
Craig Slaven	ENGL 1302	210	North	
Nicholas Coulombe	GOVT 2305	221	North	
Cody Pogue	GOVT 2305	223	North	
Patrizio Amezcua	GOVT 2306	207	North	
Cody Pogue	GOVT 2306	227	North	
Cody Pogue	GOVT 2306	228	North	
John Gillespie	HIST 1301	202	North	
Alejandra Jaramillo-Fontenot	HIST 1302	208	North	
Brett Olmsted	HIST 2328	201	North	
William Ollis	MATH 2412	205	North	
William Ollis	MATH 2413	206	North	
Guillermo Hernandez	MUSI 1306	212	North	
Edwin Aiman	PHIL 1301	202	North	
Edwin Aiman	PHIL 1301	203	North	
Edwin Aiman	PHIL 2306	201	North	
Christopher Goains	PHYS 2126	205	North	
Christopher Goains	PHYS 2326	205	North	
Tammy Miller	PSYC 2301	201	North	
Barbara Stanikova	PSYC 2314	202	North	
Chiragkumar Patel	PSYC 2320	201	North	
Huong Le	SOCI 1301	201	North	
Winsome Brooks	SPCH 1315	202	North	
Olivia Huffstetter	ARTS 1303	304	South	
Igor Yakushkin	BIOL 1106	350	South	
Igor Yakushkin	BIOL 1107	350	South	
Igor Yakushkin	BIOL 1306	350	South	
Igor Yakushkin	BIOL 1307	350	South	
Luz Vela	BIOL 2102	350	South	
Luz Vela	BIOL 2302	350	South	
Phuong Doan	CHEM 1112	350	South	
Phuong Doan	CHEM 1112	351	South	
Phuong Doan	CHEM 1312	350	South	
Phuong Doan	CHEM 1312	351	South	
James Smith	ENGL 1302	307	South	
James Smith	ENGL 1302	317	South	
Jason Russell	GOVT 2305	312	South	
Marcia Bumgardner	GOVT 2306	310	South	
Abbie Grubb	HIST 1302	309	South	
Abbie Grubb	HIST 1302	316	South	
Ross Kelsey	HIST 1302	328	South	
Paul Bounds	HUMA 1301	332	South	
Jungwon Ko	MATH 1314	331	South	
Jungwon Ko	MATH 2412	321	South	
Abigail Payne	MATH 2413	308	South	
Ferdinand Durano	PHIL 1301	306	South	
Stephen Bonnette	PSYC 2301	309	South	
Kelly Barnes	PSYC 2301	329	South	
Stephen Bonnette	PSYC 2308	301	South	
Cristina Cardenas	SPCH 1315	306	South	

