

SAN JACINTO<sup>SM</sup>  
COLLEGE



**2025**  
HONORS PROGRAM  
ANNUAL REPORT

# Table of Contents

Letter from the Director.....	1
Honors Program Accomplishments.....	2
National Conference on Undergraduate Research.....	8
Texas State Historical Association Success .....	9
Honors Program Team.....	10
What Makes an Honors Course?.....	12
Honors Program Mission Statement.....	12
Course Vetting Procedure .....	13
Honors Program Faculty and Courses.....	14
Honors Program Data .....	16
College Mission, Vision, and Values .....	21



August 28, 2025

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 2024-2025 academic year. As we completed our 28th 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, “Why not the best?” And each year students have answered by striving to be second to none. Their accomplishments are amazing, and their research breadth and depth are 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, such as NYU, Princeton, and Washington University.

In this annual report you can read about our students’ many successes. For instance, we had 15 individual projects and three group projects accepted at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), the most prestigious research conference for undergraduate students. More than 95% of NCUR participants are juniors and seniors from universities nationwide. The conference was hosted by Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in April. Another example of outstanding student research was found in Texas history. San Jac honors students took first and third place in the C.M. Caldwell Memorial Awards for the best research papers in Texas history by freshmen and sophomores. In addition, three of the eight articles published in “Touchstone” for 2025 were by our honors students. This was competing against all Texas undergraduate students.

This year San Jac was chosen as one of 16 colleges and universities nationwide to become a “Partner in Peace” with the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo, Norway, and the National Collegiate Honors Council. As part of this program, San Jac offered a Humanities 1301 course using Nobel Peace Prize winners as major sources on the peace-themed course. In addition, we took a large contingent to a retreat in September at Trinity Pines encampment, where students districtwide made lasting friendships while working together on a skit tied to the Nobel Peace Prize. In addition, South Campus honors students studied American Nobel Peace Prize winners, then raised banners to them across the campus. This year South Campus honors coordinator Dr. Abbie Grubb led 20 students on an excursion for more than a week in Scotland and England, visiting Edinburgh, Glasgow, the Scottish Highlands, and London. Students paid for their trips, though the cost was only \$2,200.

As you read through this annual report, have fun reliving a year in the life of the honors program!

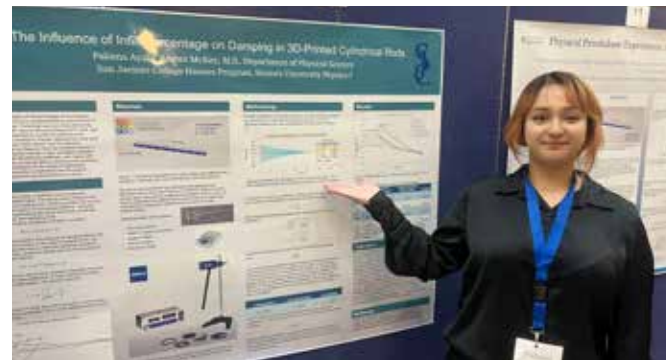
**Eddie Weller, Ph.D.**  
*Distinguished Professor of History*  
*District Honors Program Director*





# HONORS PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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



## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Seventeen students presented their individual and group research projects at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) hosted by Duquesne University April 7-9, 2025. Students completed research in their honors classes or as part of a Research Experience for Undergraduates at Rice University. (Read more about the papers on page 8.) NCUR is the top undergraduate research conference in America, sponsored by the Council on Undergraduate Research (cur.org) based in Washington, D.C. Out of the more than 3,800 student projects chosen for presentation, only 105 community college student proposals were accepted based on their research abstracts. Sixteen percent of the accepted community college proposals were from San Jac (17 presentations). Two faculty accompanied the students on the trip to Pittsburgh. In Texas, 27 higher education institutions sent students to the conference, including the University of Texas, Texas Woman's University, the University of Texas at San Antonio, the University of Houston, the University of Texas at El Paso, Southern Methodist University, and Southwestern University. San Jac had the third highest number of proposals accepted in Texas, accounting for 10.22% of the presentations from Texas.

## GREAT PLAINS HONORS CONFERENCE

Fifteen students presented their research at the Great Plains Honors Conference March 7-9 at the University of North Texas in Denton. Four faculty also attended the conference. Approximately 80 colleges and universities from Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska belong to the conference. San Jac had one of the largest contingents brought by any college or university in the region. The students gave both oral and poster presentations.



## HONORS RETREAT

This year's theme for the retreat was peace based on Nobel Peace Prize winners. Honors program director Dr. Eddie Weller keynoted the event with "Peace: The Nobel Peace Prize and Its Impact on the Past and Its Promise for the Future." This was the kickoff event of the Partners in Peace Program. After the campfire and s'mores, student groups chose a Nobel Peace Prize winner to study briefly and then developed short skits to explain the background and importance of the Nobel Prize laureate they chose. Most of the students saw little or no sleep as they got to know each other better.



## HONORS SYMPOSIUMS

This year all three campuses joined together to host an honors symposium in the fall on South Campus and spring on North Campus. The three campuses celebrated honors research and education with more than 100 students presenting their research for other students and faculty each semester. This was a first for the honors program since for the past 10 years each campus has hosted its own showcase. Everyone agreed the new format, following an academic conference model, was a great success. Without the support of a large cadre of honors faculty, as well as the Distinguished Faculty Recognition Program and the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, the honors symposium would be impossible.





