

STUDENT LIFE

Students will find that the college experience is enhanced by active participation in some social or extracurricular activities. The College encourages each student to participate in extracurricular activities. Approval by the administration must be obtained before such events are scheduled or placed on the calendar.

Opportunities are provided to participate in the following: student government; production of campus publications such as the campus newspaper; intercollegiate athletics; band, drama, and choral music performances; a variety of club programs; and social, service, cultural, and recreational activities and events.

Time is designated as college hours. Few classes are scheduled during these hours, allowing for campus activities such as cultural activities, club meetings, and current affairs forums.

ASSOCIATED STUDENT ORGANIZATION

The Associated Student Organization (ASO) represents all students at Southwestern College and sponsors activities including cultural performances, awards, student clubs, social activities, and student leadership conferences.

The ASO is the recognized student government body of the College. The students elect representatives to both the executive and legislative branches (Ed Code 76060-76065, Title 5 Section 54801, 54803, Policy No. 5400, 5410, and 5420).

The executive branch has seven executive officers: president; executive vice president (who serves as senate chairperson); social vice president; vice president for club affairs; vice president for public relations; executive secretary; and vice president for finance. The Senate is the legislative branch and is composed of twenty-three at-large, School, and Center senators.

CAMPUS CLUBS

Students should plan to participate in at least one social organization or activity with a goal to further develop social skills. A variety of chartered groups are organized on campus for the welfare and extracurricular interests of the general student body. During the school year, the Interclub Council awards charters to clubs according to the following four categories established in the ASO Constitution:

- Academic clubs stimulate interest in activities related to courses and curricula, encourage high standards of performance in academic work, provide experiences to complement classroom activities, and provide opportunities for service and leadership in areas related to coursework.
- Service clubs recognize and honor students for outstanding achievement in the community and service to the College, and provide opportunities for students to plan and execute programs of meaningful service to the College community.
- Special interest clubs provide opportunities for students with mutual interests to organize for the purpose of investigating, developing, or expanding their common interests.
- Honorary clubs recognize and encourage outstanding achievement in scholarship and provide opportunities for developing leadership ability.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Southwestern College is a member of the Pacific Coast Conference, which includes Cuyamaca, Grossmont, Imperial Valley, Mira Costa, Palomar, San Diego City, and San Diego Mesa Colleges.

Southwestern College competes in the following sports: men's football, baseball, water polo, track and field, basketball, cross country, soccer, and tennis; and women's basketball, cross country, softball, tennis, soccer, volleyball, water polo, and track and field.

Southwestern College competes in the Foothill Conference in football against Antelope Valley, Chaffey, Citrus, College of the Desert, Grossmont, Mt. San Jacinto, San Bernardino Valley, San Diego Mesa, and Victor Valley Colleges.

Eligibility rules, established by the California Association of Community Colleges and Southwestern College, require that:

- A student athlete passes a physical exam prior to competition.
- A student athlete must be continuously and actively enrolled in 12 units during the season of sport.
- A student athlete may not practice and/or participate with more than one postsecondary institution during the sport season.
- In order to be eligible for a second season of a sport, the athlete must complete 24 units prior to the beginning of the semester of the second season of the sport. Units completed during the first season of the sport and summer shall be included in the required 24 units.
- A student entering college after July 1, 1985, must maintain a cumulative 2.0 grade point average in accredited postsecondary coursework computed since the start of the semester of the first participation in order to continue athletic competition.
- No athlete shall be allowed more than two seasons of competition in any one sport. Exceptions may be made by the conference only in cases of incapacitating illness or injury.
- A student transferring to a California community college for academic or athletic participation purposes and who has previously participated in intercollegiate athletics and whose most recent participation was at another California community college must complete 12 units in residence prior to the beginning of the semester of competition for that college.
- A student athlete who has participated in a sport dropped by his/her college and has remaining eligibility in that sport is entitled to a waiver of the 12 units in residence requirement.
- Once the season of sport begins, the athlete may not participate on any other team in that sport during the season.

