UPDATE

November 2026

Uniting Our Honors Cardinal Community









UPDATE
November 2026

News for Honors Cardinals

Spring 2027 Registration - Opens Nov. 2

Spring 2027 Registration – Opens 7:00 am on Monday, Nov 2

View LU's registration details and class schedules. Please remember that searching "Honors" in the list of class schedules pulls up only our seminars and topics. Visit our Honors Core Curriculum and Petition for Honors Credit pages to view your options for Spring honors courses.



Spring 2027 Honors Topics:

HNRS 4364-01: Artisan Mexico: Women of Paper, Textile, and Cuisine

This course explores the evolution of Mexico's creative labor of women artisans working in paper, textile, and culinary traditions. Students will examine how these makers sustain, innovate, and commercialize ancestral practices within a modern economy shaped by tourism and globalization. Through an interdisciplinary study of artisan markets, iconic artworks, and contemporary market production, the course highlights the central role of women artisans.

HNRS 4364-02: Macroeconomics

This course examines, at an advanced level, the determinants of the natural rate of unemployment and the causes of unemployment, as well as the short run and long run Phillips Curve . It also looks at the causes of inflation and how operations by the Central Bank are used to control inflation. The course will also examine how the economy grows over time and the challenges of on-going productivity growth with an aging work force and why continued productivity growth is so important for society's well-being. The course will also examine how consumers' and firms' expectations can influence Gross Domestic Product. Toward the end of the semester, the course will examine how the economy operates in the global market as well as who the winners and losers are when the economy engages in international trade.

HNRS 4364-03: National Model UN

This course is designed to prepare students for the National Model United Nations Conference (NMUN) in New York City from March 29 to April 2, 2027. Students will focus on representing their country and committee at the competition. The course will cover the rules and procedures of the United Nations and NMUN guidelines. It aims to help students develop research and public speaking skills, write position papers, and enhance critical thinking on complex political or global issues. Participation in this course is mandatory for students attending the NMUN conference. Students attending the conference will have their registration, hotel, and airline paid by the Honors College.

HNRS 4364-48F: When Juveniles Commit Crime *(Online)*

This course examines why young people under 18 commit crime and how the justice system responds. Topics include causes of juvenile offending, juvenile courts, legal rights, punishment and rehabilitation, serious juvenile crime, and contemporary issues in juvenile justice

DUE Nov 15 - Fall Graduating Seniors – Pics & Award Apps

REMINDER:
Honors Graduate Pics & Award Apps
Due: Sunday, November 15
Apply: HSOY Graduate Awards
Email Pics: mrapp@lamar.edu

Thank you for sharing your honors journey with us! Friendly reminder that if you have not already submitted your photos to please do so by Nov 15.

Also, we highly encourage you to apply for Honors Graduate Awards for: (1) Research and Scholarship; (2) Leadership; and (3) Community.

We are looking forward to celebrating all of our Fall 2026 RHC Graduates!



FREE TICKETS
Fall & Recovery

Fall & Recovery- Dance
Fri, Nov 20 - Sat, Nov 21
7:30 pm
Studio Theatre
Request By: 5:00 pm Wednesday, Nov 11
Request Tickets Form

Go with a friend to watch dancers in the LUTD student company at this year's Fall & Recovery, a vibrant showcase of a variety of dance styles.



Help us showcase *YOU!*

Your accomplishments are important to us! If your contributions—academic, leadership, research, publication, service, etc.—have not been featured by us, please let us know.

Sharing your story inspires others!!!

Email Honors Marketing Coordinator:
Meghan Rapp

UPDATE
November 2026

Events
for Honors Cardinals

Nov 18 – Top Scholars Banquet

Top Scholars Banquet
Wednesday, November 18
Reaud Event Center
By Invite Only

This special dinner recognizes the excellence of our Presidential Scholars, Premier Scholars, SETX Legends Scholars, and Reaud Fellows at Lamar University. Only invited guests may attend. We are delighted to feature Fall RHC Graduate **Mohamed Irhabi** as our guest speaker.



