

# Full-Time Faculty Handbook

Ventura College

2010-2011 Academic Year



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## INTRODUCTION

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Dear Full-Time Faculty Member:

This handbook is designed to help you navigate the maze of college and district procedures, policies, and regulations, and provide you with an overview of some of the services and resources that are available to assist you.

This handbook does not take the place of the collective bargaining agreement between the District and AFT Local 1828. Please review the collective bargaining agreement for the contract language related to faculty rights and benefits, work assignments, leaves of absence, salary and stipends, evaluation procedures, transfers and other aspects of general working conditions.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many students, and don't hesitate to give me a call or drop me a line if you would like to share your thoughts about what might be done to continue to strengthen Ventura College and to improve the teaching and learning environment!

Sincerely,

*Robin Calote*

Robin Calote, Ed.D.  
President, Ventura College

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## OUR MISSION

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Ventura College, one of the oldest comprehensive community colleges in California, provides a positive and accessible learning environment that is responsive to the needs of a highly diverse student body through a varied selection of disciplines, learning approaches and teaching methods including traditional classroom instruction, distance education, experiential learning, and co-curricular activities. It offers courses in basic skills and English-language learning; programs for students seeking an Associate's Degree, certificate or license for job placement and advancement; curricula for students planning to transfer; and training programs to meet worker and employee needs. The College is a leader in providing instruction and support for students with disabilities.

With its commitment to workforce development in support of the state and region's economic viability, Ventura College takes pride in creating transfer, career technical and continuing education opportunities that promote success, develop students to their full potential, create lifelong learners, enhance personal growth and life enrichment and foster positive values for successful living and membership in a multicultural society. The College has a dedicated, caring faculty and staff who are committed to student success and to continual assessment of learning outcomes in order to maintain high quality courses and programs.

Originally landscaped to be an arboretum, the College has a beautiful, park-like campus that serves as a vital community resource.

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## OUR VISION

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Ventura College will be a model community college known for enhancing the lives and economic futures of its students and the community.

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## CORE COMMITMENTS

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Ventura College is dedicated to following a set of enduring Core Commitments that guide both planning and decision-making:

**Student Success:** Centering our efforts on meeting the needs of our students and helping them to succeed.

**Respect:** Recognizing the personal dignity and full potential of every individual and fostering positive values in all interactions.

**Integrity:** Maintaining an open, honest and ethical environment.

**Quality:** Achieving excellence in the broad range of academic programs and services provided to our students and the community.

**Collegiality:** Creating a professional and supportive environment where students, faculty and staff can achieve personal growth and fulfillment and where accomplishments are recognized and celebrated.

**Access:** Providing learning opportunities for all individuals.

**Innovation:** Embracing creative methods and approaches to assuring the best possible experience for all students and the community we serve.

**Diversity:** Embracing and responding to our increasingly diverse student body and the global environment in which the college operates.

**Service:** Enhancing the quality of life of the community and meeting its needs.

**Collaboration:** Working together as colleagues on College issues and decisions and actively seeking to form partnerships with our community and other organizations to address mutual goals.

**Sustainability:** Fostering responsibility and pride in our campus and serving as a model of environmental stewardship, being mindful of the impact we have on the environment as individuals and as a community.

**Continuous Improvement:** Recognizing that as an organization we are always in a state of evolution, we strive to be the best we can be through continual reflection, data-driven decision making and holding ourselves accountable for responsible use of public resources.

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## General Expectations

**All faculty members are expected to...**

**Protect themselves and the college against allegations of fraud by:**

- Starting their classes on time and hold class for the entire scheduled period.
- Meeting with their classes during the designated time during finals week. These hours are part of the class time used to calculate the college's apportionment and the unit credit for the course.
- Documenting all absences at the end of the month, using the appropriate form.

**Help maintain the college's integrity and accreditation by:**

- Teaching to the official course outline of record.
- Putting course-specific student learning outcomes on their syllabi.
- Maintaining currency in their subject disciplines.

**Communicate with students and with their departments/divisions by:**

- Signing up for a district e-mail account; checking for and responding to e-mail promptly.
- Picking up print mail frequently from their campus mailboxes.
- Giving students feedback throughout the semester.

**Help routine operations run smoothly by:**

- Ordering textbooks by the established deadline. This helps the Bookstore acquire a larger number of used textbooks (thus helping to keep costs down for students) and assures that the required resources for classes will be available at the beginning of the semester.
- Submitting grades by the established deadline.
- Refraining from cancelling classes or arranging for substitutes on their own (but instead working through their division offices).

**Meet their contractual obligations by:**

- Posting their office hours and being in their offices at the posted times.
- Documenting an average of five hours per week of college service, and submitting documentation to their deans at the end of the semester.
- Documenting their flex hours and submitting the required reports to their deans at the end of the academic year.

## **Employee “Housekeeping” Issues**

### **Absences**

The different kinds of leaves of absence (both paid and unpaid) are fully explained in Article 8 of the collective bargaining agreement, giving the conditions that are applicable in each case.

When circumstances such as personal illness, bereavement, personal necessity, or personal business require you to be absent, please notify your Division Office as soon as possible. In accordance with the collective bargaining agreement, personal necessity days require the approval of the Executive Vice President. When you return to work, contact your Division Office again to complete an **Employee Absentee Report**.

Full-time faculty members are paid based on the contract working days on the adopted academic calendar, not on the specific days that they teach. Because of this, eight hours are deducted for each day of absence, regardless of the number of hours you were scheduled to work that day.

### **Animals on Campus**

Per Board Policy 3503, animals (with the exception of laboratory animals or service animals for individuals with disabilities) are not permitted on district or campus facilities.

### **Children on Campus**

Per Board Policy 3504, all children must be accompanied by an adult while on campus, unless enrolled in a college-sponsored program or activity. Children are not allowed in the classroom or in the worksite, and may not be left unattended in any campus facility. Also in accordance with Board Policy 3504, children may not be present at an employee’s worksite. This does not preclude short visits when the child is accompanied by an adult.

### **Classroom and Office Assignments**

The Executive Vice President is responsible for approving the final assignment of all classrooms on campus. Classroom assignments and changes are initiated by the Division Dean and coordinated through the Instructional Data Specialist, who maintains the “Room Book,” a source document for all classroom assignments and class additions, cancellations, and changes.

Do not move your class from your assigned room without authorization from your Division Dean. The fact that a classroom is vacant on one particular day or evening does not necessarily mean that the room is unassigned. There are, for example, classes starting at varying points throughout the semester. In addition, fee-based classes, special meetings and events are scheduled in classrooms that are officially shown to be vacant. An accurate room assignment is also important when an emergency occurs and a student or instructor needs to be located.

The assignment of faculty offices is coordinated through your Division Office.

## Conferences and Workshops

You may request absence from your class and college funds to attend professional meetings related to your college assignment, using a **Convention, Meeting and Travel Request Form** that shows the proposed travel and the estimated expenses. This form requires the approval of the Division Dean (for all travel) and the President (for out-of-state travel) before your absence begins. The form will be returned to you after it has been approved.

Within 10 days after completion of the travel, you should indicate on the original request form the actual expenses incurred, attach the original receipts for registration, lodging, meals, transportation, and miscellaneous expenses as required, and submit the completed form for reimbursement.

Under the terms of the collective bargaining agreement, the amount allocated for faculty conferences is at least \$100.00 per full-time faculty member. For most divisions, this allocated amount is pooled in an account monitored by the Faculty Professional Development Committee. For more details about these additional funds, contact the chairperson of the Faculty Professional Development Committee or the President of the Academic Senate.

## District Vehicle Use

Only district employees are allowed to operate a district-owned vehicle.

Reservations are on a first come, first served basis. Athletic reservations are handled by the Health, Physical Education & Athletics Division. Business Services handles all other campus reservations. To reserve a vehicle, call Maureen Eckl at ext. 6354 or email her at [meckl@vcccd.edu](mailto:meckl@vcccd.edu). You will be given a Vehicle Request form to complete. If you are using the vehicle for a field trip, field trip forms must be completed and submitted to your division office two weeks before vehicle use.

To pick up the vehicle, call the Warehouse Operator at ext. 1296. He is available between 7:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. He will direct you to the Warehouse, which is located in the S & R building at 4900 Loma Vista Blvd. You will be issued keys and a credit card that may be used for vehicle expenses only. If you need the vehicle before 7:00 a.m., please indicate this on your request. Vehicles are parked at the V Lot, where you may leave your personal vehicle while you are using the van.

When you return the vehicle, please pick up the trash and lock the doors. Return the keys, credit card, and charge slips to the Warehouse Operator. Do not lock keys and/or credit card in the van.

## Emergency Mass Notification Alert System

The Emergency Mass Notification Alert System is a system used to convey emergency messages via text (SMS), email, and voice mail to employees and students who register. You are strongly encouraged to register through the MyVCCCD Web Portal. The system will ask for two contact phone numbers: a cell number and a personal landline number. When an emergency is identified, you will receive a text message and a voice message providing information about the nature of the incident. You will be asked to acknowledge receipt of the message (either by pressing a number or sending a reply text).

If you have registered for the emergency notification service, in the event of an emergency or campus closure, you will be notified immediately and receive further instructions, if necessary.

Emergency Alert information is completely confidential, and will not be used for any purpose other than to alert an employee of a problem or emergency on campus. No one will ever receive "spam" or unwanted messages, other than a yearly test of the system.

The District is committed to the safety and well-being of all of its students, staff and faculty and offers this method of communication in conjunction with other aspects of the Safety Program, such as sirens and alarms that will be installed in the near future.

The Chief of Police for the Ventura County Community College District strongly encourages all students, staff and faculty to participate in this program to help maintain their safety.