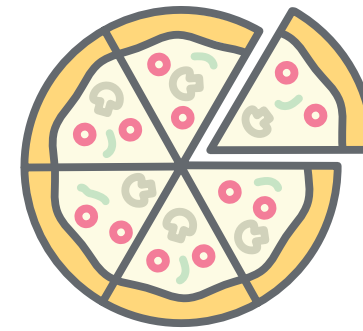
**TAKE FLIGHT**

Take Flight is a joint program among Rice University, San Jac, and Lone Star College for STEM majors. This year was a big success. Many students attended Rice events and prepared to apply to Rice and for the summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) at Rice. The REUs lasted 10 weeks, with students working on a major research project with a Rice professor. Funded by the National Science Foundation, REUs are steppingstones into graduate education in STEM fields. When the students complete their research, they create a poster to share their research at conferences and earn a \$4,000 stipend for their work. This year two San Jac students were accepted into Rice STEM fields, while another student was accepted at an REU at Cornell University. In addition, 23 students participated in a data science project co-sponsored by Rice and Google. At the end of the three sessions, the students prepared a poster on data science and received a credential from Rice. Starting in fall 2025, Take Flight is expanding to include business and humanities students.



**SCOTLAND**

This year, the honors program took 20 students for 10 days to Scotland and London. Led by Dr. Abbie Grubb, the students completed a HIST 2389 course on Scottish history and culture before traveling in mid-June. Students and honors team members Professor Cody Pogue and Dr. Eddie Weller explored several castles and cathedrals, including Edinburgh Castle, Stirling Castle, and Doune Castle, as well as St. Giles and Glasgow's cathedrals, the Kelpies, and Falkirk Wheel (an engineering marvel). In addition, the group spent time in the Highlands, visiting Loch Ness (no one saw Nessie), the Highland coos (longhaired, orange cows), and Inverness. The tour ended with a day in London, starting with the British Museum and including attractions like Parliament, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, and the British Library.



**PIZZA WITH THE PROFS**

Each semester each campus hosts Pizza with the Profs to introduce the upcoming course schedule to students. This event brings students and faculty together outside the classroom in an informal setting. Each campus also offers other social events throughout the year.

**DISTRICTWIDE CHESS TOURNAMENT**

The Central, North, and South Campus honors students hosted their second annual San Jac chess tournament. Each campus hosted campus events before the final showdown, but the tournament winner was the South Campus. Because of the fun and camaraderie, everyone agreed the chess tournament will continue.



**NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL**

Continuing its annual service to honors education, San Jac honors team and three faculty members (Shera Carter, Crystal Higgs, and Igor Yakushkin) participated in the 59th annual meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council in Kansas City, Missouri, Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 2024. Honors director Dr. Eddie Weller completed his term as president at the conference, delivering his presidential address to approximately 1,500 attendees.



## 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 highlight of the event is the presentation of the C.M. Caldwell Awards for the best research papers in Texas history. Of the four awards given to freshmen and sophomores, two went to San Jac honors students. Congratulations to Summar Plutae and McKenna Culp!

In addition to this year's awards, three San Jac honors students were published in the 2024 edition of "Touchstone," a refereed journal of the Texas State Historical Association. Congratulations to Joshua Lister, Marie Stolle, and Aurie Bivens! (For more information, see Page 9.)



## FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA

Numerous honors students are active in the Future Business Leaders of America. Two students excelled at the state business competition, then advanced to the national level. At that competition, Lisa McGhee won eighth place in both Foundations of Marketing and Foundations of Management. Isaac Villareal received 10th place in Foundations of Finance. Villareal is the group's president, and McGhee the vice president of finance.



## GRADUATION

This year, nearly 50 students graduated with honors during the calendar year. Between December 2024 and May 2025 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 attend the honors program celebration for those graduating with honors.





## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

This year 17 research projects encompassing the work of 18 San Jac honors program students were chosen for the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), the most prestigious undergraduate research conference in America. To put this in perspective, only 105 community college proposals were accepted, including 17 from San Jac, or more than 16% of the community college presentations. Overall, NCUR accepted more than 3,800 abstracts. Approximately 500 colleges and universities participate each year.

### GROUP PROJECTS

**Aws Alezzi and Andrew Klayman**, “Bacteriophages: The Champions Rivaling Antibiotics,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Luz Vela*

**Jesus Gomez and Araceli Aranda**, “Analyzing Trends and Variations of Nitrogen Dioxide Pollution (2005-2024): Using Data from Pandora Spectrometer, EPA, and Omi Sensors,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Madhu Gyawali*

**Naveen Mundlapudi, Abigail Segovia, and Jonathan Pham**, “Comparing Variations of Ozone (2005-2024) in Multiple Cities Using Data from Pandora Spectrometer, and EPA Sensors,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Madhu Gyawali*

### INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

**Rachel Abreo**, “How Bat Activity Is Affected Based on the Quality of Urban Habitats,” Generation Park Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Tyler Olivier*

**Axli Alvarez**, “Can Democracy Survive? A Philosophical Investigation into Tocqueville and Mill’s Theories of Cultural Cohesion Considering Rapid Change Due to Immigration,” North Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Pat Amezcua*

**Veronica Aruta**, “The Brilliant Mind Behind Calculus — Isaac Newton: His Struggles, Victories, and Legacy Behind the Mathematical Discipline,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dillon Miller*

