

# ACADEMIC POLICY

## Open Enrollment

Unless specifically exempted by law, every course for which State aid is claimed is fully open to any person who has been admitted to the college and who meets the appropriate academic prerequisites.

## Summer/Winter Sessions

Summer/Winter Sessions are offered subject to approval by the Board of Trustees.

## Student Records and Directory Information

The Los Angeles Community College District, in compliance with Federal and State law, has established policies and procedures governing student records and the control of personally identifiable information. The Los Angeles Community College District recognizes that student records are a confidential matter between the individual student and the college. At the same time, the District has a responsibility, to fulfill public information needs (i.e., information about students participating in athletics, announcements of scholarships and awards, etc.). To meet this responsibility the District may release Directory Information unless the student states in writing that he or she does not want it released. The responsibility for carrying out these provisions is charged to the college Records Officer, designated by the Chief Administrative Officer on each campus. The Records Officer may be contacted via the Admissions Office. Copies of the Federal and State laws and District policies and procedures are maintained by the Records Officer and are available for inspection and inquiry.

All student records maintained by the various offices and departments of the college, other than those specifically exempted by law, are open to inspection by the student concerned. The accuracy and appropriateness of the records may be challenged in writing to the Records Officer. A student has the right to receive a copy of his or her records, at a cost not to exceed the cost of reproduction. (Requests for transcripts should be made directly to the Admissions Office).

No student records, other than Directory Information, will be released without the written consent of the student concerned except as authorized by law. A log of persons and organizations requesting or receiving student record information is maintained by the Records Officer. The log is open to inspection only to the student and the community college official or his or her designee responsible for the maintenance of student records.

Directory Information includes the student's name, city of residence, date of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student. Directory Information about any student currently attending the college may be released or withheld at the discretion of the Records Officer.

No Directory Information will be released regarding any student who has notified the Records Officer in writing that such information shall not be released.

All inquiries regarding student records, Directory Information, and policies for records access, release, and challenge should be directed to the Records Officer via the Admissions Office.

Students have the right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education concerning alleged violations of Federal and State laws governing student records.

## Units of Work/Study Load

### Study Load Limitations

Maximum unit requirements are as follows:

#### Fall/Spring Semesters

1. The maximum study load is 18 units during a regular semester. The normal class load for students in the Fall or Spring semester is 12 to 18 units a semester for full-time students. A college program of 15 units is equal to at least a 50-hour work week for most students.
2. Students who desire to take 19 or more units must obtain counselor approval after the semester begins by presenting an add card signed by the instructor for each class they wish to add.
3. The maximum study load for a student who has been on academic and progress probation for two consecutive semesters is **6 units**. Students who desire to enroll in more than 6 units must obtain counselor approval.

#### Summer and Winter Sessions

1. Students are limited to a maximum study load of 8 units per session.
2. To enroll in two courses per session that total more than 8 units but do not exceed 10 units, students must go to the Admissions Office. No other enrollment unit requests will be considered until the session begins.

Students must see a counselor with an add card signed by the instructor for each class they wish to add.

## Enforcement of 30-Unit Limit on Basic Skills Courses

Title 5, California Code of Regulations, limits a student from taking more than 30 units of “remedial” course work, which is defined as “nondegree-applicable basic skills courses.” Effective Winter 2010, the LACCD registration system will prevent students who have exceeded this limit from enrolling in additional basic skills courses. However, a student who has reached this limit, but enrolls in a credit or non-credit English as a Second Language (ESL) course, will be allowed to also enroll in additional basic skills courses. Students with a learning disability may request an exemption through the Services for Students with Disabilities office (formerly DSPS). Also, this limitation does not apply to enrollment in non-credit basic skills courses.

### Petitioning the 30-Unit Limit on Basic Skills Courses

Students may petition by submitting a General Petition to the Graduation Office. The petition must include a Student Educational Plan issued by a counselor.