## Emergency Procedures

All emergencies or accidents need to be reported to the Campus Police Department, then to the manager on duty. **In the evening the manager can be located in the Administration Building and can be reached by calling ext. 6483.** When reporting an emergency, be brief and specific when giving information about the emergency you are reporting. Let them know the nature of the emergency and the location so that immediate and appropriate assistance can be provided.

For medical emergencies, call the **Campus Police** at **654-6486** or **642-7000**. The Campus Police can provide assistance on the scene and also direct the paramedic truck to the actual location on the campus. Campus Police vehicles are equipped with an automated external defibrillator (AED) that can become a life-saving device in response to a cardiac arrest when seconds are critical. If Campus Police cannot be reached:

- A. **Dial 911** (Ventura Police/Fire) from campus phones *or*
- B. **From blue phones in the parking lots, press the button and the dispatch center will answer through the speaker, *or***
- C. **Dial 911** from cell phones, pay phones or off campus phones, *or*
- D. **Dial 0** for the Campus switchboard and the operator will call for you

In the event that the Campus Police Office is temporarily unoccupied and locked, you may contact the police by using the emergency phone encased in the red "Emergency" box that has been installed just outside the Police Office. The phones require no dialing. Picking up the phone will connect you directly with the police dispatcher, who will be able to immediately contact an officer via radio.

If a student becomes ill or injured during class time, call the Student Health Center (ext. 6346) for assistance. If the Health Center is closed, call the Campus Police. All student accidents must be documented on the **Report of Personal (Non-Employee) Accident** form and sent with the student to the Health Center or put in the Student Health Center mailbox. This form documents the incident for Risk Management and verifies that the accident occurred on campus. The forms are available at the Student Health Center, the Evening Office and in each department. The original and yellow copy of the form must be given to the Health Center for processing.

A copy of Ventura College's Emergency Plan is available in Division Offices. The purpose of the Plan is to delineate staff responsibilities, emergency procedures, campus resources and the college's relationship to the rest of the community during an emergency. The College President is the incident commander with the authority, in conjunction with the District Chancellor, to declare an emergency.

## **Faculty Titles**

Per Article 2 of the collective bargaining agreement, official titles for faculty are: instructor, counselor, associate librarian, specialist, coordinator, student personnel worker, facilitator, coach / athletic director, department chair. Per District Administrative Procedure 7220, honorary academic titles are assigned in accordance with the following requirements:

1. Professor: Tenured full-time faculty with seven years in the District of full-time faculty experience.
2. Associate Professor: Full-time tenured faculty.
3. Assistant Professor: Full-time non-tenured faculty; full-time non-tenure-track faculty; full-time temporary leave replacement faculty.
4. Adjunct Professor: Temporary (part-time) faculty completing seven or more semesters in the District.
5. Instructor / Lecturer: Temporary (part-time) faculty with less than seven semesters in the District.

## **Flex Obligation**

The academic calendar includes one mandatory flex day and six self-assigned flex days. During the mandatory flex day, meetings and other scheduled activities take place. Optional workshops are offered prior to the fall semester and at other times during the year and can be used to fulfill the self-assigned flex obligation. As described in the collective bargaining agreement, other activities that are appropriate for self assigned flex include, but are not limited to:

- Course instruction and evaluation;
- Staff development, in-service training and instructional improvement;
- Program and course curriculum or learning resource development and evaluation;
- Student personnel services;
- Learning resource services;
- Related activities, such as student advising, guidance orientation, matriculation services, and student, faculty and staff diversity;
- Departmental or division meetings, conferences and workshops, and institutional research.

The ability to document that faculty members have made appropriate use of the flex days is linked to the college's apportionment. You will be asked to keep and submit accurate records of your flex activities to your division office in order to help the college document that it has complied with state reporting requirements.

## **Grants**

If you have an idea for a grant, talk to your Dean and Department Chair. If they support moving forward with the project idea, contact the Ventura College Institutional Grants Department. They are located in the Learning Resources Center, rooms 122, 123, and 124, and can be reached at ext. 2237. The Grants Department will advise you if the project idea is fundable and they will assist you with completing the required Chancellor's Cabinet Approval Form.

Once approval is received back from the District Office, the Grants office can assist with project design, narrative ideas, wording, editing, extensive analysis of funding requirements, and budget development. They will also review the proposal and route the proposal package with applicable forms to all campus and District officials for required signatures/approvals.

**The District must receive all grant proposals at least one week prior to the mailing date. As a result of this District deadline, the VC Institutional Grants Dept. should receive completed proposals at least one week before submission to the District** in order to review and ensure all procedures have been followed and the required signatures have been secured.

If you are asked to participate in another organization's grant proposal, it is important that you contact the Grants Department before any further discussion with the proposing agency, even if Ventura College will receive no funding from the partnership. **Do not sign any applications, letters of endorsement, or letters of commitment on behalf of (or as an employee of) Ventura College.**

## Keys

Keys to college facilities are issued to Ventura College employees only. Request your keys through your Division Office. The unauthorized duplication or unauthorized possession of keys to college property is a misdemeanor and is prohibited by Section 469 of the California State Penal Code. When employment is terminated or key use is otherwise unauthorized, the key must be returned to the division's administrative assistant.

## Mileage

Should there be no college vehicle available, or if for other reasons you are required to use your own car for approved college business, the district will reimburse you at the federally-approved mileage rate. In order to receive this repayment, it is necessary to file a **Mileage Reimbursement Claim Form** with your Division Dean.

## MyVCCCD Portal

You may access the MyVCCCD portal at <http://my.vcccd.edu> or from the Ventura college website. This is the district-wide portal used for accessing your college e-mail, class schedules, class rosters, and online library resources. It is also the site you will use to drop students for census reporting, to submit final grades, and to download and print grade change forms, incomplete grade forms, and reinstatement petitions. Through MyVCCCD, you will be able to access common applications, including Banner, WebStar, the distance education course management system, and Outlook email. MyVCCCD is where you will find the latest news, information, announcements, and receive personal alerts.

## Office Hours

In accordance with the collective bargaining agreement, full-time teaching faculty members are required to schedule and maintain five office hours per week. Per the contract, at least one office hour must be scheduled each teaching day. Office hours should be listed on your syllabus, posted on the door of your office, and filed in the Division Office.

If you teach an online course as part of your contract load, you may conduct one office hour online for each .20 teaching load, up to a maximum of two of your required five office hours per week.

## Parking

Staff parking spaces are provided at various locations on campus and require a staff permit. These permits may be obtained at the Campus Police Office.

Parking regulations are strictly enforced under the vehicle code.

Visitor parking passes are available at the Campus Police Office or at the President's Office.

Day parking passes, available for \$2.00, can be purchased from bright yellow machines located in the West, East, and North parking lots.

## Payroll Procedures

Monthly paychecks are available for distribution in the Administration Building, Room 11 or Room 20 on the last working day of the month. If you wish to have payroll checks deposited directly to your bank account, you may arrange for this by completing the necessary forms in the District Payroll Office or by using the MyVCCCD portal.

If you teach an overload, an extra-hourly class or other hourly assignment outside your regular full-time load, you will be sent an **Offer of Temporary Non-Contract Employment**. Your offer of employment (contract) will be mailed to you in advance of the start of your class. The contract will list the class(es), days, meeting times and weekly/semester hours and compensation for the semester. Review the contract, sign it, accepting or rejecting the offer, and return it to district Human Resources at the District Office, 255 West Stanley Ave, Ste. 150, Ventura CA 93001. To be paid by the first pay period of the semester, your signed offer must be received by the end of the first week of the first month of the semester. Offers received after the first week will be paid at the end of the following month.

Your **Offer of Temporary Non-Contract Employment** will state which assignments are equal pay and which will require you to submit timesheets:

**Equal Pay:** Most class assignments are now paid "equal pay." This means that what you are paid is approximately the same each month regardless of how many days are in the month. Full-term classes will be paid in five equal payments. Most short-term classes will be paid in equal payments starting the month after the class begins and ending the month the class completes. For classes starting in August and ending in October, the equal payments will be made in September and October. Timesheets for most classes will no longer be required. However, should you need to use benefit time during the month (sick leave, etc.), you will have to complete an Absentee Report that will document each day that you are not at work.

**Timesheets:** Some assignments or classes that meet irregular hours will be paid by timesheet. Pay periods are from the 16th of the month through the 15th of the next month. It is your responsibility to project your hours through the pay period on the timesheet, sign it, and turn it into Campus Payroll by the first of the month. Late timesheets may be held over until the following pay period.

## Photocopying

Canon Business Solutions is located in the Campus Center building. You may make your own class-related copies at the self-service photocopy machines or leave your materials for the Canon staff to run. Your department will have a code for you to use for the Canon copy services. Please consult the Canon Center for assistance. The hours of service are: Monday - Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., and Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Summer hours are as posted. You are required to adhere to applicable copyright laws. (See also: Graphic Services)

## Service Obligation

If you are a teaching full-time faculty member, you have a contractual obligation to serve an average of five hours per week in instruction-related and student support activities, in addition to your classroom teaching assignment and office hours. Per the collective bargaining agreement, documentation of what was done each semester to fulfill this requirement needs to be submitted in writing to your Dean by December 31 and June 30.

## Sexual Harassment

The Ventura County Community College District is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment. Any suggestions or implications of a sexual nature and any conduct that is demeaning to another's gender, including behavioral, verbal, symbolic, electronic, or pictorial gestures that make others uncomfortable, are considered unacceptable. Sexual harassment is a violation of one's personal rights and is unlawful conduct on the basis of both federal and state legislation. [See Board Policy Manual, available in the college library and on the district website.]

## Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in all college buildings, college owned vehicles, indoor and outdoor facilities, interior bus stops, designated campus entrances and all open areas. Smoking is permitted only in main campus parking lots (N, E, S, W, and SW lots) and in designated areas in other lots (A, M&O and ICPD lots). All smoking materials, including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and other apparatus used to smoke organic and non-organic materials must be extinguished and/or properly disposed of in the designated receptacles located in the parking lots before entering the campus.

