



Fall registration opens

All fall classes to be offered online starting Aug. 17; schedule now available

Registration for Fall 2020 at Luna Community College is now under way.

The semester figures to be as robust as usual for a fall session, although classes and support services will be offered and delivered remotely. Approximately 160 classes are on the schedule, which is currently posted on the college website at luna.edu/schedule.

Fall classes will begin on Monday, Aug. 17. Registration for Fall 2020 will continue through the end of the business day Monday, Aug. 24. All fall classes will be offered online.

Those who are new to Luna, including high school graduates and transfer students, should first complete the admissions process, then meet with advisors to set up their course schedules. Returning students may register online using the Luna web portal. Advisors for each department will be available to help with proper course selection.



This view looking west up Holman Hill is the featured cover image in Luna Community College’s Fall 2020 Schedule of Classes, available online and at select locations throughout the Luna service area.

Classes will be offered in all seven departments — Allied Health Sciences, Business, Education, Humanities, Nursing, STEM and Career and Technical Education (formerly Vocational Studies).

Luna has implemented a host of measures to help ensure the health and safety of students, employees and the general public in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Moving courses online and having staff work remotely has taken place since mid-March, when the college closed its campus grounds to all but a limited crew of employees.

The college’s facilities team has worked diligently in recent weeks to disinfect and sanitize the campus as more employees have been allowed to return to campus to some extent. Stringent social distancing rules, including mandatory use of face masks in public spaces and outside of closed office spaces, have been implemented.

Other preventative measures, such as regular hand washing and use of hand sanitizer, continue to be encouraged.

Access to campus facilities

MORE: See Page 2

Report documents progress at Luna

HLC focused visit set for Sept. 10-11

Following a weeklong period allotted for the campus community and the public to view and comment on the document, Luna Community College has submitted its Focused Visit Report to the Higher Learning Commission.

The report, a 58-page tome that includes links to hundreds of pages of additional evidentiary exhibits, describes what the college has done and continues to do to achieve full

compliance with conditions of HLC accreditation.

“We all take pride in the final product,” said LCC Interim President Dr. Kenneth Patterson, “and are proud to see this as final evidence of delivering the mission of Luna Community College. Not only does this document detail work to correct errors of the past, but it also defines a pathway for our future.”

The college is hoping to move its accreditation off probationary status later this year.

The team of faculty and staff members collaborated on a written report that addresses each of the

areas found to be out of compliance by the Higher Learning Commission, the Chicago-based organization under which Luna is accredited. The report was submitted electronically on July 15, in advance of a scheduled HLC site visit this September.

Since June 2018, Luna has been on probation, an upgrade from the show-cause order the HLC had handed down the previous fall.

Last year, the HLC Institutional Actions Council found that Luna had made progress in most areas, meeting requirements in 18 of 21 core component areas. But the HLC

MORE: See Page 3

Fall 2020

Continued from Page 1

continues to be limited, in an effort to reduce foot traffic and allow for proper social distancing.

Any changes to the mode of course delivery or campus access will be mindful of state mandates and guidelines.

COVID-19 has impacted colleges and universities across the nation and beyond since the first cases were reported this past winter. Luna has fared well in transitioning many of its classes and services to remote delivery since midway through the Spring 2020 semester.



Input sought for facilities survey

Luna is preparing a long-range Facilities Master Plan that will guide future planning for facility renovations and expansions, campus infrastructure, and other physical improvements at all of its locations. You can help the planning team by completing a short survey.

The survey is open through July 31, 2020. Unfortunately, delays to this process related to the COVID-19 pandemic have pushed this survey into the summer, and it may not be

ideal for our entire faculty, students and community to participate. If you can, please share this as appropriate and encourage everyone to take a few minutes to complete this survey and provide input into this important process.

To access the survey go to:

<https://www.arcforms.info/lcc2020survey/index.php>

For more information, please contact:

Matthew Cordova
Director, Physical Plant
Luna Community College
505-454-2508
mcordova@luna.edu

OR

Andy L. Aguilar
Facilities Planner
Architectural Research Consultants,
Incorporated
877-842-4800
alaguilar@arcplanning.com

HLC report

Continued from Page 2

Board of Trustees voted to keep Luna on probation, allowing the college more time and opportunity to improve its performance in some regards and to demonstrate continued improvement in others.