The following courses are considered Basic Skills courses for purposes of this unit limitation:

- Developmental Communications 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 23, 35, 36A, and 36B
- English 21, 33, 67, 68, 80, 82, 83, 361, and 362
- Learning Skills 1, 2, 4, 10, 40, and 41
- Math 105 and 112
- Speech 61, 62, 64, and 66

## Supplemental Instructional Materials

Some of the classes offered may require students to provide those materials which are of continuing value to the student outside of the classroom setting. These materials may be purchased at the campus bookstore.

## Attendance Regulations

The only students who may attend classes are those who have been admitted to the college and are in approved active status.

Students are expected to attend every meeting of all classes for which they are registered. Violation of this regulation may result in exclusion from class as specified in Administrative Regulation E-13. Provisions of Administrative Regulation E-13 include the following:

1. STUDENTS WHO HAVE PREREGISTERED FOR A CLASS AND WHO DO NOT ATTEND THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CLASS FORFEIT THEIR RIGHT TO A PLACE IN THE CLASS. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES MAY BE CONSIDERED BY THE INSTRUCTOR.
2. Whenever absences in hours exceed the number of hours the class meets per week, the instructor will consider whether there are mitigating circumstances which may

justify the absences. If the instructor determines that such circumstances do not exist, the instructor may exclude the student from the class.

3. Three cases of tardiness may be considered equivalent to one absence.
4. It is the student’s responsibility to consult with an instructor regarding any absences that would alter the student’s status in the class. Instructors may be reached by calling the department or writing to the instructor at the college address.

## Auditing Classes

Students may be permitted to audit a class under the following conditions:

1. Payment of a nonrefundable \$15 per unit fee. Students enrolled in classes to receive credit for 10 or more semester units shall not be charged a fee to audit three or fewer semester units per semester.
2. No student auditing a course shall be permitted to change his or her enrollment in that course to receive credit for the course.
3. Priority in class enrollment shall be given to students desiring to take the class for credit.
4. Permission in the form of a signed “Add Permit” marked “Audit” must be obtained from the instructor.
5. The fees are non-refundable and payment is due upon processing the audit form.
6. Transferring from “credit” to “Audit” after the deadline to add is not permitted.
7. **Audit classes are not covered by Financial Aid.**

## Adding Classes

1. After you have turned in your application, you will be given directions on how to follow our matriculation process.
2. You will be given an appointment to register at the time of application.
3. You may enroll in open classes by using the internet registration system, calling the STEP telephone registration system, or in person at the college.
4. To add classes after the first week of the semester, you must obtain an Add Permit form from the instructor of the class.

## Campus Procedure

No semester courses may be added after the normal add period (published in the Schedule of Classes). Short-term and Open-Entry/Open-Exit classes have different add periods. Check with the Office of Admissions and Records for deadlines. Attending classes without being properly enrolled is not permitted.

## Withdrawal

Students wishing to drop a class or withdraw from the college during the semester must do so through the Admissions Office or use the internet or telephone system. Failure to withdraw officially may result in an "F" grade. Students must withdraw on or before the 11th week (75%) in order to receive a W. Students in short-term classes must withdraw before 75% of the course is completed. After the 11th week or 75% completion of the course, a student is assigned a letter grade (A through F). Instructors are not obligated to exclude a student for non-attendance. **It is the student's responsibility to withdraw officially.**

## Dropping Classes

**THROUGH THE 3rd WEEK:** No notation ("W" or other) will appear on the student's record if the class is dropped during the first three weeks of the semester ( or 30% of the class for short-term classes).

**THROUGH THE 11TH WEEK:** A notation of "W" (withdrawal) is recorded on the student's record for classes dropped during the 4th through the 11th week of the semester.

**AFTER THE 11TH WEEK:** Students who remain in class beyond the 11th week (or 75% of the class for short term classes) are given a grade by the instructor. THAT GRADE CANNOT BE A "W" (withdrawal).

## Concurrent Enrollment/Schedule Conflicts

Concurrent enrollment in more than one section of the same course during a semester is not permitted, with the exception of certain Physical Education classes on a limited basis.