## Substitutes

Substitutes will be provided when possible with reasonable advance notice for lecture and/or lab classes or when any instructor's cumulative absences total more than a week of missed classes. Arrangements for substitutes are handled through your Dean's office. **DO NOT arrange for a substitute on your own.**

Full-time instructors may agree to cover other instructors' classes when the current substitute policy doesn't provide for a paid substitute. You should inform your Division Office of any such reciprocal arrangement prior to the absence.

## **Volunteers**

District procedure governs under what limited conditions volunteers may be used on the college campus. Volunteers may not be used to conduct work that falls within a defined employee job description. A form must be filled out that exempts the district from liability and a background screening will be conducted by the district. If you are considering the use of a volunteer, see your division dean for additional information.

## **Work Injury Reports**

If you are injured as the result of a work-related activity, your immediate supervisor should be notified immediately. You will be given a Worker's Compensation Claim Form (DWC1), a listing of approved medical facilities and a Treatment Referral and Medical Authorization form to provide to the medical facility.

## Classroom Issues

### Academic Freedom

The **Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure** from the American Association of College Professors provides a nationally recognized definition of academic freedom, its protections and its responsibilities:

#### *Academic Freedom*

*(a) Academic employees are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be conscientious regarding teaching subject matter which has no relation to their subject.*

*(b) Academic employees are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties, but research for pecuniary return should be based upon an understanding with the authorities of the institution.*

*(c) Academic employees are citizens, members of a learned profession, and officers of an educational institution. When they speak or write as citizens, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As scholars and educational officers, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and institution by their utterances. Hence, they should at all times be accurate, should show respect for the opinions of others, and indicate that they are not speaking for the institution.*

It is the policy of VCCCD that all academic employees, regardless of their employment status, should enjoy the privileges and exercise the responsibilities inherent in academic freedom as defined by the AAUP statement. For additional information, see Board Policy 4030 and the *College Catalog*, Appendix IV.

### Auditing Procedure

Auditing enables a student to attend a class without receiving a grade, taking an exam, or earning unit credit. Students enrolled in ten or more semester units may, with your consent, be allowed to audit a class without a fee. Students not enrolled in ten semester credit units may, with your consent, audit a class with a fee for auditing of \$15.00 per unit per semester. **Petition to Audit a Course** forms, which require your signature, are available in the Admissions and Records Office.

Priority in class enrollment shall be given to students desiring to take the course for credit towards a certificate or degree. Therefore, students wishing to audit may register for classes only in the last two days of the add/drop period. Normally laboratory classes are not available for audit.

Students auditing a course are not allowed to later change their enrollment status to receive unit credit for the course. Students auditing a course are also not permitted to take exams in the class, nor are they permitted to challenge the course at a later date. You are under no obligation to grade assignments of students auditing a course. Attendance requirements for students auditing courses are the same as for all other students, as stated in the *College Catalog*.

## **Class Attendance**

Failure of a student to be present at the first scheduled meeting of a class may result in exclusion from that class, especially if other eligible students are present and seeking admission to the class.

Students are responsible for maintaining regular class attendance. When a student's absence exceeds in number 1/9 of the total class contact hours for the session (equivalent to two weeks for semester-length classes) you may drop the student from the class, which may result in a letter grade of "W." You are strongly encouraged to use your syllabus to alert students to this possible consequence. If dropped from class for lack of attendance, the student may petition you for reinstatement when just cause for the absence exists.

## **Core Skill Sets**

The faculty of Ventura College have defined six competencies (and their subsets) as the core skill sets that a student should be able to demonstrate after completing the requirements for an associate degree at VC. During the spring 2006 semester, the faculty went through an exercise to identify the competencies that are covered in each course offered by the college. Accreditation standards mandate that faculty members list the college-wide and course-specific competencies (or "student learning outcomes") and the course objectives on the syllabus provided to students. A list of the core competencies that will be covered by each course is available under the **Academic Resources** section of the college website. There should be a clear link between the core competencies for your classes and the assignments given to your students to help them achieve these competencies.

## **Course Outline and Syllabus**

An official course outline of record exists for each course offered at the college. This outline has been used to establish articulation agreements between Ventura College and other colleges and universities. It also serves as the institution's commitment to the state and to the students that a common body of material will be covered in the course, regardless of who serves as the instructor. A copy of the course outline for your class may be obtained from your Division Office or the Office of the Executive Vice President.

Using the course outline, you will be able to generate the course syllabus, which should be distributed on the first day of class. A typical syllabus provides students with the following information:

1. Course description (taken from the *College Catalog*)
2. Major college-wide core competencies covered in the course (taken from the College website) and course-specific Student Learning Outcomes
3. Course objectives (using the official outline of record as a guide)
4. Calendar of meeting dates
5. Instructional units to be covered
6. Examinations (including how many and what types)
7. Textbooks and other required materials
8. Reading assignments
9. Writing assignments
10. Field trips required (if any)
11. Grading scale

12. Ground rules pertaining to attendance, policy on late work and make-up examinations, extra credit opportunities, etc.
13. Instructor-imposed penalties for academic dishonesty
14. Norms for classroom behavior

A copy of your syllabus should also be posted on your personal and/or course website (if applicable) and should be submitted each semester to your Division Office.

A model course syllabus and a syllabus template is available under the Faculty and Staff Resources section of the college website.

## **Course Prerequisites, Corequisites and Recommended Preparation**

Course prerequisites, corequisites or recommended preparation are specified following course title descriptions in the *College Catalog* and the *Schedule of Classes*. Students must have satisfied the prerequisite and/or corequisite requirements for all courses in which they enroll. A course prerequisite states the preparation required to successfully complete a particular course. A course corequisite states the course or courses in which a student must be concurrently enrolled. Recommended preparation states the preparation suggested by the faculty to successfully complete a particular course.

It is recognized that students may have preparation equivalent to the stated prerequisites or corequisites or may wish to challenge a prerequisite or corequisite as allowed by state law. Documentation of equivalent preparation, usually a transcript from another college, must be presented by the student to the Assessment Office or a counselor for approval. Students wishing to challenge prerequisites will be referred to the appropriate Department Chair or faculty member if their challenge is based on any of the following grounds:

1. The student will be subject to undue delay in attaining the goal of his or her educational plan because the prerequisite or corequisite course has not been made reasonably available (student educational plan must be on file).
2. The prerequisite or corequisite is not valid because it is not necessary for success in the course for which it is required (student documentation required).
3. The prerequisite or corequisite is unlawfully discriminatory or is being applied in an unlawfully discriminatory manner (student documentation required).
4. The student has the knowledge or ability to succeed in the course despite not meeting the prerequisite or corequisite (student documentation required).

## **Credit by Examination**

The Governing Board has adopted a policy that permits students to gain credit for many courses by examination only. The conditions which students must meet in order to be eligible to obtain such credit are explained fully in the *College Catalog*. Students who seek to do this should be directed to a counselor for the initiation of the required petitioning process. Persons applying to earn credit by examination will be charged a fee equal to the per unit enrollment fee for the class that is being challenged.

## **Field Trips**

If you want your class to meet at an off-campus location, please consult with your Division Dean to

obtain the appropriate forms. All completed forms must be turned in to the Division Dean two weeks before the scheduled field trip.

All mandatory academic field trips must be clearly identified as such in the course syllabus at the beginning of the term, with detailed information about the date, time, locations, means of transportation, and any fees for which the student is responsible.

If an unforeseen educational opportunity arises later in the term, the faculty member should discuss this as soon as possible with the class. In this case, such a trip shall be considered voluntary (rather than mandatory) for students to attend. Further, according to district policy, no student shall be prevented from making a voluntary field trip because of lack of funds, nor shall a student be required to pay a fee to participate in a voluntary instructional related field trip.

The Field Trip/Excursion Request process helps to protect you from liability. Without having an approved request on file, you may be liable for any accident or injury incurred by one of your students, including students driving to and from the field trip site.

Do not arrange for transportation for students or transport students in your personal vehicle.

All out-of-state field trips need prior approval by the District Chancellor.

## **Final Examination Schedule**

The hours designated for the final exam schedule are part of the total time block for which apportionment is claimed with the state. Thus you are required to meet with your classes during the time periods identified in the final examination schedule, either for administering a final examination or for the completion or review of the semester's instruction. Individual students can petition to take an exam earlier than the published date, using a form available in the Admissions and Records Office. The form requires your approval and that of the Division Dean. The final examination schedule for each semester is included in the *Schedule of Classes*.

## **Guest Speakers**

It is recognized that educational progress may be enhanced by using appropriate voluntary guest speakers to provide various points of view. Instructors inviting guest classroom speakers carry an obligation for creating a balance and responsible presentation of controversial issues. While a guest speaker may represent one point of view, it is your responsibility to balance the speaker's presentation within the context of the total course.

Do not schedule a guest speaker to take your place in the classroom when you are absent. Notify your Dean and arrangements will be made to cover your class with a substitute, if necessary.

You can arrange for a guest parking permit for your invited speaker through the Campus Police Department.

## **Hours of Instruction**

The college is paid apportionment from the state based on an established number of hours of instruction. You are expected to conduct your class sessions for the entire range of dates, including

finals week, and for the entire time periods listed in the schedule of classes. Classes should meet for the full time. If for some reason you need to dismiss your class early, inform your division and/or the evening dean.

