

College Terms

The following is offered as an explanation of common terms used at Sacramento City College and other community colleges and universities:

ACCEPTABLE FOR CREDIT: identifies the transfer status of a course to the University of California (UC) and/or California State University (CSU) systems.

ADVISORIES: recommended courses and/or skill levels to meet prior to enrolling in the course or program to ensure success.

A.A., ASSOCIATE IN ARTS: a general degree granted by California Community Colleges.

A.S., ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE: a general degree granted by California Community Colleges having more emphasis on two-year vocational training than the A.A. degree.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE: a degree granted by four-year colleges/universities, usually the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or the Bachelor of Science (B.S.).

CLASS SCHEDULE: the listing of courses with days, time, instructors, and room locations to be offered each semester.

COREQUISITE: a course in which a student is required to enroll at the same time as another course.

COUNSELOR: a trained faculty member assigned to assist students with academic, career, personal, and crisis intervention.

CREDIT GRADING: course for which units and a letter grade are granted.

CREDIT/NO CREDIT: a grading system allowing a course to be taken for Credit or No Credit rather than for a letter grade. A student will be granted Credit if a "C" grade or better is earned.

ELECTIVES: courses elected by the student that do not fulfill a major or general education requirement but provide units toward the degree.

ENROLLMENT LIMITATION: courses, skill level, or other requirements a student must meet prior to enrollment in a course or program. If required, these will be listed with the course description.

GENERAL EDUCATION: certain group of courses required of all degree candidates regardless of their major. These differ for the A.A. and A.S. degrees and for transfer.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (G.P.A.): the average grade of all units attempted by a student.

LOWER DIVISION: the first two years of college work, i.e., freshman and sophomore years and/or courses.

MAJOR: the major field of study a student plans to pursue, e.g., biology, nursing.

MATRICULATION: an agreement between the college and each student as to the steps both will take to help ensure the student succeeds.

MINOR: the field of study a student plans to pursue in addition to the major but with less emphasis. A minor is not required.

NON-CREDIT (UNGRADED): course for which no units are given.

PREREQUISITE: a course or skill level a student must meet prior to enrollment in a course or program. If required, prerequisites are listed with the course description.

SEMESTER UNIT: In general, a semester unit represents one hour of lecture or three hours of laboratory per week for a semester. Most AA/AS degrees require a minimum of 60 semester units. One semester unit is equivalent to one and a half quarter units.

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD: an official copy of a student's college record prepared by the Admissions and Records office.

UPPER DIVISION: the last two years of college work, i.e., junior and senior years and/or courses. Upper division courses are only offered at four-year colleges/universities.