Concurrent enrollment in courses which are cross-referenced to each other (i.e., courses designated same as in the District Directory of Educational Programs and Courses) will be rejected by the computer.

The computer will also reject enrollment in classes scheduled or conducted during overlapping times.

## Math and English Competency Requirement

Students entering prior to Fall 2009 must demonstrate competence in reading, in written expression, and in mathematics. This requirement may be met by achieving a grade of "C" or better in appropriate courses, recommended by the District Academic Senate, and approved by the Chancellor or by achieving a passing score on an examination or examinations recommended by the District Academic Senate and approved by the Chancellor.

Effective for all students entering on or after the Fall 2009 semester, competence in written expression shall be demonstrated by obtaining a satisfactory grade in English 101, or another English course at the same level and with the same rigor as recommended by the District Academic Senate and approved by the Chancellor. Competence in mathematics

shall be demonstrated by obtaining a satisfactory grade in Mathematics 125 (Intermediate Algebra), or another mathematics course at the same level and rigor, or higher, and with elementary algebra or higher as a prerequisite, as recommended by the District Academic Senate and approved by the Chancellor.

The competency requirements in written expression or mathematics may also be met by completing an assessment, conducted pursuant to Title 5, CCR, section 55500 and achieving a score determined to be comparable to satisfactory completion of English 101 or Mathematics 125 respectively. That is, students may either place into English or mathematics courses above level of English 101 or Mathematics 125, or they may achieve a satisfactory score on a competency exam or other approved exam as recommended by the District Academic Senate and approved by the Chancellor.

The competency requirements may also be met by obtaining a satisfactory grade in courses with English and mathematics content (but taught in subjects other than English and mathematics), which require entrance skills at a level equivalent to those necessary for English 101 and Mathematics 125, respectively, and are taught at the same level and with the same rigor. The District Academic Senate shall recommend such courses to the Chancellor for approval.

## Credit for Prerequisites

Students may not be concurrently enrolled, within the same session, in a course and its prerequisite(s).

## Challenging a Prerequisite (see page 9)

## Credit By Examination

Some courses in the college catalog are eligible for credit by examination.

### 1. Method of obtaining credit by examination:

Satisfactory completion of an examination written, administered and graded by the discipline faculty at the college in lieu of completion of a course listed on the approved list below (Courses Approved for Credit by Examination).

### 2. Determination of eligibility to take the examination

- A. The student must be currently registered in the college and in good standing with a minimum grade point average of 2.0 in any work attempted at the college.
- B. The student must have completed 12 units within the L.A. Community College District, unless the petition is for a Career Technical Education course with an approved high school articulation agreement.
- C. The course for which credit is requested must be listed on the approved list below (Courses Approved for Credit by Examination).
- D. The student is not currently enrolled in, or has completed a more advanced course in the discipline.

### 3. Maximum Credit Allowable and Limitations

- A. The maximum number of units that may be earned through Credit by Examination toward the associate degree shall be 15. Credit by examination transferred from other institutions is counted toward this maximum.
- B. Credits acquired by examination are not applicable to the meeting of such unit load requirements as Selective Service deferment, veterans' or Social Security benefits or scholastic honors.
- C. Units for which credit is given shall not be counted in determining the 12 semester hours of credit in residence.
- D. A student who does not pass the exam for a course may not repeat the exam.

### 4. Recording of Credit

The student's academic record shall be clearly annotated to reflect that credit was earned by examination. Grading shall be according to the regular grading method of the course, except that students shall be offered a "pass-no pass" option if that option is ordinarily available for the course.

### 5. Filing a Petition

Students must obtain a Credit by Examination card from the Admissions Office, complete it, and return it to the Admissions Office for verification of eligibility. After verification is complete, students must take the card to the appropriate department chairperson. Students should contact the Admissions Office for a card early in the semester. The date and time of the examination are the responsibility of the department chair and/or faculty involved. Further information on this topic may be obtained from the Admissions Office and/or department chairperson of the subject area concerned.