## **Make-Up Examinations**

You are free to schedule make-up examinations for students who miss a test due to illness, emergencies, or other instructor-approved reasons. The California Education Code mandates that a student who is unable to take a test or exam at the scheduled time because of a religious conflict must be given an opportunity to take the test or exam at a time which would not conflict with the practice of the student's religious belief. Following is a pertinent section of the Code:

*The governing board of each community college district shall require each community college maintained by the district, in administering any test or examination, to permit any student who is eligible to undergo the test or examination to do so, without penalty, at a time when that activity would not violate the student's religious creed. This requirement shall not apply in the event that administering the test or examination at an alternate time would impose an undue hardship which could not reasonably have been avoided. In any court proceeding in which the existence of an undue hardship which could not reasonably have been avoided is an issue, the burden of proof shall be upon the institution (E.C. 76121).*

During the fall and spring semesters, evening make-up exam testing can be handled by the Tutoring Center between the hours of 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. You can reach the Tutoring Center through their website: [VCTesting@vcccd.edu](mailto:VCTesting@vcccd.edu) or by calling 654-6400, ext.1235. There is a file drawer in the Tutoring Center assigned for the drop-off and pick-up of exams. You will be asked to attach instructions for the proctor, noting the exam date and time along with materials (i.e., dictionary, notes calculators, etc.) that students will be allowed to use during the exam. The Tutoring staff will ask each student taking a make-up exam for identification unless you tell the staff to do otherwise.

## **Online Courses**

Teaching online requires a significant time commitment but can be very rewarding once the course is developed. If interested, you should start by talking to your Department Chair about a course you may want to teach online. Once the Department and Dean have approved the addition of an online course section, the development begins. To start, the **Distance Education** form and the course outline must be submitted to the Curriculum Committee. Transitioning a course to the online format normally requires beginning the process up to one year in advance of when the course will be offered. This time period includes review by the Curriculum Committee, training with the Distance Education Office, course review prior to live release, and time for schedule development and advertising. At the present time, most online courses use a live orientation to get students started and many have proctored midterms and finals on campus. The Distance Education Office has information, resources, and help for anyone interested in finding out more about teaching online. For additional information, call ext. 1267.

## **Rubrics**

Scoring rubrics are explicit schemes for classifying products or behaviors into categories that vary along a continuum. They can be used to classify virtually any product or behavior, such as essays, research reports, portfolios, works of art, recitals, oral presentations, performances, and group activities.

Judgments can be self-assessments by students, or judgments can be made by others, such as faculty, other students, fieldwork supervisors, and external reviewers. Rubrics can be used to provide formative feedback to students, to grade students, and/or to assess programs. You are encouraged to make use of rubrics as a concrete way of communicating performance expectations in relation to the expected student learning outcomes for your courses.

A free source to assist in the development of course-specific rubrics is found at the following website: <http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php>

## Student Learning Outcomes

The identification of student learning outcomes and the measurement of student performance relative to these outcomes are required by accreditation standards. Ventura College faculty have identified six college-wide student learning outcomes (called “core competencies”) and their subsets. (See “Core Competencies” earlier in this chapter for additional information.)

In addition to the college-wide core competencies, accreditation standards require that student learning outcomes be identified at the individual course level and at the departmental level. Faculty who are teaching the same courses are expected to meet on a periodic basis to agree on a common set of student learning outcomes, to share the results of their classroom assessments relative to the achievement of these outcomes, and to use these discussions to improve the classroom experience.

Working with their official course outlines, faculty counterparts need to identify what limited number of observable/measurable things they want their students to be able to do as a result of completing the course. Faculty members are encouraged to start with the official course objectives from the course outline of record, and then to “operationalize” these objectives by addressing (1) the context or conditions under which the student will be expected to apply the knowledge, skill or values, and (2) the primary traits that will be used in assessing student performance.

For example, if the course objective for an English class is “Write well-organized, accurate and significant content,” then a possible student learning outcome might be “Given an in-class writing task based on an assigned reading [*context*], demonstrate appropriate and competent writing [*course objective*] which states a thesis, supports assertions, maintains unity of thought and purpose, is organized, and is technically correct in paragraph composition, sentence structure, grammar, spelling, and word use [*traits*].”

Accreditation standards require you to list the department’s agreed-upon student learning outcomes on your course syllabus, along with the college-wide core competencies that have been identified for your course. (See also: Rubrics.)

## Student Privacy

Please respect the privacy rights of your students by observing the following guidelines:

- Never leave your class record book open in the classroom. Students should not be able to walk by the lectern and casually peruse their grades and the grades of other students. If you are not taking roll or entering grades, simply close your record book and keep it with you.
- Do not use an attendance roster as your sign-in sheet, or allow students to view their grades

from the final grade roster.

- Refrain from using e-mail to convey a student's grade or to discuss specific aspects of his/her progress. E-mail addresses are often shared with others and cannot be considered private.
- If you include student work from prior semesters as samples in your syllabus, remove the names and obtain permission from the students involved.
- Only discuss a student's grades, work, attendance or other elements that are considered educational records with the student, and in a private setting.
- Do not discuss a student's grades, work, attendance or other elements that are considered educational records with a third party, including parents, unless the student is present and has given written consent. This applies to adult and minor students alike.
- Do not disclose a student's disability to other members of your class.

## Textbooks

The College Bookstore is dedicated to providing required textbooks and materials with a focus on affordability. To that end, it is crucial that textbook orders be submitted on time. Textbook adoptions received prior to the deadlines listed below allow the bookstore to acquire maximum inventory of less expensive used books. In addition, book buyback decisions are made shortly after these deadlines. When the Bookstore receives timely re-adoption orders, the students' books are bought back at a higher price and the Bookstore has more used books to offer students in the coming semester.

Many departments coordinate textbooks through the Department Chair while others have each instructor submit his/her individual textbook orders. Please work with your Department Chair to determine the process that is in place for your department. Faculty may order desk and review copies directly from the publisher.

### Textbook Adoptions

All textbook orders must be submitted online. From the college website ([www.venturacollege.edu](http://www.venturacollege.edu)), click on Faculty & Staff, then click on Faculty Adoptions. Instructions are included in the Links area of this document and online at the Bookstore's webpage.

Adoption dates will be sent out each semester but generally expect orders to be due:

Spring Semester	Mid-October
Summer Session	Mid-March
Fall Semester	Mid-April

### Instructor-Created Textbooks, Compact Disks and Other Materials

Instructor-created textbooks, syllabi and other instructional materials are generally prepared for specific courses offered by a college or district, and are often solely or exclusively provided by a district. In accordance with Title 5, section 59402(c), instructor-prepared instructional materials must be provided at the district's actual cost. This cost cannot include the time it took you to write or otherwise produce these materials and cannot include a royalty paid to you. A district's

"actual cost" of producing materials which it solely or exclusively provides can include a small processing markup necessary for selling the item through the College Bookstore. The overall premise is that neither a district nor its employees ought to be making a profit on materials that the district solely or exclusively provides.

To distribute instructor-created materials through the College Bookstore, provide camera ready materials to the Bookstore. The Bookstore will arrange with the Copy Center to print and sell sufficient copies for your students.

### **Use of Listening Devices**

State law in California prohibits the classroom use of any electronic listening or recording device without prior consent of the teacher. If a student must use an electronic recording device as an academic accommodation for a disability, the student must provide you with appropriate written verification from the campus program for students with disabilities or the Section 504 Coordinator. [E.C. 78907].

## **Student Conduct Issues**

### **Standards of Student Conduct**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the standards of the college and must conform to the rules of student conduct that have been established by the Governing Board of the District. Violations of such rules are subject to disciplinary action. For a list of the acts which are considered misconduct, you may refer to Appendix I in the *College Catalog*.

In these misconduct cases, you have a number of informal and formal options. You may discuss the matter with the student, outside of class and in an informal manner, with the intent of clarifying your expectations. Additional options include but are not restricted to: an oral or written warning, referral of the matter to the Assistant Dean of Student Services and an instructor-initiated temporary removal of the student from the class for the balance of the class period and the next regular class meeting, with immediate notification to the Assistant Dean of Student Services. (For details on the needed criteria for removing a student from a class, please see the section in this document: Removal of Students from Class.)

For details of Student Conduct: Disciplinary Action and Student Conduct: Due Process, see Appendix I of the *College Catalog*. In circumstances involving student misconduct, all parties must observe due process as described there.

### **Student Conduct Referral Process**

There is an electronic form available that allows you to bring your concerns to a student assistance team. You can use this form to formally or informally document student misconduct. You can also alert the team to a concern you have for a student's mental or emotional state. If the team notices a pattern of such referrals, an action plan may be developed to assist the student through the problem(s) he or she is experiencing, or to refer the student to the variety of support services that are available. The form can be accessed on the college website at [www.venturacollege.edu](http://www.venturacollege.edu). Click Departments at the top, then Student Services, then the BICT (Behavior Intervention Care Team) link. Hard copies of the form are available in Division Office.

If you have a situation where you have an immediate need for Campus Police, they can be reached at 654-6486 or 642-7000. For consultation purposes, if you would like to speak with someone about a student mental health concern, please call Elaine Tennen at Student Health and Psychological Services at 654-6346. If you would like to speak with someone about Student Conduct, please call David Bransky at 654-6400, ext. 3138.

It is suggested that you familiarize yourself with the *Crisis Intervention Handbook* found on the Student Health and Psychological Services section of the college web site.

### **Removal of Students from Class**

In accordance with college procedure, you may take action to temporarily remove a student from class. The behaviors outlined in Board Policy 5500 that are the most likely to prompt faculty action are continued disruptive behavior, willful disobedience, habitual profanity or vulgarity, open and persistent defiance of authority, persistent abuse of college personnel, or any threat of force or violence.

Prior to removing the student from class, you must provide the student with an oral or written statement that he/she has violated school policy or classroom norms. The exception to this would be cases that involve the threat of violence. In cases of threatened or actual violence, contact Campus Police at ext. 6486 or at 642-7000.

