SJCC Honors Program FAQ

● How does this work?
  ☑ Fill out an Honors Program Planning Contract for each class in which you want to do an Honors Project.
  ☑ Speak to your instructor about the project you wish to complete.
  ☑ Complete the Planning Contract, outlining your project, and get the instructor’s signature on the “Planning” part of the contract.
  ☑ Submit the Contract by email to honors@sjcc.edu
  ☑ Receive a confirmation email with a copy of your Contract, signed by the Honors Director.
  ☑ Complete your project and submit it to your instructor.
  ☑ Sign the “Completion” portion of the contract with your instructor.
  ☑ Submit the completed via email to honors@sjcc.edu
  ☑ “Honors Program” notation is entered to your transcript for the Honors class(es).

● What are the deadlines?
  ☑ Regular Semester: Applications and Planning Contracts due by the fourth week of the class

● What are other Honors opportunities on campus?
  ☑ Phi Theta Kappa (GPA of 3.5+ to qualify)
  ☑ Honors at Graduation (detailed under Honors (Scholastic) in the SJCC College Catalog)
    ■ Students who complete at least 6 units of work each semester with grades yielding a semester GPA of 3.50 or better are recognized for academic distinction by a notation on the semester grade report and transcript. Optional “P” (pass) and “NP” (no pass) grades will exclude a student from any scholastic honors. Mandatory “P” grades will not exclude a student as long as the student has earned at least 6 units of grades “A”, “B”, “C”, or “D” within the semester.

● How does this benefit me?
  ☑ Having the “Honors Program” designation on your transcript for one or more classes will make your application more competitive for transfer to the UCs and CSUs.
  ☑ If you complete nine or more units in the Honors Program, you will receive an Honors Program medallion at graduation.

● How do I know if a class is transferable?
  ☑ A class is transferable if it is accepted for transfer by CSUs and/or UCs.
  ☑ You can check the course information in the College Catalog for transferability.
    ■ From the Catalog webpage, click on the last link, “Course Descriptions and Information.”
    ■ Click the first link, “Course Descriptions.”
    ■ Select the subject.
    ■ Look for the “Transfer Status” note under the course description.
If you have any questions about transferability, feel free to email honors@sjcc.edu

Does this make my GPA weighted? Can I get up to a 5.0 GPA?

- No. An Honors course has no bearing on your GPA.

How do I decide on a project?

- Most commonly students will do an additional research paper and/or class presentation for their Honors project. Depending on the course or topic, some instructors will allow a creative project as well (artwork, video, etc). We recommend approaching your instructor with an idea for a project/topic in mind already.

My instructor will not let me do an Honors project in their class. What should I do?

- It is ultimately up to the instructor whether they will be able to take on the additional work of supporting your Honors Project. If they do not wish to participate, then you will not be able to complete an Honors Project in their class.
- Please notify the Honors Coordinator (honors@sjcc.edu) if your instructor will not participate in the Honors Program, as we hope to keep track of this information.

How many classes can I apply this to?

- There is no limit. You can complete contracts for as many or as few classes per semester as you like. If you do not submit a contract in a given semester, you are not removed from the program, but you also do not benefit from it that semester.

What if I need to withdraw my Honors project?

- If you submit a contract, but are unable to complete the project, please notify the Honors Coordinator (honors@sjcc.edu) stating that you are withdrawing your contract.
- There is no penalty for withdrawing your contract.

When will the notation be put onto my transcript? How will I know when it’s entered? Can I request a rush, because I am ordering transcripts for transfer?

- The “Honors Program” notation will be entered to your transcript 3-4 weeks after grades are posted.
- Check your unofficial transcript in myWeb. An asterisk (*) will appear next to the Honors course(s). Although you cannot see the text “Honors Program” on your unofficial transcript, the asterisk (*) indicates it will appear on the official printed copy.
If you need the notation rushed because you are transferring, please email the Honors Coordinator (honors@sjcc.edu) with the deadline you are working with, and we will request it rushed.

We can also provide a letter stating that Honors courses are in-progress, pending completion of the project and grade posting.

- How do I get an Honors Medallion?
  - Complete nine or more units of Honors coursework.
  - Notify the Honors Coordinator (honors@sjcc.edu) that you are graduating.
  - We will notify you when your medallion is ready for pickup.