Jewish Studies 13, 14  
 Mathematics 115, 120, 125, 215, 225, 238, 239, 240, 245, 260, 265, 266, 270, 275  
 Nursing Science 101, 102, 103, 104, 105  
 Oceanography 1  
 Physics 5, 12  
 Physical Science 1  
 Photography 10  
 Respiratory Therapy 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 15  
 Theatre Arts 100, 110, 301  
 Tool & Manufacturing - All Classes

## CREDIT FOR EXTERNAL EXAMS

Student may be awarded credit for external exams once enrolled at the college. Each external exam follows distinct policies.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) EXAM CREDIT

Course equivalency for Advanced Placement exams, for purposes other than meeting general education and graduation competency requirements for the Associate Degree are described below. To be eligible to receive credit for Advanced Placement exams, the student must be enrolled at Valley College during the semester in which credit is to be granted. Advanced Placement exam scores must be 3 or higher in order to receive credit. Students may file a petition for credit by seeing a counselor in the Counseling Department. Official AP score reports must be sent directly to the Admissions Office.

Please refer to page 23 for a chart on how general education credit is earned for the IGETC general education plan requirements. Please refer to page 27 for a chart on how general education credit is earned for CSU general education certification. Please refer to page 36 for a chart on how general education credit is earned for LAVC general education. The amount and type of transferable credit granted towards a university's admission or major requirements are determined by that university's AP policies and not by Valley's policies; a university's policies often differ from Valley's policies. See a counselor for further information. Credit acquired by AP exams is not applicable towards meeting unit load requirement of Veterans Administration benefits, Social Security benefits, or athletic eligibility.

The following is a list of course equivalencies for Advanced Placement exams. This course equivalency information is used for satisfying Associate Degree major or Certificate requirements.

## Courses Approved for Credit by Examination

Accounting 1, 21, 22  
 Administration of Justice – All Classes  
 Architecture – All Classes  
 Business 31, 38  
 Computer Applications and Office Technology 7, 31  
 Child Development 1, 172  
 Drafting 1, 2, 16, 17  
 Electronics 2, 4a, 6a  
 Engineering 1, 2 52  
 Geography 1, 2  
 Geology 1, 2  
 Hebrew 3, 4

AP EXAM	COURSE EQUIVALENCY
Calculus AB	Math 265
Calculus BC	Math 265
Comparative Government & Politics	Political Science 2
English Language	English 101
English Literature	
Score of 3 or 4	English 101
Score of 5	English 101 + 102
Environmental Science	Environmental Science 1
European History	History 2
French Language	French 4
French Literature	French 4
German Language	German 4
Human Geography	Geography 2
Music Theory	Music 201
Physics B	Physics 6 & 7
Physics C (Mechanics)	Physics 37
Psychology	Psychology 1
Spanish Language	Spanish 4
Spanish Literature	Spanish 4
Statistics	Math 225 or Statistics 1
U.S. Government & Politics	Political Science 1
U.S. History	History 11

## COLLEGE LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM (CLEP) CREDIT

Valley College will grant 3 elective units towards the Associate degree for each of the CLEP General Examinations passed with a score of 500 or higher on the 1978 scale, or 450 on the 1986 scale. No specific course credit is granted for CLEP exams; thus, they cannot be used to fulfill general education, major, or competency requirements. Valley College does not grant any credit for the CLEP Subject Examinations.

To be eligible for the elective credit, the student must be enrolled at Valley College during the semester when credit is to be granted.

Transferable credit for CLEP exams will depend on the policies of the university to which the student intends to transfer. For information regarding university CLEP policies, transfer students should confer with a Valley College counselor.

## Credit for Courses Completed at Non-Accredited Institutions

Students transferring from non-accredited institutions may, after successful completion of 30 units with a C or better grade-point-average, apply for up to 15 units of credit in courses which parallel the offerings of the college.