If the behavior continues despite this notice, you may direct the student to leave the class and remain away for the balance of the class period and the next regular class meeting. You must also advise the student of the need to see the Assistant Dean, Student Services.

So that the Assistant Dean can be apprised of the situation in preparation for meeting with the student, you should report the short-term removal of the student from class to the Assistant Dean by phone within two hours after the end of the class.

Once the student has seen the Assistant Dean, the Assistant Dean will review the action taken and will discuss it with you or with both you and the instructor.

If appropriate, you and the Assistant Dean may confer regarding the conditions under which the student will return and the expected behaviors that must change before the student may be returned to class.

If you encounter any disciplinary problem in your classroom, contact your Department Chair and/or Division Dean for assistance and advice on all the options available to you. In the evening, contact the assigned evening administrator (ext. 6483) or Campus Police (ext. 6486 or 642-7000).

Note: Except in cases of threatened force or violence, you may not temporarily remove a student for non-persistent behaviors.

## **Cheating and Plagiarism**

It is the belief at Ventura College that students share a responsibility with their instructors for assuring that their education is honestly attained. In keeping with this belief, every instructor has the responsibility and authority to deal with any instances of plagiarism, cheating and/or fabrication that occur in the classroom. You may elect to assign a letter grade of "F" for any assignment that is found to have involved academic dishonesty, but **you cannot extend this consequence to a failing grade for the entire course** based on that one failed assignment.

### **Preventing Plagiarism -- Educating Students**

You are encouraged to educate students about academic honesty and plagiarism and to clarify consequences for dishonesty. Suggested methods to do this include:

- Provide all students with a syllabus that clearly articulates the VC Academic Honesty Policy, with special emphasis on plagiarism. Indicate clearly on this syllabus the instructor-determined consequences for plagiarism in the class, up to and including receiving a failing grade on the assignment.
- Share with students examples of plagiarism, contrasted with appropriately documented summaries, paraphrases and quotes.
- Ask for questions to be sure all students understand the issues.

- Supply a handout of the VC website section on Academic Honesty or have students work with the website as an online laboratory activity.
- Have all students sign and date a contract that states that they have received, read and agree to abide by the Academic Honesty Policy.

### **Suggested Sequencing of Intervention When Issues of Plagiarism Arise**

1. Document the plagiarized material using Google.com or another online resource.
2. Meet with the student, present your findings, and listen to what the student has to say. In the course of the discussion, explore whether this is an issue in which the student does not understand the concepts of quoting and documenting, or whether this is an issue of academic dishonesty.
3. In the case of accidental plagiarism, you may want to have the student do exercises on documentation, get tutoring, and eventually write another paper without a grade penalty.
4. In the case of intentional plagiarism, please consult with your academic Dean regarding the following potential consequences:
  - Assign the paper an “F.”
  - Assign the paper an “F” and ask the student to write another for an additional grade.
  - Depending on the severity of the infraction, refer the student to the Assistant Dean, Student Services for additional sanctions.

### **Additional Information on Ventura College Website**

For additional information on academic honesty and writing a syllabus, access the Ventura College website at: [http://www.venturacollege.edu/faculty\\_staff/academic\\_resources/index.shtml](http://www.venturacollege.edu/faculty_staff/academic_resources/index.shtml)

## Record Keeping Procedures

### Faculty Tab in the MyVCCCD Portal

The Faculty Tab may be accessed through the MyVCCCD portal, at <http://my.vcccd.edu>. You will need a user ID and password to log in. Instructions for logging onto the portal can be found on the portal login page.

The MyVCCCD portal is your online access to your class and waitlist rosters, add authorization codes, enrollments, census rosters, drop rosters, grade rosters, students' addresses and phone numbers, and downloadable faculty forms. All census information, student drops, early alert reports and grading must be done via the web. Ease of printing and downloading of your real time rosters is the advantage of using the portal.

The requirements and procedures for reporting census, student drops, early alert, grades and positive attendance hours are included in the **Guidelines to Faculty Web Services** booklet that is distributed via e-mail by the Registrar's Office at the beginning of every fall semester. Copies are also available at the Registrar's Office.

### Registration and Adding Students

Please refer to the **Guidelines to Faculty Web Services** for complete information and procedures for registration, adding and dropping students. The following are highlights intended to provide an overview of registration activity at the beginning of each term:

- **The automated waitlist process will continue to work through the first week of the fall and spring semesters. This means that students will be able to add themselves to open waitlist seats, and will be moved from the waitlist into the class when classroom seats open.** You should check your rosters often during the first week as your enrollment will change, and you should drop "no-show" students early. Add authorization codes will be required for all classes beginning the second week of the semester.
- **If your class is still open as of the first meeting, refer students to webSTAR to register online.** Be sure to provide the correct course reference number (CRN) for your class! Do not allow students to return to class without a student program confirming official enrollment in your class.
- **To add students during the second week, give the students an Add Authorization Code, listed at the bottom of your roster. Give first priority to the students still on the waitlist.** The authorization code will allow the students to use webSTAR to add the class. Each code may only be used once. Contact the Division office to request additional authorization codes. Advise students who receive the add authorization codes to register immediately.
- **The number of seats available in your class, the number of individuals who can reserve a spot on the waitlist, and the number of add authorization codes you receive can only be adjusted by your division office.** Please contact the division office to request a change in the number of available seats for enrolled or waitlisted students.

## Open Enrollment

To be eligible for state funding, every class for which apportionment funding (FTES) is claimed shall be fully open to enrollment to any person who has been admitted to the college and who meets college requirements and prerequisites.

## Class Roster and Student Enrollment

Funding for the college is based upon student enrollment and attendance, so it is important that student attendance accounting be complete and accurate. The college is required to report to the state on a periodic basis the students actively enrolled in its classes. It is important that you complete these census reports in a timely and accurate manner. It is also a contractual obligation (AFT 5.2.A1). Each roster includes the census date and the drop and withdrawal deadlines that apply to the class.

Online rosters are created from live data, and represent students who are officially registered in your class at the time of printing. It is recommended that you print your rosters no earlier than one day prior to the first class meeting. Use this roster to take roll at the first class meeting. To admit additional students who are not yet registered, provide each student with an add authorization code and direct them to add the class online. Students who are on your waitlists and in attendance at the first class meeting should be given first priority for open seats.

It is recommended that updated class rosters be printed frequently during the first three weeks of the term for full semester classes, and prior to the census date for short term classes. Printed rosters used for keeping attendance and grades must be retained by each instructor as a permanent record for a minimum of six years (the current year plus the five prior years). These rosters may be subject to an audit or may be subpoenaed as official evidence in legal proceedings.

## Census Rosters

Ventura College, along with every other community college in California, is required to submit census student enrollment data to the state once each semester. Each college and/or district is reimbursed by the state based on this census week data, which is collected on Monday of the fourth week of each semester for full semester classes, and at 20% of class meetings for short term classes. You are responsible for knowing the census date for each of your classes, and for reporting census drops in a timely manner in accordance with state law and the AFT Contract. Every class roster includes the census date for that specific class. Census reporting is done online through MyVCCCD.

Prior to the census date, you are required to review your class rosters to:

- Ensure that all students in attendance are officially registered and showing up on the roster, and;
- Drop any students who were "no shows" or have quit attending class

See the **Guideline to Faculty Web Services** publication (distributed each fall semester and available at the Registrar's Office) for complete information and instructions for Census Procedures. **The Office of the Registrar will notify you of the census reporting period for full semester classes.** During the census reporting period, you are responsible for dropping any student no longer in attendance. The census date for each class is on your printed class roster, and also available for all of your classes using the

"Instructor's Detailed Schedule" menu option on Faculty Services. Census drops must be reported *before* the census date. See the **Guideline to Faculty Web Services** publication (distributed each fall semester and available at the Registrar's Office) for information and instructions.

It is critical that a careful check be made to ensure the accuracy of your class roster. Students not officially enrolled cannot be given credit for the course, and the college will not receive state reimbursement for such students.

Please do not "carry" students on your roster who have stopped attending. You may drop a student for lack of attendance through the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> week of the semester or the 75% point of a short term class. The drop roster is available on Faculty Web. After the 14<sup>th</sup> week of the semester, the "W" grade is no longer an available option.

You may reinstate students who have been dropped providing arrangements are made for both assignments and hours to be made up (if necessitated by a lapse in attendance). The form for this purpose is a **Reinstatement Petition**, available in the Admissions and Records Office. Reinstatements require only your signature as the instructor and, if occurring at the end of a semester or class period, the final grade to be awarded.

## Grading and Academic Record Symbols

### Evaluative Symbols

Per Title 5, Section 55023, the following evaluative symbols will be used to measure student work:

- A – Excellent (4 points per semester unit)
- B – Good (3 points per semester unit)
- C – Satisfactory (2 points per semester unit)
- D – Passing, Less than satisfactory (1 point per semester unit)
- F – Failing (0 points per semester unit)
  
- P – Pass, At least satisfactory (units awarded not counted in GPA)
- NP – No Pass, Less than satisfactory, or failing (units not counted in GPA)

Grades from the letter grading scale shall be averaged on the basis of the numerical grade point equivalencies to determine a student's grade point average.

### Non-Evaluative Symbols

The District Governing Board has authorized the use of the non-evaluative symbols "I," "RD," "W," and "MW," defined as follows:

#### I - Incomplete

Students who are at the end of a term and have failed to complete the required academic work of a course because of unforeseeable, emergency, and justifiable reasons may receive a symbol "I" (Incomplete) on their records.

The conditions for receiving a letter grade and for the removal of the "I" must be stated

by the instructor in a written record which must also state the grade to be assigned in lieu of the removal of the "I." This record must be given to the student and a copy is to be placed on file with the Registrar until the conditions are met (the "I" is made up) or the time limit is passed.