Sign Up - SERVICE Bicycles and Bibles

Bicycles and Bibles
Wed. Dec 9 starts at 12:30 pm
Sat. Dec 12 starts at 9:00 am
Off-campus: Ford Park
Email Volunteer Day(s):
tilisa.thibodeaux@lamar.edu

Volunteer at our biggest service event of the year!!! Join our Honors Cardinals team to help out at the Reaud Foundation's Bicycles and Bibles giveaway. You can sign up for one day or both Wednesday and Saturday. Please email Dean Thibodeaux the day(s) you prefer.

Depending on your volunteer day, you will assist in packing or distributing custom bags with necessities and gifts for children to enjoy. Help us spread Christmas cheer this Winter Break!

NOV 23-27 - NO CLASSES – THANKSGIVING



Thanksgiving Holiday Break
November 23-27

Grateful for all of you who make our honors community so special, kind, and supportive. We hope you have a relaxing holiday break!





Honors Scholars Day a Success!

We are proud of our students who showcased how they fulfill our college mission to imagine, innovate, impact, and inspire each other and our LU community.

Presenters: COAS–**Natalie Dickens, Mohamed Irhabi, Sneha Jobby, Mary O'Malley, Bianka Paciorek, Blake Pena, Alex Soukhodolets, Isabella Tran, Riley Trent;** COB–**Matthew Ard;** COE–**Layali Abusaleh, Judson Ripper;** COEHD–**Mackenzie Howell;** COFAC–**Rachel Durham.**

Booth Hosts: COAS–**Joey Badlissi, Jasmine Flores, Afifa Islam, Rylee Moree, Nirbhik Neupane, Ryan Servantes, Karim Shaaban;** COB–**Veronika Castanon, Peyton Jones;** COE–**Jacob Bergman, Katelyn Contreras, Bryan Guizar, Alyssa Harper, Elena Korson, Logan Morris, Szachary Tarver, Taylor Vo;** COFAC–**Lyric Bourgeois, Gabrielle Sensat, Lauren Wilson;** CONHP–**Natalie Bean, Elizabeth Diaz Arreola, Kayla McKinley;** Texas Academy–**Carina Wyman.**

Watch our social feeds—we will share pics soon!







UPDATE
November 2026

Student Recognition

Leaders

Honors Contract Inspires Bone Marrow Blood Drive



Monica Becerra, Solinna Hong, Sneha Jobby, and **Lauren Polk** fulfilled an Honors Contract for Dr. Ashwini Kucknoor's Immunology class by organizing a bone marrow blood drive on campus. Donating stem cells or bone marrow can offer a cure to patients with blood disorders.

The four Honors Cardinals also recruited volunteer helpers from their BIOL 4405 class and from AMSA, AMWA, Medlife, Pre-Dental, LURA, and Women's Pre-Professional student orgs.

While her fellow organizers were helping save lives at the blood drive, track athlete Lauren was running a different race that Friday—competing in the Texas A&M Arturo Barrios Invitational.

Everyone's efforts paid off—the ladies exceeded their goal and registered nearly 60 donors.

Small acts, BIG change!

Pulled into Wonderland On LU Stage



Honors Cardinals took advantage of our Free Ticket benefit to cheer on Theatre and Dance Acting senior **Samantha Hatcher,** who starred as Ex, the Expressive Personality, in Kate Brennan's play *The Wonder in Alice*.

When Alice is pulled into Wonderland, she splits into five emotional and mental facets that must reunite before Wonderland consumes her. Samantha is pictured (front left corner) with all five personalities.

Everyone we talked to who saw the play loved it. Great job, Samantha!











Honors Cardinals Spotted at COEHD's Fall Festival

Painted some mini pumpkins, ate yummy candy, and chatted about how Lamar Student Education Association (LSEA) supports the teachers of tomorrow.

Fun to see **Mackenzie Howell, Madison McGuire,** and LSEA's newest Secretary, **Rowan Catarino**.

Take a stroll around campus and visit booths you see. Students are out there to get to know you too! Even if you "think" you know everything about LU, you may be surprised by what's out there!