The following exceptions may be made to this regulation:

### 1. Credit for graduates of Diploma Schools of Nursing

The following amount of credit is authorized for graduates of Diploma Schools of Nursing who enter the Los Angeles Community Colleges:

- a. Thirty (30) semester units of credit is granted to graduates of Diploma Schools of Nursing under the following conditions:
  - 1) The student presents a valid, current California certificate as a licensed registered nurse to the designated administrative officer;
  - 2) The student has completed at least 12 units of credit at the college to which application is made.
- b. The work of graduates of Diploma Schools of Nursing outside California are recognized if the student has a valid, current California license. Credit will be given even though the license was obtained on the basis of reciprocity with another state rather than by examination.
- c. Candidates for the Associate of Arts or Associate of Science Degree are exempt from Health Education as a general education requirement. No other general education requirements will be waived.
- d. Additional courses in Nursing may be taken for credit only upon approval of the Nursing Department.
- e. The transcript is not to reflect the major field nor should the diploma, where given, indicate Nursing as a major.

### 2. Credit for Military Service Training

Students who are currently serving in or have served in the military service may, after successful completion of at least one course with the Los Angeles Community College District, request an evaluation of credit earned through military service training schools and/or military occupational specialties.

For completion of military basic training, students will be granted one unit of Physical Education credit and 6 units of elective credit. Students may also request an evaluation of credit earned at other military service schools and/or occupational specialties. Credit units may be granted up to the number recommended by the American Council on Education.

3. Credit for Law Enforcement Academy Training  
Credit for basic recruit academy training instructional programs in Administration of Justice or other criminal justice occupations shall be granted as follows:
  - a. Credit is given for training from institutions which meet the standards of training of the California Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission.
  - b. A single block of credit will be given and identified as academy credit.
  - c. One (1) unit of credit may be granted for each 50 hours of training, not to exceed ten (10) semester units or their equivalent.
- c. The hours completed and their semester-unit equivalencies.
- d. Grades- U.S. equivalent (i.e., A-F), pass/no-pass, or percentage, including the percentage required for passing.  
\*\*ONLY elective credit will be granted if any of the above criteria is not met.

Credits granted by an institution of higher education for basic recruit academy training, under the above provisions, shall not be identified as equivalent to any required courses in the major.

### Campus Procedure

The college makes the final judgment regarding the acceptability of courses from non-accredited schools.

### Foreign Transcript Credit Limits Policy

1. Credit may only be granted after completion of 12 units within the Los Angeles Community College District with a "C" (2.0) or higher grade point average. Other conditions are noted in the LAVC Catalog. Please refer to Associate Degree and Certificate Program sections.
2. LAVC only grants credit toward an LAVC Associate Degree or an LAVC occupational certificate.
3. LAVC can NOT grant credit for any other colleges or universities. For example, if you want to earn a Bachelor's degree from a university, that university will evaluate your credit; LAVC can NOT grant credit for another institution.
4. At LAVC you can NOT use foreign credit for California State University (CSU) General Education Certifications, or for the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Core Curriculum (IGETC). If you are a LAVC student and want to use foreign credit toward general education at CSU or University of California, you must follow that university's "Native Student Plan" for general education. See a counselor for more information.
5. A maximum of 30 semester units may be accepted for course work completed at an institution of higher education outside the United States.
6. In order to be considered for UNIT credit, the evaluation, conducted by the independent transcript evaluation service, must include the following:
  - a. Description of the country's higher education system and the role of the institution in that system.
  - b. Verification that the institution is approved by the country's approving/accrediting agency (e.g., ministry of education).
7. In order to be considered for COURSE credit, in addition to the requirements listed above in #6, the evaluation must include the following for each course:
  - a. Course description
  - b. Topics covered
  - c. Hours (lecture and/or lab hours)
  - d. Prerequisites), if applicable
8. If course equivalency is granted the courses shall be used for all degrees and certificates awarded by colleges in the LACCD, except:
  - a. No course taken outside the United States, may be used to satisfy the Associate Degree's Reading and Written Expression or Oral Communication requirement.
  - b. No course taken at institutions of higher learning outside the United States may be used to satisfy Associate Degree's American Institutions requirement.
  - c. Course credit is not granted for the Written Expression, Oral Communication, or American Institutions requirements but may be used for elective credit.
  - d. Courses that are part of a program that also meets licensing requirements (i.e., Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, Child Development) must be evaluated by LAVC's General Petitions Committee (refer to #7).