The instructor is also required to award a default grade with the incomplete. The default grade will become the student's final grade if, at the end of one year, the student has not met the conditions stipulated on the written record.

The "I" symbol shall not be used in calculating units attempted or for grade point averages.

#### RD - Report Delayed

The "RD" symbol may be assigned by the Registrar only. It is to be used when 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 to be replaced by a permanent symbol as soon as possible. "RD" shall not be used in calculating grade point averages.

#### W - Withdrawal

A student may withdraw from a class through the last day of the fourteenth week of instruction for full-semester classes or through seventy-five percent (75%) of a class less than a semester in length. The academic record of a student who remains in a class beyond this time limit must reflect a grade other than a "W."

No notation ("W" or other) shall be made on the academic record of the student who withdraws during the first four weeks of a full-semester length class or thirty percent (30%) of a short-term course. Withdrawal between this no-notation deadline (roughly 30% of a course) and the drop deadline (roughly 75% of the course) shall be recorded as a "W" on the student's record.

#### MW – Military Withdrawal

"Military Withdrawal" occurs when a student who is a member of an active or reserve United States military service receives orders compelling a withdrawal from courses. Upon verification of such orders, a withdrawal symbol may be assigned at any time after the period established by the governing board during which no notation is made for withdrawals.

A student requesting military withdrawal must present a written request for withdrawal and a copy of military order or other acceptable documentation which verify the dates and location of the military assignment that interrupted or will interrupt the student's attendance.

The academic record of a student who requests military withdrawal after the fourth week of a full semester course or 30% of a short-term course shall reflect a grade of "W" (rather than a grade of MW).

Military withdrawals shall not be counted in progress probation and dismissal calculations.

## Final Grades

Final grades and (if required for the class) positive attendance hours are submitted online using the Final Grades roster. As stipulated in the Contract [Article 5.2.A (1)] the grades must be submitted online via MyVCCCD within two working days after final exams. The requirements and procedure for reporting grades are included in the **Guidelines to Faculty Web Services** publication that is distributed by the Registrar's Office at the beginning of every fall semester. Additional copies of this document are available at the Registrar's Office.

The California Education Code and the California Code of Regulations state that you, as the instructor of a college class, have the sole authority and responsibility to evaluate the students' performance in the class and that, **in the absence of fraud, incompetence, bad faith or mistake, your grades are final.** [E.C. 76224(a) and Title 5: 55760]

A student who questions the administration about a grade or grading procedures will be referred back to you. Should that not result in a satisfactory resolution of the question, the student should meet with the appropriate Division Dean and, if necessary, the Executive Vice President. If the student cannot resolve the grade in question after these meetings, the student may file a formal grievance with the Assistant Dean, Student Services.

Instructors may initiate grade changes by petition to correct errors and award grades to replace "incompletes." A **Petition to Change a Grade** form for this purpose is available in the Admissions and Records Office or may be downloaded from Faculty Web.

## Hours by Arrangement

Some classes are scheduled wholly or in part on an "hours by arrangement" basis, also referred to as "positive attendance." For those classes, you are required to keep a record of the actual hours of attendance for every enrolled student. For purposes of maintaining records that will meet requirements for the State Department of Finance audits, it is imperative that the college has information on file to verify that class hours are met as scheduled. These hours are submitted online on the Final Grades roster. You should maintain hard copy records for a minimum of six years past the year in which the records are created; additionally, a copy should be on file with the Division Dean, who must retain and make the records available for audit. The requirements and procedure for reporting positive attendance hours are included in the **Guidelines to Faculty Web Services** publication that is distributed by the Registrar's Office and available for download on the Faculty tab of the portal.

## General Information

### **Academic Senate**

The Ventura College Academic Senate is the faculty organization empowered by state law to represent the full-time faculty in all professional and academic matters. The Senate President is an official representative at meetings of the Governing Board, at the district Chancellor's Consultation Council and at the college Administrative Council.

The organization, procedures and activities of the Academic Senate, its officers, and its members are governed by its Constitution and Bylaws. The Academic Senate Council includes representatives from instructional and student services departments, as well as the Senate's elected officers. The Academic Senate (either directly or through the committees that report to it) considers the following academic and professional matters:

1. Curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and places courses within disciplines)
2. Degree and certificate requirements
3. Grading policies
4. Educational program development
5. Standards or policies regarding student preparation and success
6. District and college governance structures, as related to faculty roles
7. Faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports
8. Policies for faculty professional development activities
9. Processes for program review
10. Processes for institutional planning and budget development
11. Other academic and professional matters as mutually agreed upon between the Governing Board and the Academic Senate

The Academic Senate maintains a page on the college website that includes agendas and minutes from its meetings. For additional information about the Academic Senate, contact Academic Senate Office at ext. 6463.

### **Equal Opportunity Statement**

The Ventura County Community College District is committed to providing nondiscrimination and equal opportunity in education, in extracurricular school activities, and in the workplace.

All members of the College community - students, faculty, administrators, staff, and visitors - must be able to study and work in an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust. Indeed, the District is actively committed to creating and maintaining an environment that respects the dignity of everyone.

Ventura College and the Ventura County Community College District, without regard to age, marital status, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual preference, disability, or status as a military veteran:

- Welcome students for admission to any course of study for which they are otherwise qualified,
- Encourage students to participate in extracurricular school activities,
- Offer all opportunities in Career and Technical Education programs,

- Consider all applications for financial assistance programs, i.e. student loans, work study/compensation, grants, scholarships, special funds, subsidies, prizes, etc., and
- Assure compliance with federal and state guidelines and regulations regarding nondiscrimination in recruitment, hiring, placement, assignment of tasks, hours of employment, levels of responsibility, and pay/compensation.

Harassment of any student, employee or visitor on any ground listed above is strictly prohibited.

Ventura College embraces both the letter and the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and fully informs students of the availability of services to ensure equitable access. Access information is disseminated in both printed and electronic form throughout the College's expansive service area.

If you feel that you have been subjected to unlawful discrimination based on disability or in violation of the ADA, or if you feel that you may have been subjected to any other form of unlawful discrimination, including violations of the General Educations Provisions Act (GEPA), and including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education, programs and activities, please contact David Bransky, Assistant Dean, Student Services, and Title IX Officer and Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Ventura College, 4667 Telegraph Road, Ventura CA 93003. Telephone: (805) 654-6400, ext. 3138 or e-mail: dbransky@vcccd.edu

## **General Education Philosophy Statement**

The following is Ventura College's general education philosophy statement, as documented in the *College Catalog*:

*General education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which people comprehend the modern world. It reflects the conviction of the college that those who receive our degrees must possess in common certain basic principles, concepts and methodologies both unique to and shared by the various disciplines. College educated persons should be able to use their knowledge when evaluating and appreciating the physical environment, the culture, and the society in which they live. Most importantly, general education should lead to better self-understanding.*

*This understanding involves the ability to think and to communicate clearly and effectively both orally and in writing; to use mathematics; to understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines; to be aware of other cultures and times; to achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems; and to develop the capacity for self-understanding. In addition to these accomplishments, students should possess sufficient depth in some field of knowledge to contribute to lifetime interest.*

*To meet the objectives of general education:*

- A. Courses in the natural sciences are those that help students examine the physical universe, its life forms, and its natural phenomena; and develop an understanding and appreciation of the scientific method and of the relationships between science and other human activities.*
- B. Courses in the social and behavioral sciences help students develop an understanding of the method of scientific inquiry used in the social and behavioral sciences; stimulate in students critical thinking about human behavior; and promote an appreciation of how societies and social subgroups have operated in the past and function in the present.*

- C. *Courses in the humanities help students develop an awareness of how people of different cultures throughout the ages have responded to themselves, other people, and their environment in artistic and cultural creation; develop aesthetic understanding and the ability to make value judgments; and participate in creative experiences.*
- D. *Courses in language and rationality help students develop principles and applications of language toward logical thought, clear and precise expression, and critical evaluation of communication in whatever symbol systems the students use.*
- E. *Courses in health and physical activity help students develop the understanding and skills necessary to maintain a healthful life.*
- F. *Courses in ethnic and women's studies help students develop an awareness of the historical roots and an appreciation of the cultural contributions of diverse ethnic populations and women; lead to an understanding of the causes and consequences of socio-economic inequality based on race, sex or ethnicity; and explore ways of eliminating such inequalities.*

## **Professional Ethics**

The Academic Senate has adopted the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) *Statement on Professional Ethics* as the code of ethics for the faculty. The AAUP *Statement on Professional Ethics* states:

1. *Professors, guided by a deep conviction of the worth and dignity of the advancement of knowledge, recognize the special responsibilities placed upon them. Their primary responsibility to their subject is to seek and to state the truth as they see it. To this end professors devote their energies to developing and improving their scholarly competence. They accept the obligation to exercise critical self-discipline and judgment in using, extending, and transmitting knowledge. They practice intellectual honesty. Although professors may follow subsidiary interests, these interests must never seriously hamper or compromise their freedom of inquiry.*
2. *As teachers, professors encourage the free pursuit of learning in their students. They hold before them the best scholarly and ethical standards of their discipline. Professors demonstrate respect for students as individuals and adhere to their proper roles as intellectual guides and counselors. Professors make every reasonable effort to foster honest academic conduct and to ensure that their evaluations of students reflect each student's true merit. They respect the confidential nature of the relationship between professor and student. They avoid any exploitation, harassment, or discriminatory treatment of students. They acknowledge significant academic or scholarly assistance from them. They protect their academic freedom.*
3. *As colleagues, professors have obligations that derive from common membership in the community of scholars. Professors do not discriminate against or harass colleagues. They respect and defend the free inquiry of associates, even when it leads to findings and conclusions that differ from their own. Professors acknowledge academic debt and strive to be objective in their professional judgment of colleagues. Professors accept their share of faculty responsibilities for the governance of their institution.*
4. *As members of an academic institution, professors seek above all to be effective teachers and scholars. Although professors observe the stated regulations of the institution, provided the regulations do not contravene academic freedom, they maintain their right to criticize and seek revision. Professors give due regard to their paramount responsibilities within their institution in determining the amount and character of work done outside it. When considering the*