Questions regarding athletic eligibility should be referred to the Dean of School of Health, Exercise Science, Athletics and Applied Technology in Building 1000.

FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

The School of Arts and Communication offers a variety of courses to provide the student with an opportunity for creative expression in art, music, theatre, speech, dance, telemedia, and journalism. These performing groups/activities include the Concert Choir, Jazz Vocal Ensemble, Chamber Singers, Jazz Ensemble, communication, dance, theatre, forensics, art exhibitions, Sun newspaper, Mariachi Ensemble, African Drum and Dance Ensemble, small performing groups, and musical theatre.

In addition, Southwestern College provides a series of distinguished lectures and performing artists. Performances are held during the day and night to allow every opportunity for students to take part in campus activities.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

COURSE CLASSIFICATION COURSES AND CREDIT

A course is a planned study in a distinct subject area of a department. Each course has educational objectives which must be achieved in order to receive a final passing grade and to be awarded specified units. Each course has methods of evaluation to determine if the student has met the educational objectives, including written and oral assignments, problem-solving exercises, class and/or lab activities, quizzes, and examinations. Each course employs teaching techniques which can include lecture, individual student assistance, demonstrations, and discussions. All credit courses require a minimum of three hours of work per unit including class time per week.

BASIC CREDIT INFORMATION

The credit value in semester units of each course is indicated after the title of the course in the College Catalog. In accordance with Title 5, Section 55002.5 (a), one unit of credit requires a minimum of 48 hours of lecture (plus homework) or laboratory work at colleges operating on the semester system. To maximize instruction, Southwestern College uses a common model based on 48 to 54 hours per semester for one unit of credit. The number of hours per week of class is indicated after the title of the course in the College Catalog and is based on a traditional semester of 18 weeks. One hour of lecture and two hours of outside work

(homework) are required per week for each unit. For laboratory courses, three hours of lab are required per week for each unit. For semesters with fewer weeks, such as the 16 week compressed calendar, the number of hours required per week is proportionally increased per unit of credit.

COURSE IDENTIFICATION NUMBERING SYSTEM (C-ID)

The Course Identification Numbering System (C-ID) is a statewide numbering system independent from the course numbers assigned by local California community colleges. A C-ID number next to a course signals that participating California colleges and universities have determined that courses offered by other California community colleges are comparable in content and scope to courses offered on their own campuses, regardless of their unique titles or local course number. Thus, if a schedule of classes or catalog lists a course bearing a C-ID number, for example SOC 101, students at that college can be assured that it will be accepted in lieu of a course bearing the C-ID SOC 101 designation at another community college. In other words, the C-ID designation can be used to identify comparable courses at different community colleges. However, students should always go to **www.assist.org** to confirm how each college's course will be accepted at a particular four-year college or university for transfer credit.

The C-ID numbering system is useful for students attending more than one community college and is applied to many of the transferable courses students need as

preparation for transfer. Because these course requirements may change and because courses may be modified and qualified for or deleted from the C-ID database, students should always check with a counselor to determine how C-ID designated courses fit into their educational plans for transfer.

Students may consult the ASSIST database at **www.assist.org** for specific information on C-ID course designations. Counselors can always help students interpret or explain this information.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL COURSES

Career/technical courses are designed to provide education and experiences that give the student competency in the specific content of the course. The courses have been developed with the help of advisory committees representing business and industries reflective of the course content and program of study. In some cases career/technical courses may be transferable to other colleges and universities. The student should consult a counselor regarding the status of all career/technical course transfers.

A degree or certificate is awarded to students who have completed a selected sequence of courses leading toward a career/technical objective. Courses can be either required or elective with the units applied to fulfillment of the major.

DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION, ACADEMIC SKILLS COURSES

Special courses in English, mathematics, reading, and study skills are designed to assist students in developing the basic skills needed to successfully pursue educational or vocational goals. The student should consult a counselor about assessment and appropriate placement.