First-Year Student Elected LSEA Secretary



Mathematics junior **Rowan Catarino** was elected Secretary for LSEA during the first semester at LU! Proud to see you serve the chapter by combining your education passion and financial skills.

How did Rowan become a leader so quickly? By attending a Student Org Leadership Development session on September 12. "I gained a lot of insights on what it means to be a treasurer, ultimately building my fiscal responsibilities," Rowan says.

First-Year Cardinals—keep your eyes open for opportunities that interest you…and take steps to get involved! Joining a student org? Whether you're a member or an officer, you can make a difference AND gain skills and friends along the way.

UPDATE
November 2026

Student Recognition

Honors LU Ambassadors in President's Suite During Big Win



WHAT A GAME! Cards won 42-14, and six Honors LU Ambassadors got to witness the full glory of LU's defeat of the Northwestern State Demons during the football game reception in President Taylor's private suite. A big first half gave LU its third consecutive win with that amazing game.

Shout-out to **Afifa Islam, Karim Shaaban, Riley Trent, Ryan Servantes, Will Naas,** and **Mikel Mbajiofor.**

After winning the homecoming game against Houston Christian on October 24, Lamar Cardinals football was ranked second in the Southland Conference.

Always fun to watch our Cardinals climb the polls! Even more wonderful when our LU Ambassadors gain leadership skills and alumni connections as part of the football fun!

Robot Tax Debate During Honors Convo



If a robot replaces a worker who used to pay taxes, should robots be taxed? If so, how?

That was one of the fascinating questions Management junior **Alexandra Guillen** says she enjoyed discussing with peers at Dr. John McCollough's Honors Conversation.

Shown with Economics Mentor Dr. John McCollough (from left): Public Health sophomore **Orezi Akugha,** Management junior **Alexandra Guillen,** Biology Pre-Med junior **Afifa Islam,** Accounting senior **Melanie Trove,** and Physics junior **Kenneth Bibb.**

Great conversations, new friends to get to know! **Join us at the next one on Nov 12!**








White House Reporter Gives Career Guidance to Journalism Senior



Journalism senior **Rayna Christy** made the most of a chance to connect with a reporter from Washington, DC, covering the Texas elections in Beaumont.

With nearly 20 years of experience on the politics beat, Nikki Schwab is the Chief Campaign Correspondent at *Daily Mail* covering the White House.

"She and I specifically spoke about how my freelance/string work with the *Beaumont Enterprise* can help me get into the industry and how important taking initiative of your own future is. Overall, it was an amazing experience!" Rayna says.

Keep chatting with experts in careers that interest you! | *Efforts + Courage = Purpose + Direction*






Honors Smith-Hutson Scholars Recognized at Fall Banquet

Cardinal proud of our Smith-Hutson Scholars who were recognized at their Fall banquet this month:

Civil Engineering senior **Cristian Arevalo,** Computer Science sophomore **Marjorie Bitong,** Mathematics junior **Rowan Catarino,** Mechanical Engineering junior **Bryan Guizar,** Biology Pre-Med sophomore **Rhett Land,** Nutrition-Dietetics freshman **Abby McKinley,** and Psychology freshman **Brynlee South.**

Celebrating 15 years of partnership with LU, the Smith-Hutson Scholars Program welcomed its largest cohort this academic year.

UPDATE
November 2026

Student Recognition

Research

Honors CSPC Fellow Will Help Congress Decide Preventive Screenings



Congratulations to Biology Pre-Med senior **Mohamed Irhabi,** who was selected as a 2026-27 Innovation Fellow at the Center for the Study of the Presidency & Congress (CSPC).

"As part of it, I'm writing a research paper titled 'How Congress and the Presidency Decide What Americans Are Screened For, 2010–2026,'" Mohamed says, "which looks at how Congress and the executive branch shape which preventive screenings Americans receive, and what that means for new technologies like AI and retinal imaging."

Over the year, the fellowship includes monthly policy sessions, mentorships, and a leadership conference in Washington, DC.