*interruption or termination of their service, professors recognize the effect of their decision upon the program of the institution and give due notice of their intentions.*

5. *As members of their community, professors have the rights and obligations of other citizens. Professors measure the urgency of these obligations in the light of their responsibilities to their subject, to their students, to their profession, and to their institution. When they speak or act as private persons, they avoid creating the impression of speaking or acting for their college or university. As citizens engaged in a profession that depends upon freedom for its health and integrity, professors have a particular obligation to promote conditions of free inquiry and to further public understanding of academic freedom.*

The Board of Trustees has also adopted a district employee code of ethics. This code of ethics states:

*Ventura county Community College District employees are guided by principles that call for the respect of students, citizens, state policy makers, and the educational community at large. This Code of Ethics demonstrates to the public that our educational community has a vested interest in advancing the reputation and goodwill of the District and higher education.*

*Employees of the District:*

- *Will abide by the Code of Ethics and adhere to its principles.*
- *Will abide by the District's procedures and adopted policies as listed on the District website.*
- *Will use established channels of communication within the District.*
- *Will conduct themselves in a manner consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and codes.*
- *Will be familiar with Administrative Procedure 7700-Whistleblower Protections.*
- *Will be committed to acting with integrity and will be accountable for their actions.*

## **Ventura College Promise Program**

The Ventura College Promise is a program sponsored by the Ventura College Foundation that is designed:

- To remove the economic barriers to education for graduating high school seniors
- To improve the college-going rate in the Ventura College service area
- To enhance the quality of the workforce in the Ventura College service area

Through the program, the Foundation promises that current year Ventura County high school graduates, regardless of family income, will have their enrollment fees covered during their first year of attendance at Ventura College. This same promise is extended to students who have successfully completed their GED requirements or who have completed the coursework for high school during the current year, but have not yet passed their exit exam. Expenses covered by the Ventura College Promise include the per-unit cost of classes, the Health fee and the Student Center fee.

Approximately 2,000 students per year attend Ventura College on the Promise program. To qualify, the Ventura County applicant must:

1. Identify an educational goal
2. Take the college's assessment examination

3. Work with a Ventura College counselor to develop an education plan
4. Complete a Financial Aid Application (FAFSA)
5. Apply for the Ventura College Promise and be enrolled in Ventura College within twelve months of high school (or GED) completion and be enrolled in Ventura College immediately after high school (or GED) completion

There is no minimum or maximum number of units that must be taken, and no minimum grade point average or assessment score that must be met. Please refer students who may be interested in the Ventura College Promise to the Foundation Office or to the Counseling Department.

## Off-Campus Procedures and Resources

### **Off-Campus Locations**

The East Campus office is located at 115 Dean Drive in Santa Paula. Classes are held in an adjacent building at 105 Dean Drive. The East Campus is open from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday. The office is staffed from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday. Contact the East Campus at (805) 525-7136 with any questions. Please remember that subject area questions should be addressed to the Dean or Department Chair for that area.

In addition to the East Campus, classes are held at various high schools and sites in the community.

### **On- and Off-Campus Reporting Relationship**

In an effort to more closely link the off-campus and main campus programs, faculty who teach or provide a service for all or a portion of their contract load at an off-campus location report directly to the main campus Division Deans for their subject areas. This means that all supplies and class information will be obtained from the Division.

### **Off-Campus Services for Faculty**

**Book Sales:** The Ventura College Bookstore sells books at the East Campus during the first two weeks of instruction. The Bookstore hours will be e-mailed to you and posted in each classroom. If you teach classes at the East Campus, Santa Paula High School, or Fillmore High School, you should place a textbook order through the College Bookstore per the standard procedure. **No books or other materials should be sold directly by an instructor to students in the classroom.**

**Computer and Phone Access for Faculty:** You are welcome to use computers, printers, scanners and phones that are available in faculty offices at 115 Dean Drive, Suite D. 15. Let the East Campus staff know that you would like to use the office and they will provide you with a key.

**Copy Services:** A copy room equipped with two copiers and a Scantron is available at the East Campus in Suite D. The copy code for your department at East Campus is the same as for the main campus. If you do not know your department code, the East Campus staff will provide you with the information. If you do not want to make your own copies, you can use the Canon Business Solutions Center on the main campus. They can be reached by phone at 654-6376. The staff at the East Campus can take and pick up your copying orders. Please give us one week's notice.

**Learning Resource Center:** The East Campus has a Learning Resource Center. The Learning Resource Center, consisting of 40 computers, is a branch of the Ventura College Library and the Tutoring Center. From the East Campus LRC, students can access the online catalog of the Ventura College Library and can use the research databases. Microsoft Office and tutorial software for accounting, English, ESL, and math are also available, as is Internet access. Faculty may place items on reserve for students to utilize outside of the classroom in the LRC. Students also have access to a small textbook lending library program. For more information, contact 525-7136, ext. 6590.

### **Media Services:**

Audiovisual equipment is available for faculty whose classes are scheduled at the East Campus.

Faculty with classes held at local high schools may have access to the high school's equipment. However, if the equipment breaks or a bulb burns out, call the East Campus immediately. Leave a message at 525-7136, ext. 6587 if no one is available.

The college DVD collection is available through the Library on the main campus. You may search the titles in the college's media collection online through the Library catalog at: [www.venturacollege.edu](http://www.venturacollege.edu). Click on Departments at the top, then select Student Services, then Library. You may check out the DVDs at the main library or request that they be sent to the East Campus LRC for check out there. Please return the items as soon as you are through with them.

### **Off-Campus Room Access**

Rooms at the East Campus will be opened by the East Campus staff. Room access for other off-campus classes varies from site to site. Most of the high schools will have the custodial staff unlock and lock the classroom doors. Therefore, it is very important to contact the high school custodial staff if you are leaving your class early. An unlocked classroom is an invitation to vandalism or other crimes. If you get to a site and the doors are not open, call the East Campus for assistance.

### **Off-Campus Mail**

If you are scheduled solely at the East Campus or at the Santa Paula or Fillmore high schools, you will have your mailbox at the East Campus. Others will need to discuss mail delivery with their main campus Departments/Divisions.

All off-campus faculty may request mailboxes at the East Campus. If you are having your mail delivered to the East Campus, please notify your Department/Division to put your mail in the East Campus mailbox. The East Campus gets inter-office mail pick-up and delivery on Tuesday and Thursday.

### **Parking Permit for Off-Campus Sites**

Parking permits are not needed for any of the off-campus sites; however, a permit *is* needed when you attend any activities on the main campus. These permits may be obtained at the Campus Police Office. The permit is valid for Ventura, Oxnard, and Moorpark colleges.

### **Reporting Absences for Off-Campus Classes**

It is important that you report your absence for your off-campus class as early as possible. Since it is necessary to post a sign on the classroom door for the students, the off-campus staff need as much time as possible to notify someone to go to the off-campus site to post the sign. The following is the procedure for reporting an absence. (Please be aware that additional directions given to you by your division or department supersede the following directions.)

1. Contact your Division Office to report all absences. The following are the division numbers:  
Career & Technical Education: ..... 654-6400, ext. 3143

Communication & Learning Resources: .....	654-6468
Math & Sciences:.....	654-6400, ext. 3190
Physical Education & Athletics: .....	654-6400, ext. 1262
Social Sciences & Humanities:.....	654-6388
Student Services:.....	654-6455

2. If you are calling too late to catch anyone at the Division Office, contact the Evening Office at 654-6465. You will also need to leave a message with your Division Office to inform them of your absence.
3. If you are calling within a half hour of your class’s starting time, please call the East Campus (525-7136) as well as your Division Office or the Evening Office so that we can have as much time as possible to notify the students and post the cancellation sign.
4. Any planned personal necessity absences need to be approved ahead of time by your Division Dean. Please give as much advanced notice as possible so that a qualified substitute can be found, if funds permit. **DO NOT arrange for a substitute on your own.**

### **Emergencies at Off-Campus Locations**

For life-threatening emergencies, call 911. Some of the classrooms have phones. If there is no phone in your classroom and if you don’t carry a cell phone, ask one of your students. For other emergencies that may likely cause physical harm (spills, hanging light covers, broken windows, exposed electrical wiring, or other safety-related problems), locate a custodian on your campus site immediately. If you are at the East Campus, locate a staff person. Following the accident or emergency incident, please contact East Campus staff so that the proper forms can be completed.

### **Maintenance and Service Requests for Off-Campus Locations**

Contact East Campus staff for any non-emergency maintenance or service requests. Although the high school custodial staff will perform any kind of maintenance or repair, it is better to have those requests come from one source to avoid duplicating requests and annoying the high schools with multiple phone calls. When leaving a voicemail or e-mail message for the East Campus staff, please give a complete explanation of the problem (where, when, what) and leave a number where you can be contacted if there are with any questions.

### **Off-Campus Etiquette for Classes Held in High Schools**

We are guests at the high schools. Faculty who teach part of their loads in the high schools are in rooms that are used by full-time high school faculty member during the day. Please do not erase anything on the board that says “Save.” Also, please be sure to leave the room in the same or better condition than you found it. That includes erasing the board, putting the chairs back in the same order in which you found them, and having your students pick up papers, cans, and trash from the desks and floor that was generated during your class period.

Please note: We use only the rooms from the high schools. The college agreement with the high schools does not include the use of any equipment, facility, or service. That includes audio-visual equipment (unless specifically permitted by the high school), library, pools, etc. Please let East Campus staff know if any equipment is damaged.