EXPERIMENTAL COURSES

An experimental course is offered with the intent to eventually make it part of the regular curriculum. Each experimental course is designated with the number 295 and may be followed by a letter.

INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES

Independent study is neither a substitute for any course listed in the catalog nor a substitute for other requirements in the curriculum. It is individual study or research in an area of a department of particular interest to the student and not included in regular course offerings of the College (Policy No. 6019).

Independent Study courses are listed in the Course Description section of the catalog with the designation number 299. A petition to take an independent study course must be approved by both the instructor and the school dean, and it must be filed in Admissions during the first three weeks of the semester or the first week of summer session. See page 48 for additional eligibility requirements information.

ONLINE COURSES

Online learning is defined as any teaching-learning environment where the student and the teacher are not located in the same place. Technology is used to bridge the learning space. Online learning provides an opportunity for greater diversity in the means of instruction and in the delivery of educational and training services. It also lends itself to addressing a wide variety of learning styles.

To determine if online learning is right for you, review the following statements:

- I am very comfortable with using my computer for email, Internet, and word processing.
- I have access to a computer most of the time.

- I have Internet access at a fast speed.
- I have very strong time management and organization skills.
- I have very strong study skills.

If you agree with all five statements, online courses may be for you!

Online Courses:

- are academically equivalent to traditional on-campus courses.
- allow students to fit work and school into their busy schedules.
- offer the flexibility to choose where, when, and how often students complete lessons at home.
- save time and expense of traveling to campus.

TYPES OF ONLINE COURSES

HYBRID

These courses feature a combination of online and face-to-face (F2F) format utilizing a course management system (CMS), such as Blackboard (Bb) to post assignments, documents and/or discussion board activities. Hybrid classes meet on campus at least half of their class meetings, with remaining class work conducted via the internet. There may be F2F orientation meetings and periodic F2F testing. To access the class, regular access to a computer with a reliable and fast internet connection, and a Web browser software such as Mozilla Firefox or Microsoft Explorer is required. You will need access to an Internet service provider.

ONLINE

These courses are taught 100% online either synchronously or asynchronously through use of technology on a CMS, such as Blackboard. All assignments are given and completed through email, postings, or voicemail. Exams and orientation may be given F2F in a classroom or at an approved testing center with supervision; however, 100% of instruction is online. The instructor provides student assistance and maintains appropriate student contact through F2F meetings, email, Bb postings, or voicemail, as necessary. The same level of technology as used with Hybrid classes is required.

Note: For hybrid and entirely online courses, students must have access to a computer with reliable Internet connection and a valid email address.

WEB-ENHANCED

These courses have traditional, face-to-face meetings; however, at the discretion of the instructor, some or all of the course content may be available on the Internet.

Online Course Orientations

Students may be asked by their instructors to participate in an orientation. The following options include but are not limited to what students may be asked to do:

Option 1:

The following link will allow students to complete an interactive online orientation: <http://www.swccd.edu/~olss/Media/Students%20Starter%20PacketC.camrec/Student%20Starter%20PacketC.camrec.html>.

Option 2:

Attend an optional on-campus orientation, if scheduled by the individual instructor. <http://swccd.edu/~olss/OnlineOrientations.htm>.

Option 3:

Read the Student Orientation Packet on the Student Information section of the Online Learning pages. <http://swccd.edu/~olss> or call toll free 1-866-556-6718.

TRANSFER COURSES

Southwestern is a regionally-accredited college with courses appropriately designated for transfer and/or baccalaureate credit. Southwestern College courses are generally accepted throughout the nation by other colleges and universities. However, acceptance of a Southwestern College course is ultimately determined by the receiving institution. In addition, there may be a limit to the number of units a college or university may allow from a community college. Career/technical and developmental courses, in most cases, do not transfer to other colleges or universities.