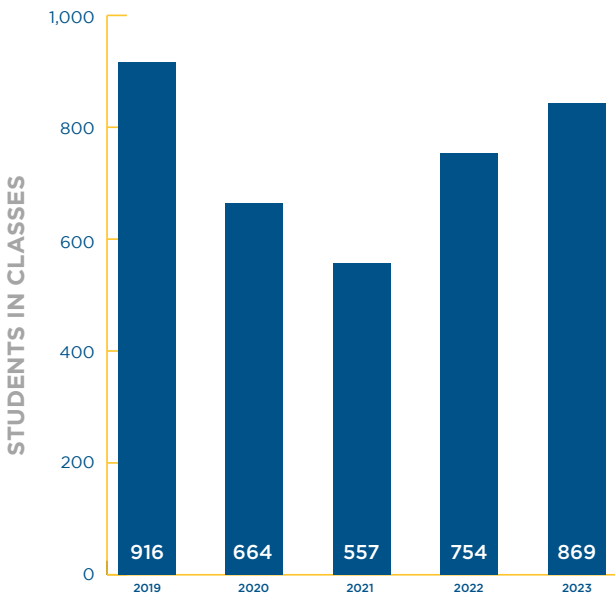
Honors Program Data

Enrollment Trends

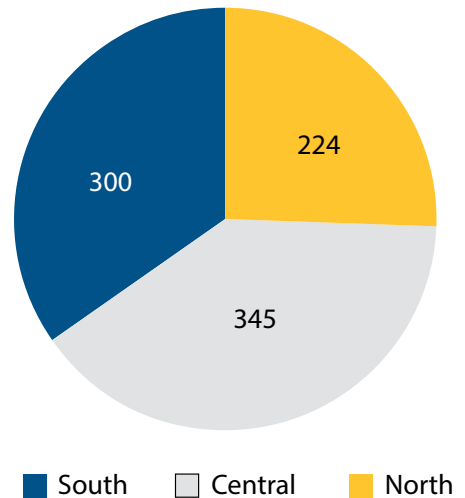


The pandemic years saw enrollment in honors plummet nearly 40% between fall 2019 and fall 2021. Since 2021-2022, the honors program has started to rise again, with 2023-2024 looking very good. In addition, students have been divided among the three largest campuses, with large numbers at North, Central, and South.

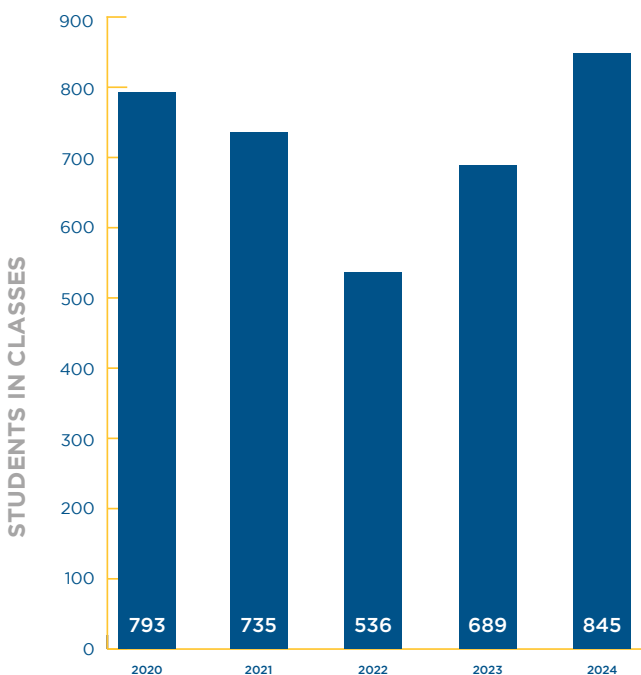
HONORS PROGRAM COURSE ENROLLMENT FALL SEMESTERS



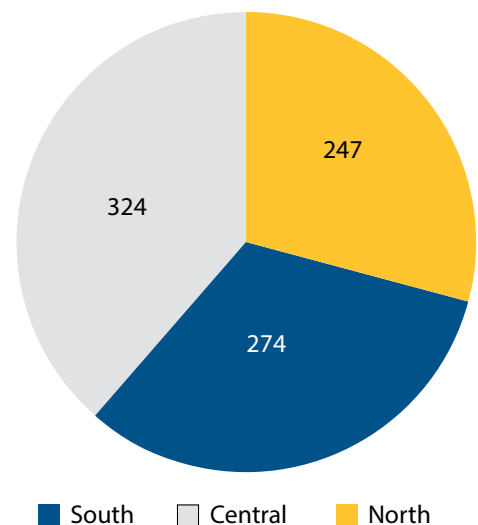
HONORS PROGRAM ENROLLMENT BY CAMPUS (FALL 2023)



SPRING SEMESTERS



HONORS PROGRAM ENROLLMENT BY CAMPUS (SPRING 2024)



INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND DATA SCIENCE OBSERVATIONS

