

Planning Your Education

Make Educational Choices to Support Your Goals

Why Are You Attending Ventura College?

We all have unique interests and goals. You may be attending Ventura College for any number of reasons. Ventura College offers courses in an array of disciplines that can prepare you for skilled trades, specialized careers, job advancement, and transfer to a four-year college or university to further your education. Your goals should have a direct influence on the courses and programs you choose to complete while at Ventura College. It is important to keep your goals in mind at all times when selecting classes and programs and to remain informed about requirements specific to your goals.

Planning is Critical

You may already know what you want to accomplish while enrolled at Ventura College, or you may be unaware of your options and what is necessary to reach your goals. Counselors at Ventura College are available to help you identify your goals and to create an educational plan that will help you achieve those goals. The counselors also assist undecided students in clarifying what their goals are. It is to the student's advantage to develop an Educational Plan as soon as possible. Schedule a counseling appointment to start exploring the possibilities.

What Do You Want to Accomplish at Ventura College?

- Prepare to transfer to a four-year college or university while earning an Associate Degree for Transfer, obtaining general education certification, and/or fulfilling UC Transfer Pathways requirements.
- Earn an Associate Degree in a specific major or in General Studies with an area of emphasis.
- Gain skills for improved employability or job placement/advancement through a Certificate of Achievement, Proficiency Award, or Certificate of Completion.
- Prepare for credit coursework by earning a Certificate of Competency.

Proof of Your Success

Ventura College offers six distinct types of awards to demonstrate educational achievement. If you are hoping to apply skills and knowledge to the job market once you have completed your studies at Ventura College, having proof of your accomplishments can be an asset.

- **Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT)** are Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) degrees that are awarded to students who successfully complete 60 semester units of required general education (either the CSU GE-Breadth, CSU GE-Breadth for

STEM, IGETC for CSU, or IGETC for STEM pattern) and a specified sequence of lower-division major preparation coursework. Students with an ADT are guaranteed admission into the CSU in a program deemed similar to that of the transfer degree and will have the opportunity to complete their bachelor's degree upon completion of an additional 60 units of upper-division study.

- **Associate in Science for University of California (UC) Transfer Pathways (AS-UCTP)** degrees are awarded to students who successfully complete a UC Transfer Agreement Guarantee (TAG) along with the required major and general education requirements. Schedule an appointment with a college counselor for more information on these AS-UCTP degrees. *Note that Ventura College does not currently offer this type of degree but is in the process of creating AS-UCTP degrees in Physics and Chemistry; however, there is no assurance that these will become available during the next two years. Students may nevertheless use Ventura College courses to satisfy UC transfer requirements; see a counselor for details.*
- **Associate Degrees** are traditional Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS) degrees. These awards are broader in scope than Certificates of Achievement because they require coursework in an array of disciplines to broaden the student's learning experience and strengthen their critical thinking skills. An AA or AS degree requires the completion of 60 degree-applicable units, including courses in general education plus courses in a chosen major. Students should see a Ventura College counselor to assist them in determining which study pattern they should follow.
- **Certificates of Achievement (COA)** require concentrated study in a specific skill or knowledge area. Certificates require more units and generally provide more in-depth study than a Proficiency Award. Completion of a Certificate of Achievement makes a student eligible to participate in the spring graduation ceremony and is recorded on the student's transcript.
- **Proficiency Awards** show that the student has successfully completed one or more courses in a targeted career or skills area. These awards are not recorded on student transcripts, and students earning only a Proficiency Award are not eligible to participate in the annual graduation ceremony.
- **Certificates of Competency** are noncredit awards that demonstrate achievement in a set of competencies that prepares students to progress in a career path or to enroll in credit courses. Students completing a Certificate of Competency will receive a document that includes the name of the certificate, the date it was awarded, a standardized code number and discipline name identifying the area of study, and a list of the relevant competencies that the student has achieved. Some or all of this information may also be recorded on a special noncredit transcript.
- **Certificates of Completion** are noncredit awards that are designed to improve employability or job opportunities upon completion of a designated sequence of noncredit courses. Students completing a Certificate of Completion will receive a document that includes the name of the certificate, the date it was awarded, a standardized code number and discipline name identifying the area of study, a statement of the goal of the program, and a list of courses completed by the student. Some or all of this information may also be recorded on a special noncredit transcript.

Counseling Main Office

Student Services Center (SSC) (805) 289-6448

- **Leticia Canales** (*Dean of Student Services - Counseling*)
- **Dan Walsh** (*Department Chair*)
- **Sheehan Casey** (*Athletics Counselor*)
- **Vanessa Chacon** (*Veterans Counselor*)
- **Emily Bartel** (*Counselor*)
- **Scott Brewer** (*Counselor*)
- **Brandon D'Amico** (*Counselor*)
- **Marcelino DeCierdo** (*Counselor*)
- **Gema Espinoza Sanchez, Ed.D.** (*Counselor*)
- **Angelica Gonzales** (*Counselor*)
- **Alex Henderson** (*Counselor*)
- **Beatriz Herrera** (*Counselor*)
- **Maria Flores** (*VCEC Counselor*)
- **Guadalupe Moriel-Guillen** (*Counselor*)
- **Yia Vang** (*Counselor*)
- **Corey Wendt** (*Counselor*)
- **Lauren Wintermeyer Ramirez, Ed.D.** (*Counselor*)
- **Beatriz Zizumbo** (*Counselor*)

Support Staff

- Veronica Allen, Student Services Assistant II
- Natawni Pringle, Administrative Assistant
- Vivian Tejada, Office Assistant
- Rosie Stutts, (*Counseling Services Specialist*)