**McKenna Culp**, “Wingstop: From Dream to Reality,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Eddie Weller*

**Lucas Halbardier**, “Exceptional Sounds: How Elementary Music Teachers Support Students with Exceptionalities and Their Impact,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Judith Maima-Skeele*

**Ellie Logan**, “Exploring Emotional Disturbances in Young Adults: A Personal Perspective,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Judith Maima-Skeele*

**Trinity McCleary**, “Personal Environmental Initiative,” North Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Ed Aiman*

**Roger Morales-Quintero**, “Improvements in Particle Accelerators Aimed at Optimizing Energy Output: An Extended Analysis on Multivariable Calculus Tools,” Central and South Campus, *Faculty Mentors: Phuong Doan and Dillon Miller*

**Jorge Najera Lopez**, “Chilean Volcanism,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Ronda Wilson*

**Hoang-Vu Nguyen**, “Eudoxus of Cnidus and Method of Exhaustion,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dillon Miller*

**Sanduki Premaratne**, “Exploring the Intersection of Tradition and Modern Science: The Medicinal Potential of Sri Lankan Herbal Medicine,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Greg Smith*

**Soni Puna**, “James Gregory and His Contributions to the Field of Mathematics,” Central Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Dillon Miller*

**Janis Richards**, “Creation of the Greenback as U.S. Money by President Abraham Lincoln,” North Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Cody Pogue*

**Halen Saenz**, “German Texas: Fredericksburg’s Origin,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Eddie Weller*

**Andrew Ullman**, “Applying Machine Learning To Find Pricing Patterns in Chemicals,” South Campus, *Faculty Mentor: Phuong Doan*

## Texas State Historical Association Success

In 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, two went to San Jac students.

- First place went to Summar Plutae for her paper “The Astrodome and Its Role in the Desegregation of Houston, Texas.” She is a student of Luis Reyes at the Central Campus.
- Third place went to McKenna Culp for her paper “Wingstop: From Dream to Reality.” She is a student of Dr. Eddie Weller at the South Campus.


Both papers are now being considered for publication in the 42nd edition of “Touchstone,” a refereed journal of the Texas State Historical Association, which comes out in March 2026.



In addition to these awards, three San Jac honors students were published in the 2024 edition of “Touchstone.” Eight articles were selected for publication, with three from San Jac students:

- Joshua Lister, “The Galveston, Houston, and Henderson Railroad: The Old Reliable Shortline, the Longest Little Railway in Texas”
- Marie Stolle, “Breaking the Color Barrier at the University of Texas Medical Branch: Herman A. Barnett III’s Fight for Equality”
- Aurie Bivens, “Reactionary Negligence: The Self-Fulfilling Prophecy of the Branch Davidians”

All three were Caldwell Award winners last year.



# Honors Program TEAM

With more than 90 years of combined experience at San Jac, the honors program team includes five people: a districtwide director, three campus honors coordinators, and an administrative assistant



### JANNA LASATER

Janna Lasater, program administrative assistant, has been at the College 26 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 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. The honors program will miss him as he transitions to San Jac Online as a math professor in fall 2025.



### 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. The honors program will miss him as he returns to the classroom full time in fall 2025..



### 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 College's museum studies course 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 its annual conference in 2015. She has organized five 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 is currently the immediate past-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 perhaps four or five.



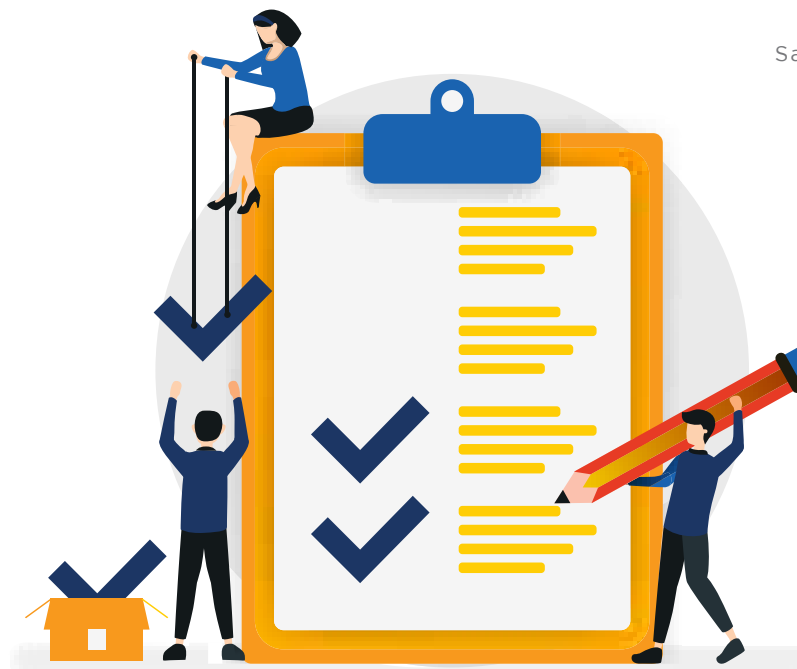
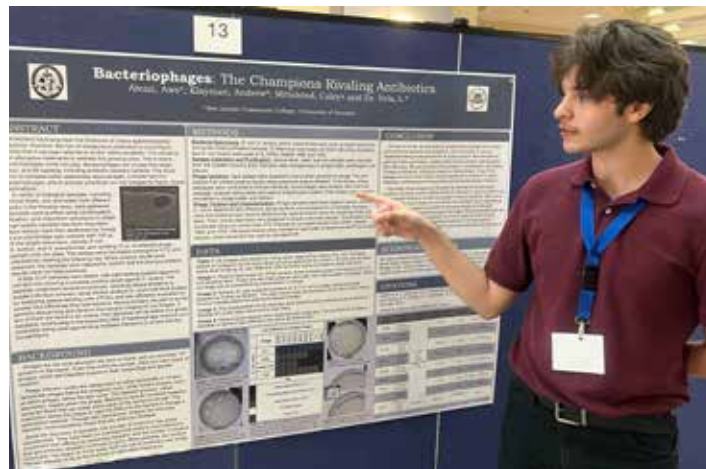
**Critical Thinking:** Courses will emphasize problem solving and critical thinking over memorization. Critical thinking is the basis of higher education.