The following are examples by which a community college course may transfer:

- As meeting a lower-division major requirement at the intended transfer college or university. To be accepted for this purpose, the course usually corresponds exactly to the comparable course at the transfer institution in content, prerequisite, and unit.
- For meeting general education requirements, the student should review the general education patterns for the college or university to which he/she intends to transfer. A list of the transferable general

education courses for the California State University (CSU/IGETC) and the University of California (IGETC) systems are provided beginning on page 69. All students should consult with a counselor for assistance in selecting the appropriate general education course pattern.

- As elective credit. Elective credit may be applied to the total unit requirement for the bachelor's or higher degree. The receiving institution reserves the right to determine the extent to which transfer credit satisfies the specific and elective requirements of degree programs.

Courses not accepted to meet specific subject requirements are usually the result of one of the following occurrences:

- The units have exceeded the maximum amount of community college units allowed by the transfer institution.
- The corresponding course at the transfer institution is designated as upper-division.
- The course is a prerequisite for a course in the student's major, which is normally completed in high school.

Many online courses are transferable to four-year colleges and universities. However students are advised to consult a counselor regarding some transfer institutions policies and restrictions for online coursework.

ALTERNATIVE COURSE CREDIT

AUDITING/NOT FOR CREDIT

The Governing Board of the Southwestern Community College District, under the provisions of Chapter 5, Section 76370.3 of the Education Code, hereby authorizes individuals to audit regularly scheduled credit courses, subject to the following conditions and stipulations:

- A person must meet college eligibility requirements for admission to audit courses.
- A (\$15) fee per unit per semester shall be charged for each class audited. Students enrolled in classes to receive credit for 10 or more units shall not be charged a fee to audit three or fewer semester units per semester. Additionally, the mandatory health fee and course fees must be paid.
- No student auditing a course shall be permitted to change his or her

enrollment in that course to receive credit for the course.

- Priority in class enrollment shall be given to students desiring to take the course for credit.
- Audit registration will be limited to the last day of the scheduled add/drop period and will require permission from the instructor of record, including his or her signature authorizing audit registration in the class.
- A maximum of two courses per semester may be audited in any regular instruction term (fall, spring, or summer).
- All college policies and procedures apply to audit students.
- Classroom attendance of students auditing a course shall not be included in computing the apportionment due the District.

Audit petitions are available in Admissions at the Chula Vista campus and the Higher Education Centers at National City, Otay Mesa, San Ysidro, or online at www.swccd.edu (click on Admissions then on printable forms) (Policy No. 6011).

COOPERATIVE WORK EXPERIENCE EDUCATION (CWEE)

Cooperative Work Experience Education (CWEE) allows students with declared majors to earn up to 16 units of college credit by engaging in an internship program (either paid or unpaid) related to their major. CWEE uses the entire community as the laboratory, allowing students to apply theoretical information learned in the classroom to a practical environment. It enables students to compare their career goals and expectations with specific career requirements and to learn from professional and technical experts working in their career field (Policy No. 5160).

Title 5 Regulations establish the basis of eligibility for work experience. To be eligible for CWEE, you must:

- Have concurrent enrollment in one other major-related course and have successfully completed one to two major-related courses to qualify for a CWEE class for fall and spring semesters, or summer session.
- Have a declared major.
- Work in either a paid or unpaid position related to your major.
- Develop job performance objectives each semester of participation.
- Enroll in the class during the regular college registration period.

Section 55254 of the Title 5 Regulations further requires that you meet the following criteria for CWEE:

- Your planned program of CWEE must, in the opinion of your departmental instructor/agency representative, include new or expanded responsibilities or learning opportunities beyond those experienced during previous employment/internship.
- Your CWEE program must have on-the-job learning experiences that contribute to your occupational or education goals.
- Your CWEE experience must have the approval of your instructor/agency representative.
- If you are self-employed, you must identify a person who is approved by your instructor/CWEE coordinator to serve as the designated employer representative. This person must agree in writing to accept responsibility for assisting you to identify new or expanded on-the-job learning objectives, for assisting in the evaluation of these objectives, and for validating the hours you worked.