### PROCEDURES

1. Obtain an official translation of your official transcript.
2. Obtain a preliminary evaluation of your credit from an independent transcript evaluation service approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Have evaluation mailed directly to LAVC:
 

Graduation Office  
Los Angeles Valley College  
5800 Fulton Avenue  
Valley Glen, CA 91401-4096
3. Once the evaluation is received by LAVC, complete a GENERAL PETITION requesting that LAVC grant credit for the work listed on the evaluation, indicating the type of credit requested (i.e., unit, course equivalent). A blank General Petition is attached to these instructions.
4. Submit the GENERAL PETITION, and your official transcript, to the LAVC Graduation Office.
5. You will receive credit information with a few weeks after petitioning.

## Pass/No Pass Courses

The grade of P (Pass) (formerly CR) will be given if the performance in class is equal to a C grade or better. The grade of NP (No Pass) (formerly NC) will be given if the performance in class is equal to a D or FAIL grade. The petition is filed in the Admissions Office. A student who has received credit for a course taken on Pass/No Pass cannot repeat that course. A student must have a C or better average in all work attempted at LAVC.

Students considering taking courses for Pass/No Pass in their major field should see a Counselor or major field department chairperson in order to avoid loss of credit.

The courses listed below may be taken on a Pass/No Pass basis providing the student meets the requirements for enrollment on this basis. Information concerning the requirements is available in the Admissions Office. In order to take a class on a Pass/No Pass basis the student must make such request in the Admissions Office by Friday of the 5th week of the semester. A Pass grade is granted for performance which is equivalent to the letter grade of C or better. In addition to courses designated Pass/No Pass Only (Developmental Communications 22A-E, 35; English 21, 33, 67, 83; Personal Development 1, 4, 6; Nursing 185; Learning Skills 1A, 2A, 4, 40, 41) students may take only one class per semester on a requested Pass/No Pass basis.

- Administration of Justice: All Courses
- African American Studies: All Courses
- Architecture: All Courses
- Anthropology: All Courses (except Anthro 185, 285, 385)
- Armenian: All courses
- Art: 101, 102, 103, 105, 109, 112, 115, 116, 201, 501
- Astronomy: All Courses
- Biology: All Courses
- Broadcasting: All Courses
- Business: All Courses
- CAOT: All Courses
- Chemistry: All Courses
- Chicano Studies: All Courses
- Child Development: All Courses (except Ch Dev 22, 23, 185, 285, 385)
- Cinema: (non majors only) 104, 105, 106, 107
- Dance Specialties: All Courses
- Dance Studies: All Courses
- Dance Techniques: All Courses (except DanceTQ 446)
- Drafting: All Courses
- Economics: All Courses (except Econ 2)
- Education: 2
- Electronics: 2
- Engineering, General: All Courses
- English: All Courses (except English 28, 101 and 103)
- Environmental Science: All Courses
- Environmental Studies: All Courses
- Family & Consumer Studies: 31
- Finance: All Courses
- Fire Technology: All Courses
- French: All Courses
- Geography: All Courses
- Geology: All Courses
- German: All Courses
- Health: 10, 11
- Hebrew: All Courses
- History: All Courses
- Humanities: All Courses
- Italian: All Courses
- Jewish Studies: All Courses
- Journalism: 101, 105, 106
- Law: All Courses
- Learning Skills: 41
- Library Science: 101
- Linguistics: All Courses
- Management: All Courses
- Marketing: All Courses
- Mathematics: All courses
- Meteorology: All courses
- Music: 101, 111, 141, 152, 250, 321
- Numerical Control: All Courses
- Nursing: 799
- Nursing Science: 101, 102, 103, 104, 105
- Oceanography: 1, 10
- Personal Development: 20
- Philosophy: All Courses
- Photography: 9, 10, 20, 21, 23
- Physical Education: All Courses
- Physical Science: 1, 14
- Physics: 5, 12
- Political Science: All Courses
- Psychology: All Courses (except Psych 1, 2)
- Real Estate: All Courses
- Recreation: All Courses
- Sociology: All Courses
- Spanish: All Courses
- Speech: All Courses
- Statistics: 1
- Theater: 100, 125
- Tool and Manufacturing: All Courses