**Leadership:** Courses can 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 merely 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 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.



## 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 these 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 suggestions made by the council.

### 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. A presentation will be required each time a faculty member teaches a course in the honors program for the first time. For instance, a professor teaching HIST 1301 and HIST 1302 must present for each course, although each presentation may be similar.

Presentations will be given before the semester the course is offered. After receiving approval to teach a specific honors course, the 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 syllabi with a cover sheet for the honors course to Janna Lasater, honors program administrative assistant, who will forward it to the committee members. 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 before the presentation.

## 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.



# HONORS PROGRAM FACULTY AND COURSES

## 2024-2025

### FALL 2024

Courses and Labs Offered	Central	North	South	Total
Courses and Labs Offered	35	26	29	90
Faculty Involved	23	17	19	59

(Unduplicated: 48)

Pamela Maack	ANTH	2351	101	Central
Crystal Higgs	BIOL	2101	103	Central
Crystal Higgs	BIOL	2301	103	Central
David Lang	BIOL	1106	106	Central
David Lang	BIOL	1306	106	Central
Kristen Russ	BIOL	1108	103	Central
Kristen Russ	BIOL	1308	103	Central
Mindy Murray	BIOL	1322	103	Central
David Peters	CHEM	1111	105	Central
David Peters	CHEM	1311	105	Central
Jean Nono	CHEM	2123	101	Central
Jean Nono	CHEM	2323	101	Central
Judith Skeele	EDUC	1301	101	Central
Judith Skeele	EDUC	1301	101	Central
Rachel Bernal	EDUC	1100	105	Central
Jessica Goodfellow	ENGL	1301	103	Central
Jessica Goodfellow	ENGL	1301	109	Central
Malcolm Sadler	GEOL	1103	107	Central
Malcolm Sadler	GEOL	1303	107	Central
Nykeba Jones	GOVT	2305	128	Central
Joseph Stromberg	HIST	1301	123	Central
Luis Reyes	HIST	2301	104	Central
Riley Sullivan	HIST	1301	117	Central
Aaron Love	HUMA	1301	105	Central
Dillon Miller	MATH	2413	103	Central
Dillon Miller	MATH	2415	102	Central
Kelly Anderson	MATH	1314	144	Central
Kelly Anderson	MATH	1342	112	Central
Virginia Hanning	MATH	1324	104	Central
Jordan Tucker	MUSI	1310	101	Central
Thi Lam	PHIL	1301	102	Central
Sunshine Gage	PSYC	2301	101	Central
Sunshine Gage	PSYC	2314	101	Central
Tina Mougouris	SOCI	1301	110	Central
Shera Carter Sackey	SPCH	1315	105	Central
Craig Slaven	ENGL	1301	222	North
Liana Boop	GEOL	1103	204	North
Liana Boop	GEOL	1303	204	North
Cody Pogue	GOVT	2305	211	North
Cody Pogue	GOVT	2305	212	North
Cody Pogue	GOVT	2306	208	North
Nicholas Coulombe	GOVT	2304	201	North
Patrizio Amezcuca	GOVT	2305	207	North
Alejandra Jaramillo-Fontenot	HIST	2327	201	North
Cody Pogue	HIST	1301	209	North

John Gillespie	HIST	1302	202	North
John Gillespie	HIST	2321	201	North
William Ollis	MATH	1314	299	North
Guillermo Hernandez	MUSI	1306	215	North
Edwin Aiman	PHIL	1301	206	North
Edwin Aiman	PHIL	1301	207	North
Edwin Aiman	PHIL	2306	203	North
TBA	PHYS	2125	204	North
Barbora Stanikova	PSYC	2301	207	North
Barbora Stanikova	PSYC	2314	202	North
Huong Le	SOCI	1301	201	North
TBA	BIOL	1106	204	North
TBA	BIOL	1306	204	North
TBA	MATH	2412	208	North
William Ollis	MATH	2412	299	North
TBA	PHYS	2325	204	North
Olivia Huffstetter	ARTS	1301	301	South
Christopher Cunningham	BIOL	2101	350	South
Christopher Cunningham	BIOL	2301	350	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
Elizabeth McKinley	BUSI	2305	381	South
Carrie Owens	CHEM	1105	350	South
Carrie Owens	CHEM	1305	350	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
James Smith	ENGL	1301	327	South
Jennifer Henely	ENGL	1301	340	South
Yuri Horner	ENGL	1301	339	South
Jason Russell	GOVT	2306	313	South
Marcia Bumgardner	GOVT	2305	307	South
Abbie Grubb	HIST	1301	308	South
Abbie Grubb	HIST	1301	311	South
Cecil Weller	HIST	1301	317	South
Ross Kelsey	HIST	1301	318	South
Farran Beehler	HUMA	1301	312	South
Dhouha Kelibi	MATH	2413	307	South
Ferdinand Durano	PHIL	1301	303	South
Stephen Bonnette	PSYC	2301	317	South
Stephen Bonnette	PSYC	2314	302	South
Tonja Conerly	SOCI	1301	311	South