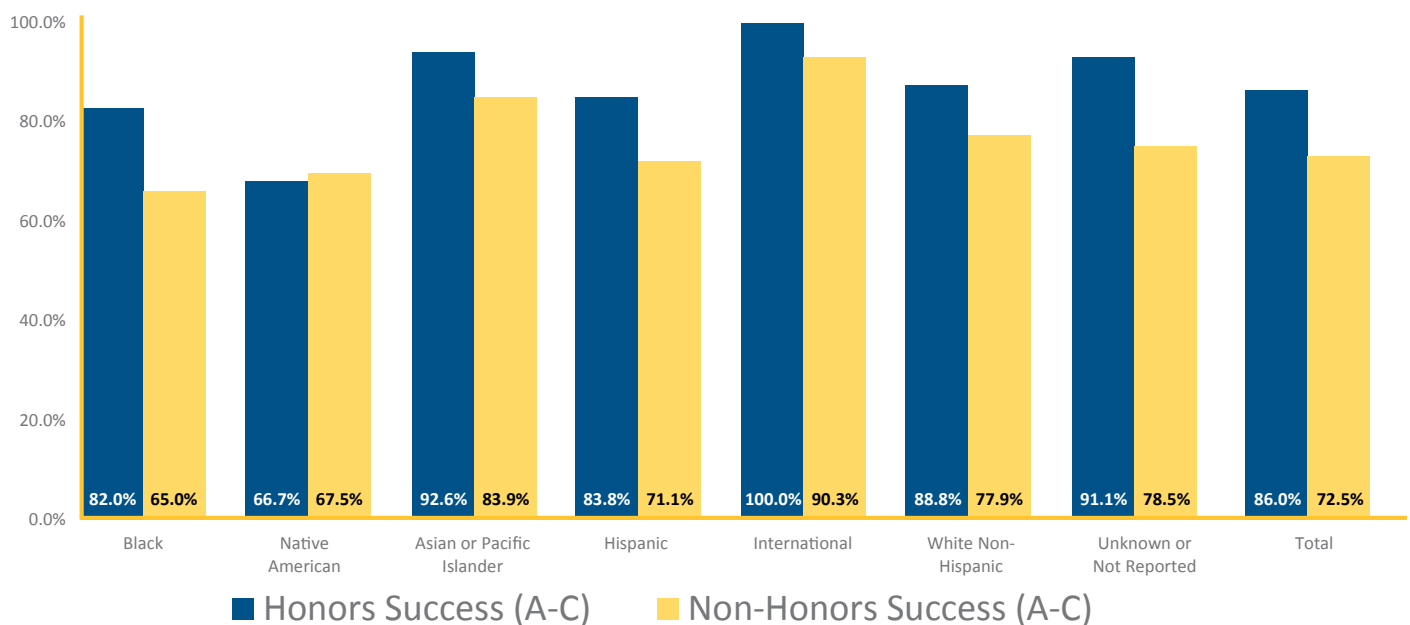
Historically across the U.S., honors students have not been the most successful in their classes. Often, this lack of success is exceeded only by those starting in developmental programs. There have been many hypotheses for this. Some studies suggest that honors students become disenchanted with “busy work” and want to get into their careers/jobs. Others suggest that they can be easily distracted, diving deeply into a subject yet never completing their work. Still others say honors students have a myriad of interests taking up their time. Whatever the reason, honors students have difficulty succeeding in college — especially in their first two years. Yet at San Jac, honors students are succeeding at a rate higher than non-honors students.