Areas of deficiency as determined by the HLC are specific components from Criterion Two, Integrity, Ethical & Responsible Conduct and Criterion Five, Resources, Planning & Institutional Effectiveness.

The HLC has previously determined that Luna meets or exceeds standards in the entirety of Criterion One, Mission; Criterion Three, Teaching & Learning, Quality, Resources & Support; and Criterion Four, Teaching & Learning, Evaluation & Improvement.

Luna's HLC report-writing team compiled evidence to show the college is now fully compliant in components 2A, 5A and 5B and an assumed practice D3 related to participation in College Scorecard.

The focused visit report was originally due in May with a site visit scheduled for summer, but the

deadlines were pushed back due to the nationwide impact of COVID-19. Based in part on the report and a subsequent review by the HLC site-visit team, the HLC governing board is expected to make a determination on Luna's accreditation status in November.

In the meantime, Luna remains accredited while on probation. The college has been continuously accredited by the HLC since 1982.

College Scorecard:

The U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard has the most reliable data on college costs, graduation and post-college earnings. Visit collegescorecard.ed.gov



On campus or off, it's easy to shape your future.

Every 10 years, the United States counts everyone living in the country, including college students like you. Your response to the 2020 Census will help make sure communities across the nation are accurately funded and represented for the next decade.

Responding is easy.

- › If you live in off-campus housing that is not owned, leased, or managed by your college or university, such as a private house that you share with other students or a privately owned apartment, you can respond online, by phone, or by mail beginning in mid-March 2020. You should count yourself at your off-campus address, even if you spend time somewhere else during school breaks.
- › If you live in on-campus student housing like residence halls, off-campus residence halls, or other student housing facilities that are owned, leased, or managed by your college or university, U.S. Census Bureau employees will work with representatives from your building to ensure that you are counted. You may be asked to complete an individual census form.
- › If you are an international student, the same rules apply.

For more information, visit:

2020CENSUS.GOV

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2020



This fall,
TAKE CHARGE
of your future.

Take charge of your future at Luna Community College!

Whether you are seeking workforce training, an associate degree or certificate in a high-demand field, or a great start to your higher educational journey, Luna can help you achieve your dreams.

Registration for Fall 2020 is now under way!
Visit us today at LUNA.edu. Or call 505-454-2500 or 1-800-588-7232 for more information.

All classes online starting Aug. 17.

Register now through Aug. 24.



*"Creating
Opportunities
for You!"*

Planning on attending Luna this fall?

If you plan to attend Luna Community College in the Fall 2020 semester, now is the time to take the



ACCUPLACER exam. Students who have not taken the ACT/SAT or college-level courses, first-time freshmen and first-time dual-credit students will need to take the ACCUPLACER. The exam will help provide useful information about skills in math, English and reading and assist in determining ideal course selections.

Please contact the Student Success Center at 505-454-2549 or studentsuccess@luna.edu. The exam is free the first time; thereafter it is \$5 per section and \$10 for the full battery.



Make a difference, not a name

Editor's note: Opinions expressed in columns are not necessarily those of Luna or its employees. Submissions are welcome and may be edited for length, content, clarity, etc.

There is not much we can do about yesterday. The great thing is that today is a new day.

For many of us, we're looking for small victories. Perhaps the victories are among us; we just don't see them too clearly.

Let's face it. The harsh truth is that the vast majority of our lives have changed. For the last four or five months or so, we have had to stay home more than ever before. In addition, when we go to work or out for essentials, the majority of us are wearing face masks that we're not used to, watching what we touch and constantly washing or disinfecting our hands.

There is a lot out of the ordinary. Nevertheless, through all this, there are extraordinary things happening around us. Those of you who are fortunate enough to have families around you, get to eat supper with your kids on a regular basis and perhaps have long conversations—something that may have not happened too often pre-COVID.

Maybe we get to talk to our neighbor a little more often and get to really know them as human beings like we should have in the first place. We have an opportunity to treat people with respect. In many instances, we don't spend our energy on things that aren't and

By Jesse Gallegos

A Different Perspective

were never good for us. We are learning to live our lives one day at a time and live not just for ourselves but those we care about most—this in itself is a small victory and, for some, a small miracle.