### SPRING 2025

Courses and Labs Offered	Central	North	South	Total
Courses and Labs Offered	35	13	20	68
Faculty Involved	33	11	16	60

(Unduplicated: 43)

Pamela Maack	ANTH	2302	102	Central
Crystal Higgs	BIOL	2302	101	Central
Crystal Higgs	BIOL	2102	101	Central
Jose Rivera	BIOL	2120	105	Central
Jose Rivera	BIOL	2320	105	Central
Kristen Russ	BIOL	1109	102	Central
Kristen Russ	BIOL	1309	102	Central
David Peters	CHEM	1112	103	Central
David Peters	CHEM	1312	103	Central
Jean Nono	CHEM	2125	101	Central
Jean Nono	CHEM	2325	101	Central
Judith Skeele	EDUC	1301	103	Central
Judith Skeele	EDUC	2301	103	Central
Rachel Bernal	EDUC	1100	123	Central
Aaron Love	ENGL	1302	103	Central
Aaron Love	ENGL	1302	110	Central
Ronda Wilson	GEOL	1104	106	Central
Ronda Wilson	GEOL	1304	106	Central
Juli McShay	GOVT	2306	105	Central
Joseph Stromberg	HIST	1302	103	Central
Luis Reyes	HIST	2301	101	Central
Cecil Weller	HUMA	1301	107	Central
Dillon Miller	MATH	2412	103	Central
Dillon Miller	MATH	2412	112	Central
Dillon Miller	MATH	2414	104	Central
Kelly Anderson	MATH	1314	143	Central
Virginia Hanning	MATH	1324	111	Central
Jordan Tucker	MUSI	1310	101	Central
Thi Lam	PHIL	1301	101	Central
Amber McKey	PHYS	2125	103	Central
Amber McKey	PHYS	2325	103	Central
Sunshine Gage	PSYC	2301	109	Central
Sunshine Gage	PSYC	2314	107	Central
Tina Mougouris	SOCI	1301	101	Central
Shera Carter Sackey	SPCH	1315	103	Central

Craig Slaven	ENGL	1302	219	North
Cody Pogue	GOVT	2306	211	North
Cody Pogue	GOVT	2305	205	North
Nicholas Coulombe	GOVT	2306	226	North
Cody Pogue	HIST	1301	202	North
John Gillespie	HIST	1302	204	North
Edwin Aiman	PHIL	1301	206	North
Edwin Aiman	PHIL	1301	207	North
Edwin Aiman	PHIL	2306	203	North
Barbora Stanikova	PSYC	2301	207	North
Winsome Brooks	SPCH	1315	202	North
Desiree Wilson	BIOL	1106	203	North
Desiree Wilson	BIOL	1306	203	North
Dennis Willis	ACCT	2302	341	South
Olivia Huffstetter	ARTS	1301	301	South
Igor Yakushkin	BIOL	1107	350	South
Igor Yakushkin	BIOL	1307	350	South
Phuong Doan	CHEM	1112	350	South
Phuong Doan	CHEM	1312	350	South
James Smith	ENGL	1302	348	South
Jason Russell	GOVT	2305	314	South
Marcia Bumgardner	GOVT	2306	314	South
Abbie Grubb	HIST	1302	308	South
Abbie Grubb	HIST	1302	309	South
Ross Kelsey	HIST	1302	317	South
Paul Bounds	HUMA	1301	310	South
Dhouha Kelibi	MATH	2413	341	South
Jungwon Ko	MATH	2414	340	South
Ferdinand Durano	PHIL	1301	306	South
Kelly Barnes	PSYC	2301	316	South
Stephen Bonnette	PSYC	2301	309	South
Stephen Bonnette	PSYC	2301	331	South
Cristina Cardenas	SPCH	1315	319	South
Cristina Cardenas	SPCH	1315	306	South

# Honors Program Data

## Honors Graduates Transferring to Universities

Graduation Academic Year	Honors Graduates <sup>1</sup>	Transfers to Universities <sup>2</sup>		Transfers to Tier 1 Research Universities <sup>3</sup>	
		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	289	51.9%	127	22.8%
2023 - 2024	622	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: Banner, CBM009, and National Student Clearinghouse

Notes:

1. A student is considered an honors graduate if he/she had an honors student designation anytime before earning an award. If a student earned an award prior to being designated as an honors student, he/she is not included.

Graduates include students who graduated with an associate degree or certificate: AA, AAS, AAT, AS, CERT1, CERT2, 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 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.