CWEE requires a minimum of 60 hours of work experience (75 hours if paid) per each unit earned. Students can enroll in up to four (4) units each semester for a total of 16 elective units overall. For further information or enrollment procedures, contact the CWEE office located upstairs in the Cesar E. Chavez Student Services Building, office S205H, or phone 619-482-6537.

Auditing Cooperative Work Experience Education (CWEE)

Students may audit the CWEE courses after completing the 16-unit level. Students interested in further information about Work Experience should contact the CWEE office located upstairs in the Cesar E. Chavez Student Services Building, office S205H, or phone 619-482-6537.

COURSE EQUIVALENCY

Southwestern College grants credit for college units earned at any regionally accredited postsecondary institution (e.g., Western Association of Schools and Colleges) other than coursework identified by such institutions as non-degree level coursework. Southwestern College will honor articulation agreements made with other postsecondary institutions (Policy No. 6027).

Coursework deemed to be equivalent in scope and content to coursework taught at Southwestern College is determined by the Evaluations Office in consultation with the appropriate dean and/or faculty. Credits transferred from institutions on the quarter system will be converted to semester credits by multiplying quarter-unit totals by two-thirds. All credit summaries will be completed upon a student's petitioning for graduation or through consultation with a counselor. In the areas of mathematics and foreign language, credit will not be granted for a lower-level course completed after the higher-level course.

Students who wish to receive credit toward degrees at Southwestern College for coursework taken at an accredited foreign institution must have their foreign transcripts evaluated by a foreign transcript evaluation service, preferably the International Education Research Foundation (IERF). The following items should be noted:

- Courses cannot be used to satisfy the general education breadth or IGETC requirements.
- Credit cannot be awarded for English or speech courses.

CREDIT BY EXAMINATION

A student may obtain credit by examination for graded courses at Southwestern College. Credit by examination for courses identified in the high school district articulation agreements is included under this policy.

The school approving the credit by examination shall determine the type of examination to evaluate comprehension or knowledge and the condition for its administration.

Credit by examination is restricted and excludes physical education activity courses. Credit by examination will be provided for all courses that are not exempt. A list of courses exempt from credit by examination is found in the Instructional Support Services Office, the appropriate school office, and Admissions and Records. Petitions are available in Admissions at the Chula Vista Campus, the Higher Education Centers at National City, Otay Mesa, or San Ysidro, or online at www.swccd.edu (click on Admissions then click on printable forms) (Policy No. 6077).

Eligibility Requirements—Credit by Examination

A student must satisfy all of the following:

- Be currently enrolled in at least one other graded course.
- Be in good academic standing (minimum 2.0 GPA) and maintain a non-probationary status at Southwestern College.
- Not be currently enrolled in or have received any previous college credit for the course being petitioned. Credit will not be awarded if the course is a prerequisite for another course already completed.
- Not have challenged more than 15 units by examination at Southwestern College, or more than two courses a semester, or more than one course during the summer.

The student will receive a grade of Pass (P) or No Pass (NP) [formerly Credit (CR) or No Credit (NC)] for the course at the end of the semester. The transcript will be annotated to indicate that the course was by examination.

Credits obtained by examination are not accepted for meeting the unit load enrollment requirement for VA, Social Security benefits, financial aid, cooperative education, or for satisfying graduation residency requirements.

A student must complete all of the following steps:

- Complete and file a petition with Admissions prior to the end of the sixth week of the semester or the second week of the summer session.
- Return to Admissions in two days to pick up the petition.
- By the eighth week of the semester or the third week of the summer session, obtain approval signature from the evaluating instructor and cognizant department chair/dean responsible for the course being challenged. Arrangements to take the exam will be made at that time.
- Pay appropriate fees in the Cashier's Office.

Note: Students transferring to colleges and universities should check those institutions' policies on acceptance of courses taken as credit by exam.

HONORS PROGRAM

The Southwestern College Honors Program Mission Statement:

"To serve students by creating exceptional academic experiences."

