Honor Societies

Accounting Honors Society
The Accounting Honors Society is committed to helping students mature within the accounting major, assisting in career preparation and connecting students with professionals and with one another. Most importantly, AHS is dedicated to the Leung School of Accounting’s vision of emphasizing character and competence in students to reflect the life of Christ and shine the light of Truth.

For more information, contact the School of Business and Management (https://www.apu.edu/business/contact).

Alpha Chi, Gamma Chapter
Alpha Chi is a national college honor society that admits students from all academic disciplines. It promotes academic excellence and exemplary character among college and university students and honors those who achieve such distinction. Membership is by invitation and is limited to the top-ranking 10 percent of APU’s junior and senior undergraduates and the top-ranking 10 percent of students in APU graduate programs. APU’s California Gamma Chapter was chartered in 1969.

For more information, contact the chapter’s program manager at alphachi@apu.edu.

Alpha Chi Scholars Association
Formally the Pew Honor Society, the Alpha Chi Scholars Association is a campus organization that helps promising undergraduate students gain admission into excellent graduate schools. Initiated with a series of grants from the Pew Charitable Trusts, the society is now fully funded by APU and is open to all students interested in graduate work. The group sponsors seminars and lectures each year to promote scholarship on campus and help students through the process of graduate school admission. The Alpha Chi Scholars Association also connects its members with faculty mentors and offers some financial aid for graduate-school-related expenses such as applying.

For more information or to request an application, email Joseph Bentz, director of the association, at jbentz@apu.edu.

Alpha Phi Sigma, Department of Criminal Justice
Alpha Phi Sigma (AΦΣ) was established in 1941 to recognize student excellence in the fields of criminal justice and law. The goal of the honors society is to provide networks to professional opportunities including grants and scholarships for current students, career development, and honors at graduation. Membership requires undergraduate students to declare criminal justice as their major, to complete three full-time college semesters, to carry a cumulative GPA of 3.2, and to have a minimum of four courses in the criminal justice major. Graduate students shall be enrolled in a graduate program in criminal justice or related field, have completed four courses, and have a minimum GPA of 3.4 on a 4.0 scale or rank in the upper 25 percent of their class.

For more information, visit the society’s website (http://www.alphaphisigma.org) or contact the Department of Criminal Justice (https://www.apu.edu/bas/criminaljustice) at criminaljustice@apu.edu.

Beta Beta Beta (TriBeta), Epsilon Gamma Chapter, Department of Biology and Chemistry
Beta Beta Beta (TriBeta) is a society for students, particularly undergraduates, dedicated to improving the understanding and appreciation of biological study and extending boundaries of human knowledge through scientific research. Since its founding in 1922, more than 200,000 people have been accepted into lifetime membership, and more than 550 chapters have been established throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. Biennial national conventions of student and faculty members are held, and the society journal, BIOS, publishes student research, articles of interest to biologists, and society news. The society is divided into regional and district groups, each of which holds an annual convention. At the heart of every district and national meeting are student research papers presented in the style of graduate meetings. Awards are given for outstanding individual and chapter accomplishment.

For more information, visit the TriBeta website (http://www.tri-beta.org) or contact the Department of Biology and Chemistry (https://www.apu.edu/clas/biochem).

Lambda Pi Eta, Department of Communication Studies
Lambda Pi Eta is the official honor society of the National Communication Association and a member of the prestigious Association of College Honor Societies. Each member must maintain an exceptional grade-point average and display a commitment to the field of communication. The organization promotes outstanding scholarly achievement in communication studies and explores professional options.
For more information, visit the society website (http://www.natcom.org/lambdapieta) or contact the Department of Communication Studies (http://www.apu.edu/clas/communication).

Phi Alpha, Eta Iota Chapter, Department of Social Work

Eta Iota is the local chapter of the Phi Alpha Honor Society, a national social work honor society. Phi Alpha provides opportunities for a closer bond among social work students and promotes humanitarian goals and ideals. It fosters high academic standards for social work students and invites into membership those who have attained excellence in scholarship and service. To qualify for membership, a candidate must be a declared social work major, have senior status, have at least 90 semester hours of general and departmental coursework, exhibit personal and professional integrity, and have a minimum grade-point average of 3.6 in all coursework. At the graduate level, a graduate social work student must have obtained a minimum 3.6 GPA in the Master of Social Work Program at the end of the semester prior to graduation.

For more information, visit the Phi Alpha website (http://www.phialpha.org) or contact the Department of Social Work (https://www.apu.edu/bas/socialwork).

