

## 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 taking exams, receiving a grade or earning unit credit. Students enrolled in ten units or more in Fall or Spring (or three or more unit in Summer) may, with instructor consent, be allowed to audit one lecture class per term without a fee. Students enrolled in less than ten units may, with instructor consent, audit one lecture class per term for a non-refundable fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per unit per semester. Audit students must also pay the health fee. Audit fees are nonrefundable. All fees are subject to change. Priority in class enrollment shall be given to students desiring to take the courses for credit toward a certificate, degree or transfer certification.

**Petition to Audit a Course** forms, which require your signature, may be downloaded online at [www.venturacollege.edu/forms](http://www.venturacollege.edu/forms).

Priority in class enrollment shall be given to students desiring to take the course for credit towards a certificate or degree. Petitions to Audit are accepted on or after the last two days of program adjustment as specified in the registration calendar. Laboratory and activity classes are not normally eligible for audit. Students auditing a course shall not be permitted to change their enrollment in that course to receive credit for the course, nor are they permitted to challenge the course at a later date. Students auditing a course are not permitted to take exams in class, nor are they permitted to challenge the course by exam at a later date. Instructors are under no obligation to grade assignments of students auditing a course. Attendance requirements for students auditing courses are the same for all other