Super awesome, Mohamed, that your research will help Congress decide which preventive screenings Americans get!

Nursing Honors Cardinals Connect through Research



Love seeing alum and current Honors Cardinals connect! **Katherine Holly (Class of 2024)** and Nursing senior **Natalie Bean** both presented posters at the Sigma Global Nursing Excellent-Kappa Kappa research conference in October. The first research conference of its kind by this chapter in 10 years!!!

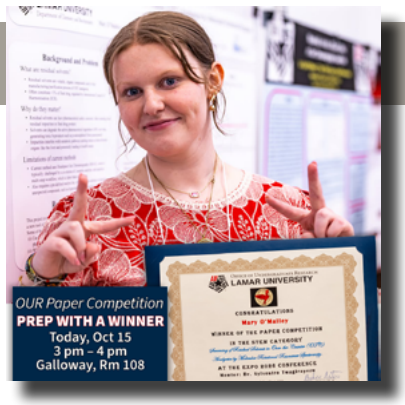
Natalie and Holly stand side by side, holding the Sigma Honor Society of Nursing purple shirt, next to fellow student conference poster presenters.











Prepping with a Winner for OUR's Upcoming Paper Competition

Reaud Honors STEM URG researcher **Mary O'Malley** gave back to the LU research community by offering advice to help peers write a compelling paper for this year's OUR Fall Conference Paper Competition.

At last year's EXPO, she won First Place for her paper discussing how she evaluated the use of molecular rotational resonance (MRR) spectroscopy as a rapid method for residual solvent detection in pharmaceutical products.

LURA President Leads Workshop to Help Peer Researchers Network



LURA President **Priya Rathore** encouraged peers to contribute to OUR's Fall Conference in November. As she shared in her workshop, networking now could help you conduct research later. Volunteering at the conference is also a great networking opportunity for peers who aspire to be a LURA officer.

Unable to help out this Fall? You have another chance at the conference next Spring. Touch base with Priya!

UPDATE
November 2026

NOVEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Growth Opportunities

Imagine • Innovate • Impact • Inspire

DUE Nov 1 - HIEP - McNair Research Internships

McNair Research Internships
DUE Sunday, Nov 1
APPLY: McNair

Research opportunities for first-generation and low-income students! Students must complete at least 45 credit hours by next summer. View application site for eligibility requirements.

Chat with your honors community for guidance! Last year's Reaud Honors research recipients were: **Elizabeth Diaz Arreola** and **Lea Walker**.

Honors students who successfully complete their research projects can earn **HIEP** or, if eligible, **Non-Course Credit**.



DUE Nov 1 & Dec 15 - HIEP McMaster Grant Study Abroad

McMaster Grant Study Abroad
Spring DUE Sunday, Nov 1
Summer DUE Tuesday, Dec 15
APPLY: Study Abroad McMaster

Do you want to see the world? Discover new cultures? Earn academic credit while having a once-in-a-lifetime experience? Do all this and more when you participate in one of Lamar University's faculty-led study abroad programs that span from exploring world history in Ireland to nursing research in Thailand.

Honors students who successfully complete their Study Abroad can earn **HIEP** or, if eligible, **Non-Course Credit**.

Spring & Summer 2027 Trip Details

studyabroad@lamar.edu for questions or to schedule advising appointment



Nov 6 - Honors Experience - Lone Star at 30



Lone Star at 30
Friday, Nov 6
Lecture: 1 pm - 2 pm at Reaud Event Space (Rm 101)
Movie: 7 pm off-campus at Jefferson Theatre

Jefferson Theatre Screening:
LU students receive free admission by presenting valid student ID

In advance of the screening, Dr. Alison Fields will discuss John Sayles's 1996 film *Lone Star,* which uses the backdrop of a border town murder-mystery to examine themes of national, generational, and personal borders and the ways communities enforce those divisions with stories about the past. Dr. Fields is the director of the University of Oklahoma School of Visual Arts and author of the 2026 film book *Lone Star*.