(List subject to change)

**NOTE:** A STUDENT WHO HAS RECEIVED A GRADE OF "PASS" FOR A COURSE TAKEN ON A PASS/NO PASS BASIS MAY NOT CONVERT THE "PASS" GRADE TO A LETTER GRADE.

## Grades and Grade Changes

The instructor of the course shall determine the grade to be awarded to each student in accordance with the following *Grading Symbols and Definitions Policy*. The determination of the students grade by the instructor is final in the absence of mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetence. The removal or change of an incorrect grade from a students record shall be done only upon authorization by the instructor of the course and approval of the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

In the case of fraud or incompetence, the final determination concerning removal or change of grade will be made by the College President.

## Grading Symbols and Definitions

Only the symbols in the grading scale given in this section shall be used to grade all courses offered in fulfillment of the requirements for an associate or baccalaureate degree, a certificate, diploma, or license.

Grades shall be averaged on the basis of the point equivalencies to determine a student's grade-point-average, using the following evaluative symbols:

SYMBOL	DEFINITION	GRADE POINT
A	Excellent	4
B	Good	3
C	Satisfactory	2
D	Less than satisfactory	1
F	Failing	0
P	Pass (at least Satisfactory. Units are not counted in GPA, P has the same meaning as CR.)	
NP	No Pass (less than satisfactory or failing. NP has the same meaning as NC.)	

(P and NP grades may be given only in courses authorized by the Districts Pass/No Pass Option and Credit By Examination Policies.)

The following non-evaluative symbols may be entered on a students record:

SYMBOL	DEFINITION
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### **I Incomplete**

Incomplete academic work for enforceable, emergency, and justifiable reasons at the end of the term may result in an I symbol being entered in the students record. The condition for removal of the I shall be stated by the instructor in a written record.

This record shall contain the conditions for removal of the I and the grade assigned in lieu of its removal. This record shall be given to the student, with a copy on file in the college Admissions Office until the I is made up or the time

limit has passed. A final grade shall be assigned when the work stipulated has been completed and evaluated, or when the time limit for completing the work has passed.

The "I" symbol shall not be used in calculating units attempted nor for grade points. **THE "I" MAY BE MADE UP NO LATER THAN ONE YEAR FOLLOWING THE END OF THE TERM IN WHICH IT WAS ASSIGNED.** The student may petition for a time extension due to unusual circumstances.

Note: Courses in which the student has received an Incomplete (I) may not be repeated unless the I is removed and has been replaced by a grade of D or F. This does not apply to courses which are repeatable for additional credit.

SYMBOL	DEFINITION
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### **IP In Progress**

The IP symbol shall be used only in those courses which extend beyond the normal end of an academic term. IP indicates that work is in progress, but that assignment of a substantive grade must await its completion. The IP symbol shall remain on the students permanent record in order to satisfy enrollment documentation. The appropriate evaluative grade and unit credit shall be assigned and appear on the students record for the term in which the required course work is completed. The IP shall not be used in calculating grade-point-averages. If a student enrolled in an open-entry, open-exit course is assigned IP at the end of an attendance period and does not complete the course during the subsequent attendance period, the appropriate faculty will assign an evaluative symbol (grade) as specified above to be recorded on the students permanent record for the course.

SYMBOL	DEFINITION
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### **W Withdrawal**

Withdrawal from a class or classes shall be authorized through the last day of the fourteenth week of instruction or 75% of the time the class is scheduled to meet, whichever is less.