# Transfer Data

## Top Transfer Institutions for Honors Programs Graduates

Graduation Academic Year	Transfer Academic Year	Tier 1	Institution Name	Honors Students Who Graduated From San Jac Before Transferring
2022-2023	2023-2024	1	University of Houston	87
2022-2023	2023-2024	0	University of Houston-Clear Lake	83
2022-2023	2023-2024	0	University of Houston-Downtown	21
2022-2023	2023-2024	1	University of Texas at Austin	13
2022-2023	2023-2024	1	Texas A&M University	10
2022-2023	2023-2024	0	Sam Houston State University	7
2022-2023	2023-2024	0	University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston	6
2022-2023	2023-2024	0	University of St. Thomas	5
2022-2023	2023-2024	0	Lamar University - Beaumont	4
2022-2023	2023-2024	0	Western Governors University	4
2022-2023	2023-2024	1	University of Texas at San Antonio	4
2022-2023	2023-2024	0	Franklin University	3
2022-2023	2023-2024	0	Texas State University	3
2022-2023	2023-2024	1	Rice University	3
2022-2023	2023-2024	1	University of Texas at Arlington	3

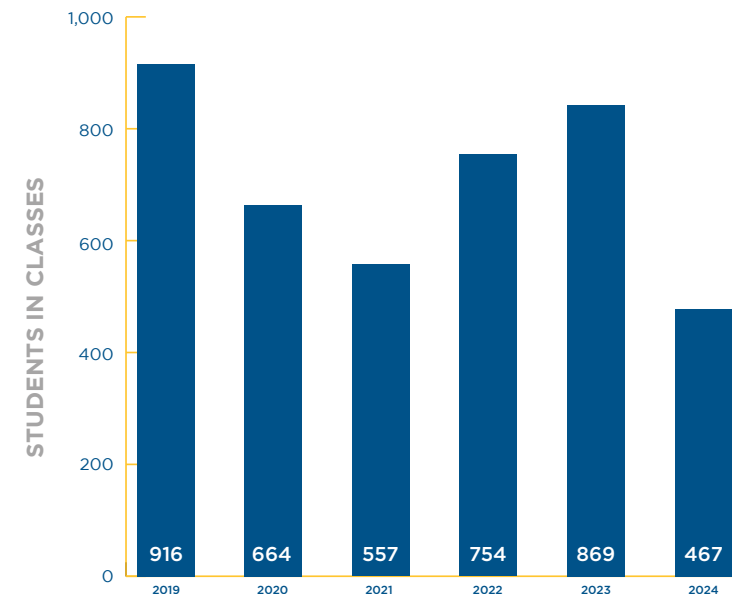
## Honors Students Who Did Not Graduate From San Jac Before Transferring

Transfer Academic Year	Tier 1	Institution Name	Students
2023-2024	0	University of Houston-Clear Lake	20
2023-2024	1	University of Houston	20
2023-2024	1	Texas A&M University	6
2023-2024	0	Chamberlain University	4
2023-2024	0	University of St. Thomas	4
2023-2024	0	University of Houston-Downtown	3
2023-2024	0	Western Governors University	3
2023-2024	0	Grand Canyon University	2
2023-2024	0	Lamar University	2
2023-2024	0	LeTourneau University	2
2023-2024	0	Sam Houston State University	2
2023-2024	0	Southern New Hampshire University	2
2023-2024	1	Rice University	2
2023-2024	1	University of Texas at San Antonio	2
2023-2024	1	University of Texas at Austin	2

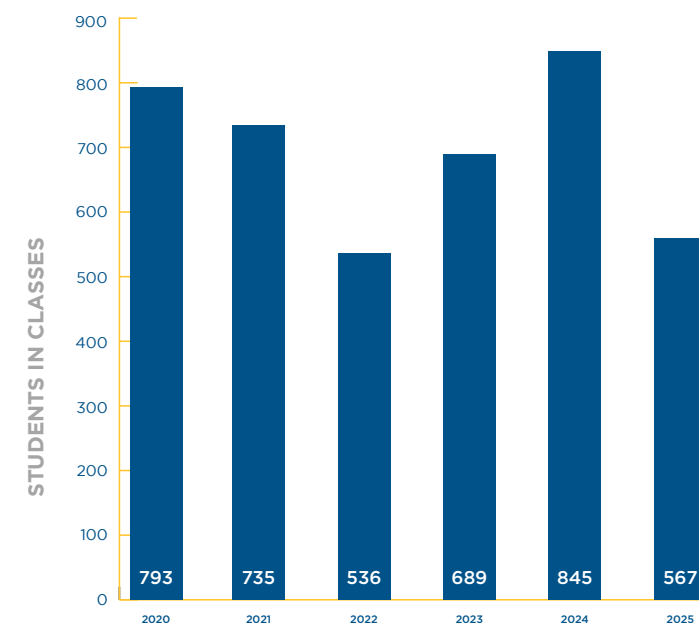
# Enrollment Trends

By fall 2023, the honors program recovered from the severe drop in enrollment of nearly 40% caused by the pandemic. For the fall 2024 semester, the College decided to eliminate any non-honors students from honors classes. Before 2024, up to five non-honors students could enroll in an honors class if room allowed. This policy change dramatically dropped the number of classes that made and impacted the number of students who could take honors classes.