Nov 12 - Honors Conversation

Honors Conversation - AI & Education
Thursday, Nov 12
12:45 pm - 1:45 pm
Setzer Student Center, Rm 218

What should a teacher know about AI? Our conversation will explore the trends and challenges of teachers using AI for course preparation. Teachers should know how AI supports lesson planning, activity design, and assessment. Pre-service teachers often use AI to draft lessons and activities but struggle with accuracy, while in-service teachers apply AI more strategically for standards-aligned plans, differentiated tasks, and quick assessments considering ethical issues like bias and privacy. – MENTOR: Dr. Yan Yan

Earn **Honors Experience** or, if eligible, **Non-Course Credit**

UPDATE
November 2026

NOVEMBER 2026



Growth Opportunities

Imagine • Innovate • Impact • Inspire

DUE Nov 17 - Critical Language Scholarship Summer Abroad

Critical Language Scholarship Summer Abroad
Apply by: Tuesday, Nov 17
APPLY: CLS Summer Abroad

The U.S. Department of State offers a fully funded summer language and study abroad opportunity. The Critical Language Scholarship program empowers scholars to navigate languages and cultures with expertise and fluency and prepares you for leadership abroad in commerce, global affairs, and security.

DUE Nov 17 - Ocean Futures Fellowship

Ocean Futures Fellowship
Apply by: Tuesday, Nov 17
APPLY: Ocean Futures Fellowship

Seeking the next generation of ocean professionals! Fellows will draw on OceanX's international connections that not only can help you build a career, but also foster ocean literacy and leadership on a global scale. The program contributes to the goals of the UN Ocean Decade and SDG 14. Opportunities in digital archives, immersive media, AI, marketing, and business partnerships.

Eligibility: Must be 21+ and able to begin 12-month fellowship in early February or early April 2027, depending on which opportunity you pursue.

DUE Dec 1 - McMaster Grant Partners in the Parks

McMaster Grant Partners in the Parks
DUE Tuesday, Dec 1
APPLY: PITP McMaster

Partners in the Parks is hosting a Winter Break adventure! Explore arches, canyons and hoodoos in Arizona and Utah at Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, Dead Horse State Park, and three national monuments. The trip will take place January 3-9, 2027.









DUE Dec 1 - Lafayette Fellowship for Master's in France

Lafayette Fellowship - Master's in France
DUE Tuesday, Dec 1
APPLY: Lafayette Fellowship

Launched on the 250th anniversary of the American Declaration of Independence, the Lafayette Fellowship is designed to support the next generation of leaders with a strong interest in our transatlantic relationship.

Open to both Francophone and non-Francophone candidates, the program partners with leading French academic institutions across STEM, humanities, social sciences, and the arts, with courses taught in French or entirely in English.



Due Dec 10 - Be a State of Texas Student Regent/Representative

State of Texas Student Regent/Rep
Apply by: Thurs, Dec 10 at 5:00 pm
Submit in person: Reaud Building, Office of the President, Rm 316

Follow in the footsteps of Reaud Fellow **Elizabeth Diaz Arreola,** current TSUS Student Regent! Play an important role in representing students of Texas public universities. State of Texas is seeking non-voting student representatives to the Texas State University System (TSUS) Board of Regents and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). Follow instructions on this page before apply:

1. TSUS Student Regent application
2. THECB Student Rep application
3. Governor's Appointment application (must be completed for position)

Position responsibilities & selection process

UPDATE
November 2026

NOVEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Growth Opportunities

Imagine • Innovate • Impact • Inspire

DUE Dec 15 -
Chancellor's US Capitol Internship



Chancellor's US Capitol Internship
DUE Tuesday, Dec 15
APPLY: US Capitol Internship

Be a Congressional and public policy intern in Washington, DC, through the TSUS Chancellor's US Capitol Internship Program.

To ensure student success in applying academic theory in a professional work environment, program participants will enroll in a public policy research course, in addition to a six-credit-hour internship course during your internship semester.

Fall 2027 applications are open now through December 15.