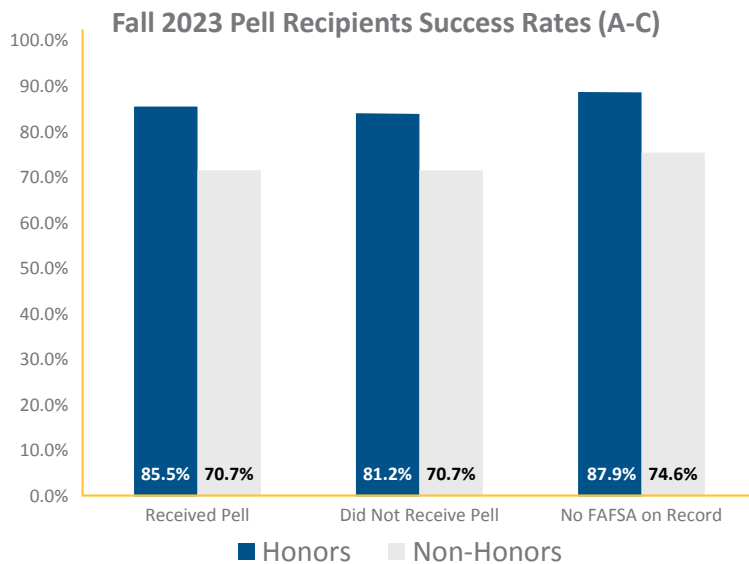
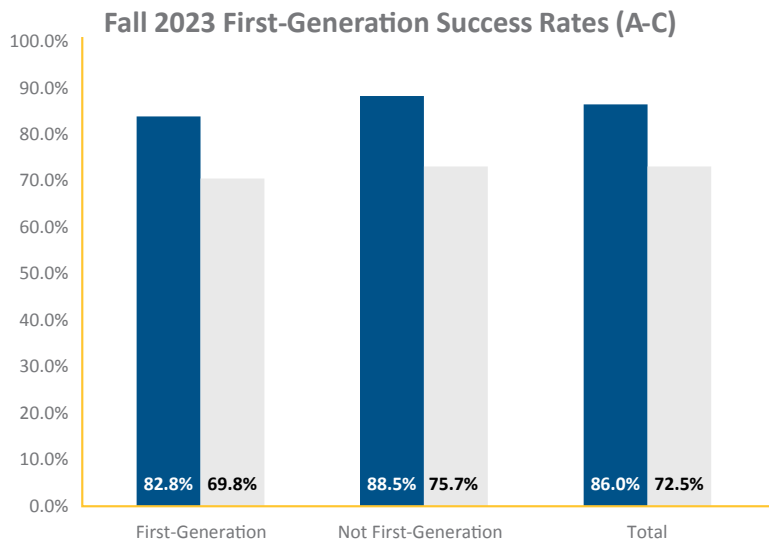
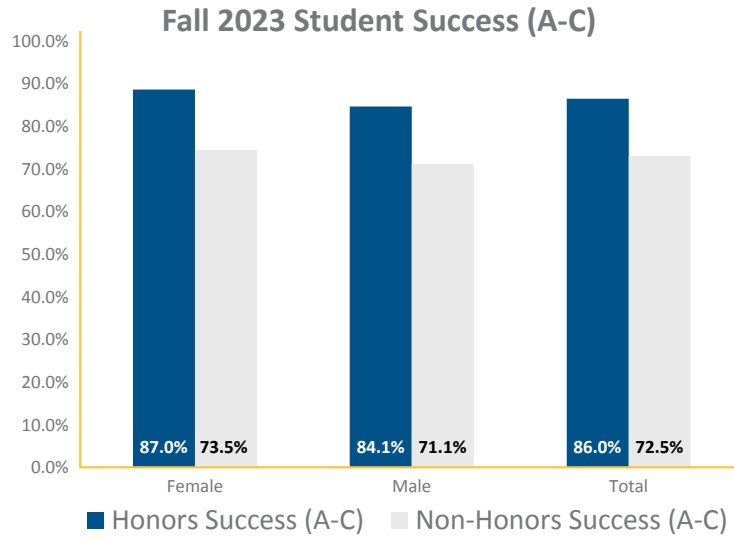
SUCCESS RATES INFORMATION FROM INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND DATA SCIENCE

After looking at the data, the Office of Institutional Research and Data Science drew several conclusions about student success rates:

- From fall 2020 through fall 2023, honors students in dual credit and early college high school (at all campuses and college-wide) have consistently had higher A-C success rates than non-honors dual credit and early college high school students.
- In fall 2022 and fall 2023, early college high school honors students had particularly high A-C success rates at 96.6 and 95.9%, respectively. In each of these terms, these success rates are over 10 percentage points higher than their non-honors early college high school counterparts.
- From fall 2021 through fall 2023, Hispanic and Black students in the honors program have had success rates over 10 percentage points higher than non-honors Hispanic and Black students.
- Interestingly, from fall 2021 through fall 2023, Black male students in the honors program have had slightly higher success rates than their female counterparts, while non-honors Black female students consistently have higher success rates than males.
- In fall 2023, Black students in the honors program had some of the highest A-C success rates this group has ever had.
- While non-honors students ages 18-21 consistently have some of the lower A-C success rates compared to other age groups, honors students ages 18-21 have broken that pattern, performing close to, if not better than, the 22-34 age group in recent years.
- First-generation honors students consistently have 3 to 6 percentage point lower A-C success rates than non-first-generation honors students.