## Resources for Faculty

### **College Bookstore**

In addition to textbooks, the College Bookstore stocks a wide variety of other classroom supplies, soft goods and personal items for the benefit of students, faculty and staff. The Bookstore will attempt to inventory art, drafting or other specific classroom supplies as requested by the faculty.

Normal operating hours for the Bookstore are:

Monday – Thursday	7:45 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Friday	7:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Closing hours are extended during the first week of each semester, when the hours are:

Monday – Thursday	7:45 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday	7:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Additionally, the Bookstore is open on the first day of Saturday classes: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

### **College Technical Services**

College Technical Services (CTS) is your first point of contact for your technical support needs across campus. If it affects a college computer, telephone, voicemail, or smart classroom, and you need assistance, contact the Help Desk at ext.4357 (H-E-L-P). If we don't support it, we know who does, and we will direct you accordingly.

Help Desk Hours:

Monday – Friday	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Weekends	Closed
Summer and Breaks	As Posted

In addition to dialing HELP, you can open non-urgent support tickets by sending e-mail to [vchelpdesk@vcccd.edu](mailto:vchelpdesk@vcccd.edu). Please be as detailed as possible in your e-mail requests.

### **Educational Assistance Center**

The Educational Assistance Center (EAC) serves students who have physical, communicative, learning, and other health disabilities. Please stop by if you have a student who you suspect might be having learning or other disability-related problems. Specialists and counselors are available to discuss how the problem can be diagnosed and the support services that are available to assist the student succeed in your class. The EAC is located in the Administration Building.

### **Fitness Center**

You may use the college Fitness Center when it is open without paying an enrollment fee or being graded on your participation. The Fitness Center is located on the upper level of the Athletic Event

Center. Come visit the Fitness Center and speak to an instructor to arrange an orientation time and to find out how to get signed up to use the Fitness Center.

## **Graphic Services**

Graphic services available for campus staff include assistance in designing forms, booklets, and flyers. The campus-based Graphics/Publications Department is located in TR-4 and can be reached at 654-6400, ext. 1319. To send a fax, dial 654-6436.

In order to help maintain a more standard college identity to the public, faculty are asked not to design nor print their own business cards, stationery, or logos. Letter head stationery, business cards, and brochures can be coordinated through your Division Office, using the services of the district-wide Marketing Specialist. Templates for business cards and note cards are available through the Marketing Specialist's office at the district.

## **Learning Center**

The Learning Center, located on the first floor of the Library & Learning Resource Center in the "BEACH," has 369 computers for student use. MS Office Suite and the Internet are available for students to conduct research and to complete assignments. Materials and software programs are also available supporting English, English as a Second Language, foreign language, learning skills, math, emergency medicine, health sciences, assistive technology, and many other areas.

The Learning Center staff offers class orientations to introduce your students to the Center and its services. Distance Education faculty are also able to schedule orientations and large group examinations in the Learning Resource Center.

Faculty may place media on reserve in the Center for their students to use in the "Beach" on their own time.

Please contact the Learning Center at ext. 6320 to arrange for orientations or exams, to place items on reserve, or to have your class roster entered into the Daedalus software program.

## **Library**

Ventura College Library, located on the second floor of Learning Resource Center (LRC), primarily supports faculty, staff, and students by providing resources relevant to instruction, research, and curriculum of Ventura College. Faculty plays a significant role in building the collection, and you are encouraged to participate in ordering books and suggesting databases pertinent to your discipline to support your academic program.

The Library currently holds approximately 85,000 items and provides access to a variety of databases both on campus and off-campus.

A library card must be presented at the time of check out for all types of materials including reserves. Library cards are issued during open library hours. Students need to provide a valid picture ID to apply for a library card.

Faculty and staff are exempt from fines and have the privilege of an extended loan period of half a semester for regular library materials unless there is a hold placed on the material or it is close to the end of the semester. Students may check out regular materials for a period of two weeks and have the option to renew up to three times unless there is a hold on a material.

You may place material on reserve by contacting Linda Carroll, Library Assistant, at ext. 1233. You will be the one to determine the loan period and restrictions placed on your reserve material. "Library use only" is the most popular restriction placed on reserve materials to ensure fair and equal access to reserve material. Please allow one week for processing and cataloging before instructing students to consult the library copy of material on reserve.

Please consider donating copies of your textbooks to the library's textbook lending service for either the reserve collection or the Faith George collection for student use. Desk copies or complimentary copies provided by publishers are very much appreciated and help the library expand the textbook lending program to students.

Upon your request, librarians will work with you to present an orientation for your class to prepare students for class assignments. Library orientations can be tailored to meet the needs of your class or can be designed to assist students working on a specific class project. To request an orientation session, visit VC library Web site and complete a request form for library orientations/instructions.

The Library has 8 study rooms and 48 public computer stations with MS Office Suite and Internet connection. Wi-Fi is available in the library. Students need to ask for a password from a librarian to access the Wi-Fi.

Updated library hours, as well as complete contact information of librarians and library staff, are posted on the VC Library home page. For additional information on library services and holdings, please visit the VC Library Web site.

## **Make-Up Exam Service**

Make-up testing service is available in the Tutoring Center during the fall and spring semesters, Mondays-Thursdays, 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Faculty guidelines and request forms may be obtained from the Tutoring Center or access them online via the Tutoring Center's website. Due to funding considerations, the hours of service are limited to evening hours, so faculty members are asked to use the service only when they cannot personally accommodate their students. We employ the use of retired instructors or retired professionals to proctor exams and have set guidelines that students must follow during the exam. Telephone 654-6400, ext. 1235 for more information.

## **Media Services**

Classroom equipment: You should contact the College Technical Services HELP Desk at ext. 4357 for media cabinet keys, equipment instruction, and for any problems with classroom equipment.

Poster printing, laminating and media duplication: Self service poster printing, laminating, and media duplication equipment are now available through the Staff Resource Center. If you are interested in being trained in this equipment, you are encouraged to attend flex day training workshops in order to gain access to the equipment.

DVD Collection: The college DVD collection continues to be available for faculty use and may be checked out from the Library and searched through the library catalog at [www.venturacollege.edu/library](http://www.venturacollege.edu/library).

## **Staff Resource Center**

Located in LRC-132, the Staff Resource Center is available to all staff for a wide variety of uses. The Center has MACs and PCs supporting basic word processing, image scanning for handouts, brochures and presentations, web page development, Internet activity, and many other presentation and communication capabilities. Scantron and transparency-making machines are also located in the Center.

The Staff Resource Center is available for daily use (including weekends) from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. for any interested staff who request access. Electronic locks have been installed to allow access afterhours. No access code is needed during the hours the Learning Center is open. To request a code and weekend security alarm instructions, please Sandy Hajas at [shajas@vcccd.edu](mailto:shajas@vcccd.edu).

## **Supplemental Instruction**

Supplemental Instruction is available for selected targeted courses. Supplemental Instruction Leaders (tutors) are assigned to act as model students, to attend assigned class sessions, to work with the instructor, to hold outside study sessions, and to help students learn note taking and study skills. Due to funding limitations, the program is focused primarily on basic skills courses. For more information, please telephone Sharon Oxford at 654-6400, ext. 3227.

## **Student Business Office**

The Student Business Office provides a variety of financial services for both the students and the faculty. The office receives payment of all student fees. This includes fees for enrollment, parking, non-resident tuition, health services, ASB cards and child care.

The Business Office maintains the Associated Student Body Fund, the Campus Trust Fund, the Co-Curricular Fund, and the ASB Bookstore Loan Fund. In this function the office receives money for deposit and provides a monthly financial statement for each fund.

The Student Business Offices maintains a revolving fund for the campus for approved reimbursements. The Student Business Office also maintains a petty cash fund for reimbursing approved expenditures under \$100.

## **Textbook Lending**

The Ventura College Library has created two textbook lending collections that are supported by donations from students and faculty and funds from the VC Foundation. The "Library Use Only" reserve textbook collection is located at the Circulation Desk. The collection incorporates most all VC texts and is supported with funds from the VC Foundation. Students are able to use the textbooks in the library for a two-hour renewable period.

The textbooks in the Faith George Lending Library collection are circulated for the entire semester to VC students enrolled in VC courses only. The collection is available to students on a first-come-first-serve basis. The Faith George collection is developed mainly through donations from faculty and students and

receives some funding from the VC Foundation, ASB, and grants. You are encouraged to donate textbooks to the collections and are asked to encourage your students to do the same.

You are welcome to recommend the textbook lending collections to your students. Rules and policies guiding the use of the collections may be found on the library's website.

## **Tutoring Center**

Located on the first floor of the Library & Learning Resource Center, the Tutoring Center provides drop-in, group, and individual tutoring for nearly all classes scheduled each semester. All services are free for Ventura College students.

You are encouraged to bring your students into the center for an orientation or invite a tutor to speak to your classes about the center's services. You are also encouraged to donate current textbooks and send your syllabi to the Tutoring Center for use by the tutors and students in studying for classes. The Tutoring Center can also be used for instructor office hours or test preps. For more detailed information contact Antonio Huante at 648-8926.

## **Ventura College Foundation**

The Ventura College Foundation, established in 1981, is a non-profit organization that operates independently of the District's formal governance structure to promote the College's general welfare. With assets of over \$6.5 million, the Foundation endeavors to pursue the following objectives to provide the College assistance and support:

- A. Awarding and administering scholarships to students;
- B. Funding additional student support grants;
- C. Providing seed funds for new programs at the College;
- D. Raising supplemental funds for existing and new capital projects;
- E. Increasing the visibility of Ventura College and the Foundation in the community.

Many members of the staff have received Foundation innovation grants that have helped them to complete special projects in their areas of assignment.