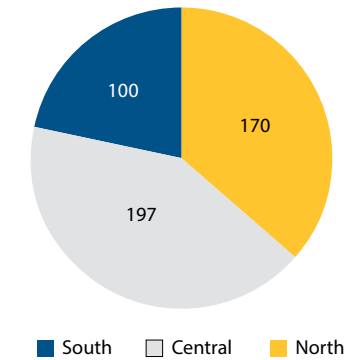
## HONORS PROGRAM COURSE ENROLLMENT FALL SEMESTERS



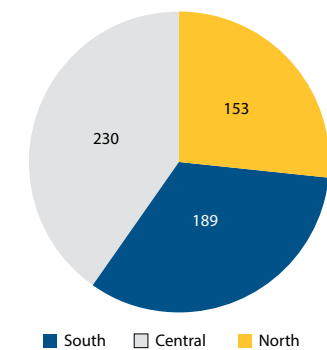
## SPRING SEMESTERS



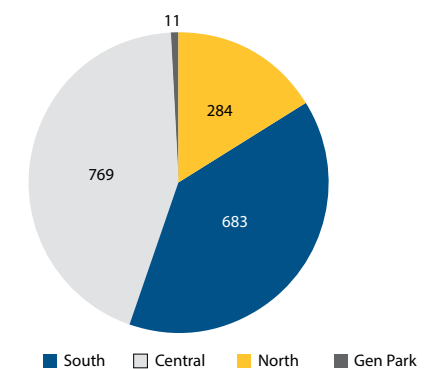
## HONORS PROGRAM ENROLLMENT BY CAMPUS (FALL 2024)



## HONORS PROGRAM ENROLLMENT BY CAMPUS (SPRING 2025)



## HONORS MEMBERSHIP BY CAMPUS (JUNE 2025)



# RETENTION/SUCCESS RATES

Collegewide - Retention and Success Rates of Honors Students\*  
Fall 2024 (Full Term)

Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Enrollments	Retention (A-F)		Success (A-C)	
			N	%	N	%
Black	Female	394	378	95.9%	348	88.3%
	Male	100	96	96.0%	85	85.0%
	Total	494	474	96.0%	433	87.7%
Native American	Female	34	32	94.1%	30	88.2%
	Male	21	21	100.0%	21	100.0%
	Total	55	53	96.4%	51	92.7%
Asian or Pacific Islander	Female	385	379	98.4%	366	95.1%
	Male	233	230	98.7%	203	87.1%
	Total	618	609	98.5%	569	92.1%
Hispanic	Female	2,842	2,707	95.2%	2,432	85.6%
	Male	1,359	1,297	95.4%	1,171	86.2%
	Total	4,201	4,004	95.3%	3,603	85.8%
International	Female	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Male	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
White	Female	835	794	95.1%	754	90.3%
	Male	555	518	93.3%	480	86.5%
	Total	1,390	1,312	94.4%	1,234	88.8%
Unknown or Not Reported	Female	138	133	96.4%	125	90.6%
	Male	98	98	100.0%	94	95.9%
	Total	236	231	97.9%	219	92.8%
Total	Female	4,628	4,423	95.6%	4,055	87.6%
	Male	2,366	2,260	95.5%	2,054	86.8%
	Total	6,994	6,683	95.6%	6,109	87.3%

Source: lp\_endcrse with Banner data to identify honors students

\*Please note that these are not retention and success rates in honors courses only. These are retention and success rates of students in the honors program regardless of whether the course was a designated honors section.

Collegewide - Retention and Success Rates of Non-Honors Students  
Fall 2024 (Full Term)