Learn from Student Research

McNair Scholars Research Symposium
Tuesday, November 10
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Setzer Ballroom & SJ 218 / T 227

Learn from your honors peers **Elizabeth Diaz Arreola** and **Lea Walker** and their fellow McNair Scholars as they present their research. Elizabeth's presentation will be at 4 pm in San Jacinto 218, and Lea will present at 4:20 pm in Trinity 227.

Elizabeth will share her survey of Collegiate Students' Perceptions of the Use of Home Health Devices. Lea will discuss research on which African American church denominations are associated with higher levels of voter turnout among black congregants.

O.U.R. Fall Conference
Friday, November 13
8:00 am – 8:00 pm
Setzer Student Center

Congratulations to all researchers accepted to present at this year's O.U.R. Fall Conference. Join us if you are interested in participating in research next year and to cheer on your honors peers.

This is a great platform to present theses, capstone, or projects for honors courses, independent studies, or other discipline-specific research.

Looking forward to learning about everyone's research!

PLUS: Learn from **Sneha Jobby's Beck Fellow mentor Dr. Datta,** who will give a plenary talk at 1:50 pm - 2:30 pm.

Learn from Sneha's Beck Fellow Mentor



UPDATE
November 2026

Honors Student Association

Member Shout-Out

Honors HOCO Tailgate Party



So glad you stopped by to hang out with us at our Homecoming Tailgate party. Thank you to all our volunteers who handed out the elote and cheered us all with their game-day spirit:

HSA Exec: **Matt Ard** and **Maddie McConnell**; *Reaud Fellows:* **Jacob Bergman; Katelyn Contreras; Will Naas; Jud Ripper; Leimy Rocha;** *Peer Mentors:* **Reese Moree and Rylee Moree;** *Peer Mentees:* **Orezi Akugha; Jonathan Arnold; Joey Badlissi; Rowan Catarino;** and *HSA Member:* **Danielle Okutubo.**

DM us your tailgate and game pics:
@lamarhonors





Reaghan Hancock with LU Dance Team

HSA Scores FUN with Volleyball

Had a fun time playing volleyball last month! HSA Intramural Sports Officers **Matt Ard** and **Maddie McConnell** give a shout-out to our intramural athletes:

Spencer Cheng, Deegan Collins, Ulises Fraire, Keaton Hamm, Elena Korson, Lucia Liu, Nathan Lowrey, Rylee Moree, Athan Peterson, Alleigh Rios, Claire Tucker, and **Kendric Vos.**

Thank you for the pics, Maddie!

MAKING UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES
See if you were spotted at **HSA's Intramural Volleyball:**
FB / Insta

Next sport for Nov? Soccer!

Events

Nov 3 - HSA General Meeting

HSA General Meeting
Tuesday, Nov 3
Lunch: 12:30 pm
Meeting: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Reaud Honors College Lounge

See you at the lunch buffet! Join us for our third general meeting of the year! At this meeting, we plan to discuss topics such as our November social, our service food drive, and upcoming RHC events and updates!

Nov 5 - HSA Pumpkin Painting Social

HSA Pumpkin Painting Social
Thursday, Nov 5
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
RHC Courtyard

It's time to get creative at our next HSA Social! Join us for a fun, fall-themed evening of pumpkin painting! Pumpkins and paint will be provided by HSA, so just show up ready to get creative and have some fun! Whether you're going for cute, spooky, or something totally unique, we can't wait to see what you create!

Now through Nov 13 HSA Thanksgiving Food Drive

HSA Thanksgiving Food Drive
Now through Friday, Nov 13
Drop Donations in Box at RHC Lobby Reception by Ms. Imelda's Office
Sign-up: Pinned in "HSA Chat" GM

Begin the holiday season by donating Thanksgiving foods! Every one item donated equals one service point toward HSA Member of the Year. Share what you donated in our sign-up sheet so we can tally up your service points!



Stay Connected to Reaud Honors College

LAMAR UNIVERSITY | SEE FOR YOURSELF

Lamar University 4400 MLK Blvd., PO Box 10009, Beaumont, Texas 77710