Fall 2023 Student Success (A-C)





Honors Graduates Transferring to Universities

Graduation Academic Year	Honors Graduates ¹	Transfers to Universities ²		Transfers to Tier 1 Research Universities ³	
		N	%	N	%
2013 -2014	242	133	55.0%	63	26.0%
2014 -2015	313	190	60.7%	96	30.7%
2015 -2016	330	202	61.2%	101	30.6%
2016 -2017	408	256	62.7%	129	50.4%
2017 -2018	447	285	63.8%	122	42.8%
2018 -2019	462	260	56.3%	109	41.9%
2019 -2020	579	344	59.4%	139	40.4%
2020 -2021	599	343	57.3%	150	43.7%
2021 -2022	735	396	53.9%	180	45.5%
2022 -2023	557	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: Banner, CBM009, and National Student Clearinghouse

Notes:

1. Students are considered an “honors graduate” if they had an “honors student” designation anytime before earning an award. If students earned an award before being designated as an “honors student,” they are not included. Graduates include students who graduated with an associate degree or certificate: AA, AAS, AAT, AS, CERT1, CERT2, and ATC.
2. Transfers to universities include honors graduates who transferred to any four-year university within the academic year after the student graduated.
3. Transfers to Tier 1 research universities include honors graduates who transferred to a Tier 1 four-year university within the academic year after the student graduated. “Tier 1” universities are identified by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Honors Non-graduates Transferring to Universities

Academic Year	Honors Student Non-graduates Who Transferred to a 4-Yr University ¹	Transfers to Tier 1 Research Universities ²	
		N	%
2013 -2014	63	31	49.2%
2014 -2015	98	52	53.1%
2015 -2016	92	49	53.3%
2016 -2017	84	40	47.6%
2017 -2018	108	52	48.1%
2018 -2019	111	46	41.4%
2019 -2020	155	65	41.9%
2020 -2021	146	64	43.8%
2021 -2022	116	62	53.4%
2022 -2023	88	41	46.6%

Source: Banner, CBM009, and National Student Clearinghouse

Notes:

1. Students are considered an “honors student non-graduate” if they did not earn a degree or certificate from San Jac before transferring to a four-year university and had an “honors student” designation anytime before transferring. Transfers to universities include honors student non-graduates who transferred to any four-year university within the academic year denoted.
2. Transfers to Tier 1 research universities include honors student non-graduates who transferred to a Tier 1 four-year university within the academic year denoted. “Tier 1” universities are identified by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

San Jacinto College

Mission, Vision, and Values



MISSION

San Jacinto College is focused on student success, academic progress, university transfer, and employment. We are committed to opportunities that enrich the quality of life in the communities we serve.

VISION

San Jacinto College will advance the social and economic mobility of all members of our community. We will be known for our excellence in teaching and learning, our intentional student-centered support, and our commitment to every student. We will be the preferred workforce and economic development partner in the region and a champion for lifelong learning. San Jacinto College will inspire students to explore opportunities, define their educational and career paths, and achieve their goals and dreams.

VALUES

Integrity: We Act Honorably and Ethically

“We conduct ourselves in ways that are professional, instill confidence, and promote trust.”

Inclusivity: We Grow Through Understanding

“We respect and learn from the diversity of our cultures, experiences, and perspectives.”

Collaboration: We Are Stronger Together

“We believe in the power of working together.”

Innovation: We Embrace New Possibilities

“We anticipate change, explore opportunities, and create continuously evolving solutions.”

Accountability: We are Responsible Individually and Collectively

“We take ownership for our commitments and outcomes.”

Sense of Community: We Care for Those We Serve

“We demonstrate concern for the well-being and success of our students, our communities, and our people.”

Excellence: We Strive for Outstanding Results

“We take risks, we assess our work, and we aspire to improve the quality of everything we do.”

The logo consists of a stylized monogram where the letters 'S', 'J', and 'C' are intertwined. The 'S' is on the left, the 'J' is in the middle, and the 'C' is at the bottom left, all in a white, serif font.

SAN JACINTOSM COLLEGE

sanjac.edu/programs/honors

The San Jacinto College District is committed to equal opportunity for all students, employees, and applicants without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, pregnancy, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, genetic information, marital status, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. The following College official has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's non-discrimination policies: Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, 4624 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, TX 77504; 281-991-2659; Sandra.Ramirez@sjcd.edu.