No notation (W or other) shall be made on the record of a student who withdraws during the first four weeks, or 30% of the time the class is scheduled, whichever is less.

Withdrawal between the end of the fourth week (or 30% of the time the class is scheduled to meet, whichever is less) and the last day of the fourteenth week of instruction (or 75% of the time the class is scheduled to meet, whichever is less) shall be authorized after informing the appropriate faculty. A student who remains in class beyond the fourteenth week or 75% of the time the class is scheduled shall be given a grade other than a W, except in cases of extenuating circumstances. An evaluative grade (A, B, C, D, F, P, NP) is assigned to students who are enrolled past the end of the 14th week even if they stop attending class, except in cases of extenuating circumstances.

After the last day of the fourteenth week (or 75% of the time the class is scheduled, whichever is less), the student may withdraw from class upon petition demonstrating extenuating circumstances and after consultation with the appropriate faculty. Students should obtain a petition in the Admissions Office. Extenuating circumstances are verified cases of accidents, illness, or other circumstances beyond the control of the student. Withdrawal after the end of the fourteenth week (or 75% of the time the class is scheduled, whichever is less) which has been authorized as extenuating circumstances shall be recorded as W.

The W shall not be used in calculating units attempted nor for the students grade-point-average.

W's are used as factors in probation and dismissal.

SYMBOL	DEFINITION
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### **RD Report Delayed**

The RD symbol is assigned by the Admissions Office only in those cases where there is a delay in reporting the grade of a student due to circumstances beyond the control of the student. It is a temporary notation replaced by a permanent symbol as soon as possible.

## **HOW TO ACCESS YOUR GRADES**

### **Access Grades Online**

Follow the steps below:

1. Go to the LAVC homepage at [www.lavc.edu](http://www.lavc.edu)
2. Right click on [Register for Classes](#)
3. Enter your Student ID and 4 digit PIN. Right click on submit.

### **Grading Standard**

A course grade of "C-" does not satisfy the "C or better" requirement for purposes of prerequisites, competencies or transfer to UC or CSU.

### **Course Repetition and Activity Repetition**

Certain courses in the catalog may be repeated for additional unit credit. These courses, marked RPT in the course description section of the catalog, allow the student an expanded educational experience each time the student enrolls in the course. Enrollment in these courses is limited in any similar activity to a maximum of three repeats for a total of four (4) enrollments, regardless of the repeatability of individual courses. The activity limitation also applies to courses which are not repeatable in themselves but for which similar activities exist. For example, there are several similar course titles in Art, Music, Theater, and Physical Education which are considered to be the same activity. A student may enroll four times in courses which are considered to be the same activity (see list below of courses

that are considered the same activity), such as twice in Theater 232, Play Production (RPT3), and twice in Theater 233, Play Production (RPT3). Any combination may be used as long as 4 enrollments in one activity are not exceeded. Excess enrollment will result in an administrative drop.

The following is a list of courses considered the same activity:

DANCETQ 225, 696, PHYS ED 225, 696  
 PHYS ED 101, 102, 695  
 PHYS ED 203, 662  
 PHYS ED 219, 681  
 PHYS ED 228, 666  
 PHYS ED 229, 668  
 PHYS ED 230, 690  
 PHYS ED 304, 665  
 PHYS ED 322, 684  
 PHYS ED 328, 678  
 THEATER 232, 233

### **Final Examinations**

Final examinations are held in all subjects according to a schedule published each semester. No student will be excused from a final examination. Should circumstances develop which justify a students requesting a special examination at a time other than scheduled, the student must secure permission from the instructor.

### **Petition for Graduation**

Students expecting to graduate from the college with an A.A. or A.S. degree must file a petition for graduation early in the semester BEFORE they expect to complete their requirements. The deadlines for filing each semester are listed in the front of the Schedule of Classes. The Graduation Office in the Administration Building has the necessary forms. Students filing the petition will be notified of the results by mail.