What are the benefits?

- Enhanced admission opportunities to the most selective transfer institutions.
- Increased scholarship opportunities.
- Special recognition on transcript.
- Intellectual growth and exploration of new ideas and concepts.
- Increased learning opportunities through research, study and independent projects.
- One-on-one mentoring from faculty members in the field of interest.
- Networking opportunities through research, study and independent projects.
- Career and employment networking opportunities.

Admission Requirements

1. Entering freshman—Have an overall minimum GPA of 3.5 in all high school work.
Continuing student—Have completed a minimum of 12 units of college-level courses with a GPA of 3.2 in college work.
2. Complete Honors Program Application.
3. Provide copies of transcripts of previous academic work. Unofficial copies will be accepted. Entering freshman submit high school transcript and continuing college student submit college transcript.
4. Must be eligible for English 115 and proficient in college-level reading.

Interested students may register for an Honors course during the registration period and complete an Honors application during the first four weeks of class. Each Honors course taken and accepted by the Honors Committee is recorded as such on the transcript.

Program Completion Requirements

1. Complete a minimum of 15 units in Honors courses.
2. Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.2 in all Honors courses and a minimum overall GPA of 3.2.

For general information and to apply to the Honors Program, contact the designated Honors counselor in the Transfer Center at 619-482-6472.

INDEPENDENT STUDY CREDIT

Independent study courses are listed in the Course Description section of the catalog with the designation number 299. A petition to take an Independent Study course must be approved by both the instructor and the School Dean and filed in the Admissions Office during the first three weeks of the semester or the first week of the summer session.

To be eligible for independent study, a student must be enrolled in one graded course, have completed at least one course in the subject or related areas, or have demonstrated competence in the area in which he/she wishes to study, and be in good academic standing (minimum of 2.0 GPA) maintaining a non-probationary status.

The maximum number of units a student can take in independent study courses is nine, with a maximum of six in any one department. All students taking an independent study course must turn in to the instructor of the course, at the end of the semester, an abstract of his/her independent study project or the project itself. Petition forms may be obtained in Admissions at the Chula Vista campus, the Higher Education Centers at National City, Otay Mesa, or San Ysidro, or online at www.swccd.edu (click Admissions then click on printable forms.)

Enrollment fees and nonresident fees must be paid at the time of acceptance of petition (Southwestern College Policy 6019).

MILITARY EXPERIENCE CREDIT

Basic Training or Recruit Training

Four units of credit are awarded to all active-duty students and service veterans who have attained at least six months active-duty status with an honorable discharge. Additional credit may be granted according to the recommendations of the American Council on Education (ACE) Guide to Military Credit for students pursuing certain majors.

- The remaining two units will be applied toward elective credit.
- Air Force veterans will be awarded credit based on the transcripts of the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF).

Credit will be awarded for lower-division baccalaureate, associate degree, and upper-division baccalaureate recommended courses with the following conditions:

- Member copy 4 of DD-214 or a DD-295 must be on file with Admissions.
- Student must petition the Veterans Office for credit.
- Appropriate school deans must approve course equivalency when credit is sought for specific military coursework beyond basic training.
- If military coursework does not match with specific college coursework, the military credits will be listed as electives.

Credit may also be awarded based on recommendations provided on a Community College of the Air Force transcript (CCAF), and/or the Army and American Council on Education Registry Transcript (AARTS), and/or the Sailor/Marines American Consul on Education Registry Transcript (SMART). (See exception below for Military Occupation Specialty coursework.)

Southwestern College conducts an evaluation of all previous education and training of the veteran or eligible person, shortens the duration of the training course (or degree program), and notifies the veteran and the DVA accordingly (Policy No. 6091).

Exception: Credit will not automatically be awarded for Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) or Navy Enlisted Classifications (NEC).

Note: A veteran or active-duty student may petition for individual review. Waiver or credit by examination procedures are available methods for granting credit in these cases.