**California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids
(CalWORKS)****Campus Student Center (CSC) 805-289-6003**

- **Rocio Hernandez** (*Counselor*)
- **Dennis Harvey** (*Placement Specialist*)

Career Center

Student Services Center (SSC) 805-289-6473

- Raquel De Los Santos (*Placement Specialist*)

Educational Assistance Center (EAC)

Administration Building (ADM) (805) 289-6300

- **Patricia Wendt** (*Coordinator*)
- **Maria Reyes-Sanchez** (*EAC Counselor*)
- **Mario Rivera** (*EAC Counselor*)

Support Staff

- Sara Fraizer (*Student Services Assistant - Disability Services*)
- Catherine Mundy (*Disabled Student Services Tech*)
- Shirley Ruiz (*Alternative Media Specialist*)

Extended Opportunities Programs and Services (EOPS)

EOPS Building, south of the Campus Bookstore (805) 289-6302

- **Paula Munoz** (*Coordinator*)
- **Kenya Galdamez Ramirez** (*EOPS Counselor*)
- **Luis Ayala Garcia** (*EOPS Counselor*)
- **Daniel Gonzalez-Albor** (*EOPS Counselor*)

First-Year Experience (FYE)

Campus Student Center (CSC) (805) 289-6438

- **Erica Ruiz** (*First Year Experience Liaison*)
- **Marisol Hernandez** (*Counseling Services Specialist*)

University Transfer Center

Student Services Center (SSC) (805) 289-6411

- **Marian Carrasco-Nungaray, Ed.D. (Coordinator)**

Support Staff

- **Adrianna Cunningham (Office Assistant)**

Choose an Educational Goal

Which Educational Program is the Right Fit For You?

The information below shows the different opportunities available at Ventura College to prepare you for your chosen career and the type of recognition you will receive for completing these programs. Schedule an appointment with a counselor to help you choose your specific educational goals.

Transfer to a Four-Year Institution

Ventura College offers students the opportunity to complete their associate degree while completing courses that are required for transfer and apply toward their bachelor's degree, whether that is a University of California (UC), California State University (CSU), or an independent or out-of-state institution.



Associate Degree for Transfer—Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T)

California Community Colleges (CCC) are now offering Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) to the California State University (CSU). These include Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) degrees. These degrees are designed to provide students with a clear pathway to a CSU major and baccalaureate degree by completing 60 CSU transferable semester units at the community college and 60 additional units at the CSU campus granting the bachelor's degree. Ventura College currently offers over 30 ADTs. Please meet with a college counselor to see if [one of these ADTs](#) is appropriate for you and meets your transfer educational goal.



Associate in Science for University of California (UC) Transfer Pathways (AS-UCTP)

The University of California (UC) has developed associate degree patterns that align with UC Transfer Pathways (UCTP). In the future, these degrees will be awarded to students who successfully complete a UC Transfer Agreement Guarantee (TAG) along with the required major and general education requirements. The University of California has created degree patterns in Physics and Chemistry, and

patterns in other disciplines are in development. *Note that Ventura College does not currently offer this type of degree but is in the process of creating them; there is no assurance that these will become available during the next two years. Students may nevertheless use Ventura College courses to satisfy UC transfer requirements; see a college counselor for details.*



Associate Degree—Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS)

In any economy, it is advantageous to have a college degree. Most associate degree majors at Ventura College are applicable to the local job market. An [Associate in Arts \(AA\) or Associate in Science \(AS\)](#) degree requires the completion of 60 degree-applicable semester units, including courses in general education and courses in the chosen major. The college also offers a General Studies associate degree that allows students to choose an area of emphasis from a group of related disciplines rather than a specific major.



[See a complete list of requirements for earning an Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree.](#)

Certificate of Achievement (COA)

A Certificate of Achievement requires concentrated study in specific skill or knowledge areas. A certificate of achievement requires more units and generally provides more in-depth study than a Proficiency Award. Completion of a Certificate of Achievement is reflected on the student's transcript and makes a student eligible to participate in the spring graduation ceremony.

[See a complete list of requirements for earning a Certificate of Achievement.](#)

Proficiency Award (PA)

A Proficiency Award is awarded to students who have satisfactorily completed a course or a sequence of courses designed to lead them to specific employment types or enhance their skills. These awards are not recorded on the student's transcript and do not make a student eligible to participate in the spring graduation ceremony.

[See a complete list of requirements for earning a Proficiency Award.](#)

Certificate of Competency (Noncredit)

A noncredit Certificate of Competency is awarded to students who have demonstrated achievement in a set of competencies that prepares them to progress in a career path or to take nondegree-applicable or degree-applicable credit courses. Students completing a Certificate of Competency will receive a document that includes the name of the certificate, the date it was awarded, a standardized code number and discipline name identifying the area of study, and a list of the relevant competencies that the

student has achieved. Some or all of this information may also be recorded on a special noncredit transcript.

[See a complete list of requirements for earning a Certificate of Competency.](#)

Certificate of Completion (Noncredit)

A noncredit Certificate of Completion is awarded to students who have satisfactorily completed a sequence of noncredit courses designed to improve employability or job opportunities. Students completing a Certificate of Completion will receive a document that includes the name of the certificate, the date it was awarded, a standardized code number and discipline name identifying the area of study, a statement of the goal of the program, and a list of courses completed by the student. Some or all of this information may also be recorded on a special noncredit transcript.

[See a complete list of requirements for earning a Certificate of Completion.](#)