The hope is that many of us have let go of the bitterness that destroys our inner self. We may not take many things for granted anymore and we shouldn't. I see people's hearts softening every day, maybe because we're not out there to make a name for ourselves; we're content to make a difference.

Let's not give up on hope. We can never give up on hope. Maybe we laugh a little and cry a little during the course of a day. But we have to make every day the best we can. We may have to struggle a little to see hope, but it's there.

To change the subject a little, as I have done in the past, here is a draft of what I uploaded last week on our website in hope members of the HLC Focus Visit Team will read:

I am so grateful to Luna Community College. Luna, nestled in rural northern New Mexico, has made a huge difference in many students' lives. It is because of Luna, that many poor and underprivileged kids have been able to earn an education and make a better life for themselves and their families.

Luna has had its share of trials and tribulations, but in spite of its

struggles, it has helped thousands of individuals who otherwise would have not gone to college. Luna faculty and staff go to work every day knowing that their effort will make a difference in someone's life.

Students at Luna are special. Many arrive with very little confidence and with the help of their instructors and support staff, develop hope that they can do great things.

Luna has its flaws, as do all colleges. However, when it's all said and done, the hearts of its administration, faculty, staff and students can measure up to any college or university in the country.

Since November 2017, when Luna was placed on a Show Cause Order, it has gradually improved its mode of operation. Certainly, Luna has room for more improvement, but it deserves to keep its accreditation.

Luna has assisted students for about 51 years. The hope is that it is here for 50 more. Its closing would be devastating to the area it serves. In the end, it would benefit no one. Luna has earned its value.

Not too many things are easy at Luna. Luna is not Notre Dame or Harvard. In a very ironic way, it is just as important as these prestigious schools, simply because it continues to create opportunities for the many who have very little opportunity in the first place.

Jesse Gallegos is the public relations coordinator at Luna.

The Luna Light is a publication of the Luna Community College Office of Public Relations. To submit story ideas or items for consideration, please e-mail Jesse Gallegos, jgallegos@luna.edu, and Dave Kavanaugh, dkavanaugh@luna.edu.

Vocations now CTE

One of the departments at Luna Community College is changing its name, and the change isn't merely window dressing.

The Department of Vocational Studies — fondly known as “Trades” in the shorthand of many — now will be known as the Department of Career and Technical Education, or CTE.

The new name reflects the department's significance in providing essential training and preparing students for the workforce. It also positions the college to better compete for federal funding via grants, etc.

That was the message shared by Interim President Dr. Kenneth Patterson and Seth Ward, the newly

hired department director, at the July 14 LCC Board of Trustees meeting at which the change was announced.

Ward said the department is striving to balance the need to maintain social distancing protocols while still providing excellent vocational training this fall and beyond.

The summer semester is here, and the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) is still available to help in all classes. All Luna classes remain online, and the ACE is as well. Tutors will be continuing with online services throughout the summer semester.

Contact Ray Varela, ACE Coordinator, at 505-454-5306 or rvarela@luna.edu, or one of our tutors for setting up an appointment or any other information.

SUMMER

Semester



Tutor	Subject	Email
Jonathan	Humanities	jolujan@luna.edu
Sergio	Humanities	shartshorne@luna.edu
Auritha	Math	aroybal@luna.edu
Adan	Math & Science	admartinez@luna.edu

How to register for classes

Fall 2020 classes begin Monday, Aug. 17. Registration for Fall 2020 is open from Monday, July 6, to Monday, Aug. 24. Due to campus access restrictions, all registration and registration-related business will be handled remotely. Please log on to luna.edu/schedule for Fall 2020 drop-down menu and course information.

If you are a first-year student at Luna, you must first contact the admissions office via telephone or e-mail. After this, you will have to contact the Student Success Center, also via telephone or e-mail, for registration and the ACCUPLACER. Telephone numbers are listed below.

If you are a returning student, you may register via the online portal at luna.edu.

If you have declared a major, please call your program advisor. If you have not declared a major, are a transfer student or a first-time freshman, please contact the Student Success Center. No answer? Leave a clear message with your name and telephone number. An advisor may be busy assisting another student but will return your call as soon as possible.

All Fall 2020 classes will be offered online.