Phi Alpha Theta, Alpha Omicron Tau Chapter, Department of History and Political Science

Established in 1921 at the University of Arkansas and open to undergraduates, graduate students, and history professors, Phi Alpha Theta’s mission is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication, and the exchange of learning and ideas among historians. Azusa Pacific University became home to the Alpha Omicron Tau chapter of Phi Alpha Theta in 2014. Membership in Phi Alpha Theta is a lifetime membership and is not limited to history majors. Members receive a membership certificate and four issues of the Phi Alpha Theta journal, The Historian. To join, undergraduates must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours (four courses) in history and have achieved a minimum GPA of 3.1 in history and an overall 3.0 GPA or better.

For more information, contact the Department of History and Political Science (https://www.apu.edu/clas/historypolisci) at historyps@apu.edu.

Phi Delta Epsilon, Mu Chapter, Department of Biology and Chemistry

Phi Delta Epsilon (PhiDE) is an international medical fraternity that creates physicians of integrity with a lifelong commitment to the guiding principles of philanthropy, deity, and education through fellowship, service, mentoring, and formal training in leadership, science, and ethics. The California Mu chapter of PhiDE was chartered at Azusa Pacific University on April 17, 2010, and has since provided premedical students with various resources, including networking with doctors and students at other universities, leadership training at regional and international conferences, and opportunities to participate in various internships and medical education programs. Additionally, PhiDE members at APU have participated in community service through a wide variety of local organizations such as Glendora’s Crowther Teen and Family Center, Habitat for Humanity, and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, and have raised funds to support the Children’s Miracle Network, Phi Delta Epsilon’s official philanthropic partner.

For more information, visit the Phi Delta Epsilon website (http://www.phide.org) or contact the Department of Biology and Chemistry (https://www.apu.edu/clas/biochem).

Phi Delta Phi, Department of History and Political Science

Phi Delta Phi is the oldest legal organization in continuous existence in the United States, predating even the American Bar Association. Phi Delta Phi celebrates academic excellence and embraces the finest attributes of professionalism and scholarship. Since its founding, Phi Delta Phi has emphasized to students and lawyers alike the importance of their calling. In March 2014, Azusa Pacific University was chartered as a member institution of the Pre-Law Society of Phi Delta Phi. The Pre-Law Society strives to develop students’ knowledge of law and help them make an informed decision about pursuing a legal career. Members are given information regarding the LSAT, law school admissions, life as a law student, professional responsibility, and varying careers in the legal field. Membership is open to undergraduate students who have an interest in the study of law and who meet the minimum qualifications.

For more information, contact the Department of History and Political Science (https://www.apu.edu/clas/historypolisci) at historyps@apu.edu.

Pi Sigma Alpha, Alpha Eta Delta Chapter, Department of History and Political Science

Pi Sigma Alpha is the only national honor society for undergraduate and graduate students of political science. There are more than 600 chapters established in colleges and universities in the United States, and a few outside of the U.S. Pi Sigma Alpha is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) and is designated as a “Specialized, Upper-Division” society by ACHS. The Azusa Pacific University chapter, Alpha Eta Delta, was chartered in 2011. All Pi Sigma Alpha members, regular and honorary, receive a certificate of membership and pin and permanent enrollment in the society’s membership rolls maintained by the national office. Members may apply for scholarships for graduate study in political science, Washington semester programs, and best paper awards. Members must be of junior or senior class standing, and have completed at least 10 units of political science courses (one of which must be 300-level or higher; transfer students must have completed at least 6 of the 10 units at APU). Students must maintain an average grade of B or higher in all political science courses, and overall academic standing must be in the upper one-third of the college class.
Psi Chi, Department of Psychology
Psi Chi is an international honor society whose purpose is to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship of the individual members in all fields, particularly in psychology, and to advance the science of psychology. The mission of Psi Chi is to produce well-educated, ethical, and socially responsible members committed to contributing to the science and profession of psychology and to society in general. In pursuit of its mission, the society aims to advance the science and profession of psychology, promote an educational experience consistent with the mission, promote ethical and socially responsible members and leaders, define and establish an organizational structure that promotes its mission, and recognize and foster the contributions that diversity makes to the science and practice of psychology.

For more information, visit the society website (http://www.psichi.org) or contact the Department of Psychology (https://www.apu.edu/bas/psychology)

Scholar Athletes
Scholar Athletes are graduating NCAA student-athletes who have been recognized either by the NCAA, Pacific West Conference, Great Northwest Athletic Conference, Pacific Collegiate Swim and Dive Conference, Golden Coast Conference, or National Collegiate Acrobatics & Tumbling Association as Scholar Athletes. To be recognized, a student-athlete must participate in varsity athletics for Azusa Pacific University and maintain the required GPA for recognition in each conference.