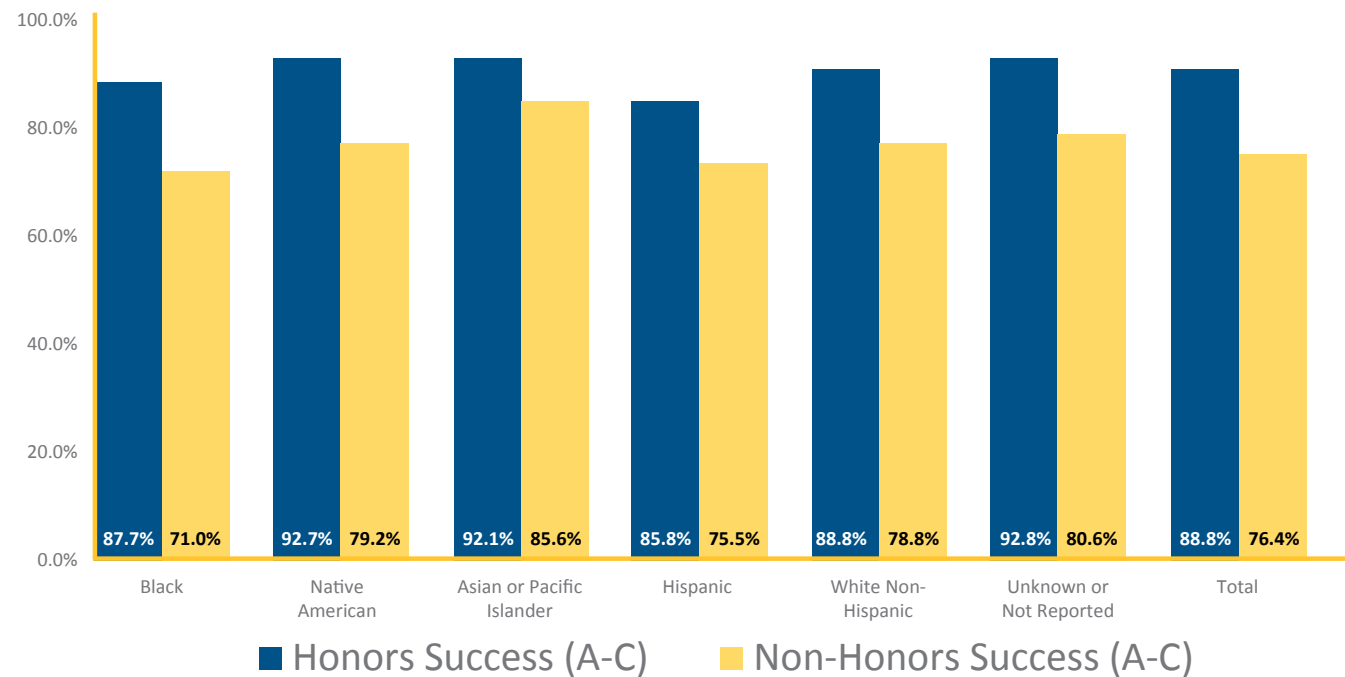
Race/Ethnicity	Gender	Enrollments	Retention (A-F)		Success (A-C)	
			N	%	N	%
Black	Female	6,250	5,819	93.1%	4,629	74.1%
	Male	3,425	3,160	92.3%	2,243	65.5%
	Total	9,675	8,979	92.8%	6,872	71.0%
Native American	Female	204	193	94.6%	163	79.9%
	Male	180	175	97.2%	141	78.3%
	Total	384	368	95.8%	304	79.2%
Asian or Pacific Islander	Female	2,838	2,725	96.0%	2,440	86.0%
	Male	2,701	2,605	96.4%	2,301	85.2%
	Total	5,539	5,330	96.2%	4,741	85.6%
Hispanic	Female	37,612	35,493	94.4%	28,797	76.6%
	Male	24,177	22,712	93.9%	17,878	73.9%
	Total	61,789	58,205	94.2%	46,675	75.5%
International	Female	27	27	100.0%	23	85.2%
	Male	10	10	100.0%	10	100.0%
	Total	37	37	100.0%	33	89.2%
White	Female	8,061	7,504	93.1%	6,393	79.3%
	Male	6,649	6,240	93.8%	5,205	78.3%
	Total	14,710	13,744	93.4%	11,598	78.8%
Unknown or Not Reported	Female	1,779	1,733	97.4%	1,451	81.6%
	Male	1,488	1,427	95.9%	1,182	79.4%
	Total	3,267	3,160	96.7%	2,633	80.6%
Total	Female	56,771	53,494	94.2%	43,896	77.3%
	Male	38,630	36,329	94.0%	28,960	75.0%
	Total	95,401	89,823	94.2%	72,856	76.4%

Source: lp\_endcrse with Banner data to identify honors students

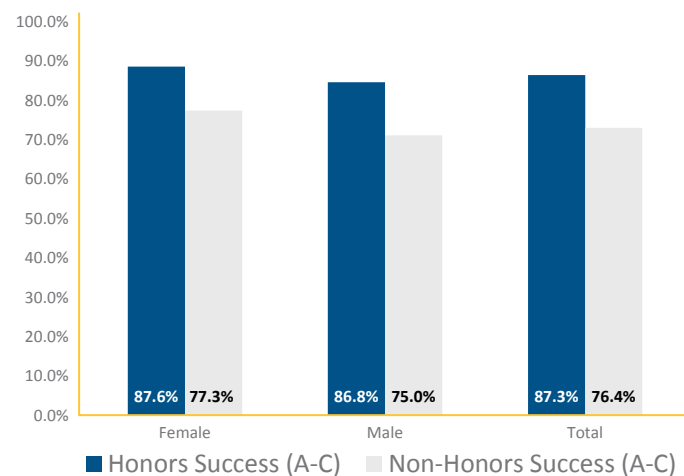
# STUDENT SUCCESS

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.

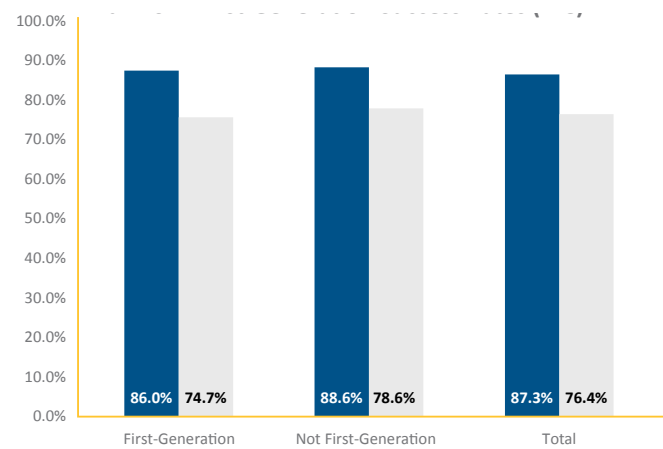
Fall 2024 Student Success Rates (A-C)



Fall 2024 Success Rates (A-C)



Fall 2024 First-Generation Success Rates (A-C)



# San Jacinto College Mission, Vision, and Values



## MISSION

We change lives through education, community engagement, and partnerships.

## VISION

Together with our community members and business and industry partners, San Jacinto College sets the standard for educational excellence, economic growth, and social mobility characterized by innovation and responsiveness.

## 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.”

# SAN JACINTO<sup>SM</sup> COLLEGE

[sanjac.edu/programs/honors](https://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](mailto:Sandra.Ramirez@sjcd.edu).

San Jacinto College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. Learn more at [sanjac.edu/accreditation](https://sanjac.edu/accreditation).