Allied Health Sciences & Pre-Nursing Advisor, Vanessa Torres	505-454-2527	vatorres@luna.edu
Early Childhood Education Advisor, Tycie Jackson	505-454-5381	tjackson@luna.edu
Humanities Advisor, Rick Baca	505-454-2532	rbaca@luna.edu
Humanities Advisor, Nathan Baker	505-454-2594	nbaker@luna.edu
Sciences, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) Advisor, Janice Varela	505-454-2537	jvarela@luna.edu
School of Business Director & Advisor, Lita Bernal	505-454-5337	lbernal@luna.edu
Career & Technical Education Advisor, Karen Wezwick	505-454-2573	kwezwick@luna.edu
Student Success Center Advisors	505-454-5355	studentsuccess@luna.edu
Student Success Center Advisors	505-454-2541	studentsuccess@luna.edu
Admissions Office	505-454-2550	admissions@luna.edu
Financial Aid Office	505-454-2534	finaid@luna.edu
Cashier's Office	505-454-2506	fiscaloffice@luna.edu
Registrar's Office/ <i>General Information</i>	505-454-5313	registrar@luna.edu
Student Success Center Office/Accuplacer Testing	505-454-5355	studentsuccess@luna.edu
Veterans Resource Center; Sarah Cantu, coordinator	505-454-5343	scantu@luna.edu
Dual Credit Office; Geraldine Saavedra, coordinator	505-454-5308	gsaavedra@luna.edu
Bookstore; Ron Duran, manager	505-454-2569	rduran@luna.edu

How to order books

Visit the Luna online bookstore at bookstore.mbsdirect.net/luna.htm. Select your courses from your schedule. View your course materials and select your preferred format. Check out. Select Guaranteed Buyback titles and save up to 70 percent off your course materials. Our customer contact center is open 24/7, ready to take your order or answer your questions. Call 1-800-325-3252 or e-mail customerservice@mbsdirect.net.

Fall 2020 important dates

Registration for Fall 2020 term begins	Monday, July 6, 2020
New student orientation (tentative)	Friday, August 14, 2020
Classes begin	Monday, August 17, 2020
Late registration	Monday, August 17, to Monday, August 24, 2020
Disenrollment for non-payment	Wednesday, August 19, 2020
Last day to add courses (full-term and first eight-week courses)	Monday, August 24, 2020
Last day to drop without a grade	Friday, August 28, 2020
Disenrollment for non-payment	Monday, August 28, 2020
HOLIDAY — Labor Day (Campus closed)	Monday, Sept. 7, 2020
Deadline to change from Audit to Credit	Friday, Sept. 11, 2020
Deadline to change from Credit to Audit	Friday, Oct. 16, 2020
Last day to withdraw from full-term classes	Friday, Nov. 20, 2020
HOLIDAY — Thanksgiving (Campus closed)	Thursday, Nov. 26, to Friday, Nov. 27, 2020
Final exam week	Monday, Dec. 7, to Friday, Dec. 11, 2020
Semester ends	Friday, Dec. 11, 2020

Student payment options

By phone with a debit/credit card: You may leave a message at 505-454-2506 or e-mail fiscaloffice@luna.edu with your student name, ID number and a callback number. Your call will be returned, and someone will assist you in processing the payment.

By mail with check/money order (payable to Luna Community College): You can mail your payments to
 Luna Community College
 c/o Business Office
 366 Luna Drive
 Las Vegas, NM 87701

(Be sure to include your name and ID number)

Please remember disenrollment will take place on August 19 and August 28 if you do not make arrangements.

TUITION	In-district	In-state, out-of-district	Out-of-state	Seniors
Per credit hour, 1-6 hours:	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$5
Per credit hour, 7-18 hours:	\$40	\$55	\$105	\$5

FEES (may vary): Registration/activity fee \$15 per term; lab fee \$10 per term; distance education fee of \$25 per course for those denoted with an E, H or R in class codes of schedule. Additional fees may apply.

Notes: Out-of-district and out-of-state students pay in-district rates for total enrollment of six credit hours or less. Those who are 55 and older as of the third Friday of the semester may request the reduced senior tuition rate. Senior rates do not apply to community education courses. Rates shown are for the 2020-21 academic year and are subject to change.