For more information, contact the APU Athletics Department (https://athletics.apu.edu).

Sigma Alpha Pi, Department of Leadership and Organizational Psychology
The National Society of Leadership and Success, Sigma Alpha Pi, is one of the largest collegiate leadership honor societies in the country with chapters at more than 300 campuses worldwide. The mission of the society is to build leaders who make a better world. To this end, the society encourages community action, volunteerism, personal growth, and strong leadership from its chapters and members. Student members of the APU chapter participate in monthly lectures, small groups, and social events aimed at helping people discover and achieve their goals. Students are nominated and invited to join the society based on several factors, including academic success, leadership involvement, and commitment to leadership development and practice.

For more information, contact the Department of Leadership and Organizational Psychology (http://www.apu.edu/bas/leadershippsych).

Sigma Delta Pi, Phi Omicron, Department of Modern Languages
Sigma Delta Pi is the national collegiate Hispanic honor society. Founded in 1919, it is the only honor society for students studying Spanish in four-year colleges and universities. In order to be nominated for membership, students must show a genuine interest in the Hispanic culture through the completion of at least three years, or the equivalent, of college Spanish, including a third-year course in Hispanic literature or Hispanic culture and civilization. Students must also average a grade of B or better in all Spanish coursework and be ranked in the upper 35 percent of their class. APU’s chapter was established in 2003 under the name Phi Omicron.

For more information, visit the society website (http://groups.apu.edu/sigmadeltpi) or contact Marcela Rojas in the Department of Modern Languages (https://www.apu.edu/clas/modernlanguages) at mrojas@apu.edu.

Sigma Iota Epsilon, Theta Kappa Chapter, School of Business and Management
Sigma Iota Epsilon is the National Honorary and Professional Management Society. The SIE national office and its 73 local chapters across the country conduct numerous programs aimed at bridging the gap between management theory and management practices. The Theta Kappa local chapter was founded in 2011 and represents APU's Master of Business Management (MBM) program (https://www.apu.edu/business/programs/masters-in-management). The goals of SIE are to stimulate interest and achievement in the field of management, to stimulate scholarship in management, to facilitate contacts between students and practicing managers, to recognize people who have made contributions to the field of management, and to gain recognition of the contribution and value of scholastic achievement in the management discipline. To become a part of Sigma Iota Epsilon, Theta Kappa Chapter, graduate students must be enrolled in or have successfully completed graduate coursework in the MBM program; have completed 9 units of graduate coursework, including at least 3 units of core MBM coursework; maintain a minimum GPA of 3.5 in graduate coursework; and have completed the SIE membership application and paid their membership fees.

For more information, contact the School of Business and Management (https://www.apu.edu/business/contact).

Sigma Tau Delta, Alpha Epsilon Tau, Department of English
The purposes of Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society are to confer distinction for high achievement in English language and literature in undergraduate, graduate, and professional studies; promote interest in literature and the English language on local campuses and their surrounding communities; and foster the discipline of English in all its aspects, including creative and critical writing. Alpha Epsilon Tau is the local chapter. To qualify for membership, candidates must be English majors or minors, have completed two courses in English beyond the requirement of WRIT 110, and have completed three or more semesters of college work with an overall GPA of 3.3 or above and an average of B+ or higher in all English courses.
For more information, visit the society website (http://www.english.org/sigmatd) or contact the Department of English (https://www.apu.edu/clas/english).

Sigma Theta Tau, Iota Sigma Chapter, School of Nursing

Sigma Theta Tau International, the only international honor society of nursing in the world, provides leadership and scholarship in practice, education, and research to enhance the health of all people. The honor society supports the learning and professional development of members who strive to improve nursing care worldwide. Students in baccalaureate nursing programs may qualify for membership after completing half of the nursing curriculum, ranking in the upper 35 percent of their graduating class, and achieving a minimum grade-point average of 3.0. All potential applicants must meet the expectation of academic integrity. APU’s chapter is Iota Sigma.

For more information, visit the chapter website (http://www.apu.edu/iotasigma) or contact the School of Nursing (https://www.apu.edu/nursing).

Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges

Each year, deans and chairs from all schools and colleges nominate deserving students for listing in the national publication Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. This distinction is awarded on the basis of scholarship, leadership, and potential for future success.

For more information, contact One Stop | Undergraduate Enrollment Services Center at onestop@apu.edu.