



Peralta Workforce Development and Continuing Education Service Center
*Providing Communities with
Bridges to Quality Jobs*

Vision Statement

With its focus on the East Bay Region, WDCE will serve all citizens and is committed to the global mission to eliminate poverty, as a crucial condition for social justice.

Noncredit Instruction FAQs

What is the difference between credit and noncredit courses?

In general, credit courses are designed for students who are interested in earning college units towards a degree or certificate. Students who take credit courses receive a letter grade (A, B, C, D or F) at the end of the semester.

Noncredit courses are intended for students who want to gain general knowledge, learn a new skill, upgrade existing skills, enrich their understanding about a wide range of topics, or develop personal interests. Noncredit classes are NOT applicable toward a degree and no units are earned. Upon completion of a series of required classes, students can earn a noncredit vocational certificate.

What is the difference between K-12 adult education and CCC noncredit instruction?

K-12 adult education programs and courses are offered through the California Department of Education. CCC noncredit programs and courses are offered through the California Community College system and are subject to Education Code and Title 5 regulations concerning community college instruction, including the qualifications of the instructors.

What is the role of career development and college preparation (CDCP) disciplines in noncredit instruction?

In 2006, SB 361 increased funding for certain noncredit CDCP courses. In order to qualify for "enhanced funding," these courses must be sequenced and lead to certificates.

Who can take a noncredit course?

Anyone 18 years of age or older.

Are there different curriculum approval requirements for noncredit courses and certificates?

No. Curriculum requirements for noncredit and credit at the local college and district levels are the same.

Is financial aid available for noncredit courses?

No. Federal Financial Aid is not available for noncredit classes. Noncredit classes are tuition free. Students are responsible for the purchase of books and supplies. Financial aid is not available for these materials.

Are there grades in noncredit classes?

Yes. Grading options for noncredit classes include:

- Pass (P) = Satisfactory completion of course
- No Pass (NP) = Did not complete course satisfactorily

- Satisfactory Progress (SP) = Satisfactory progress towards completion of course

Is there a noncredit transcript?

Yes. Students who take noncredit courses can order a noncredit transcript.

Why should a student take noncredit courses or a noncredit certificate program?

Noncredit classes assist students seeking to improve math or English proficiency, increase literacy and job skills, prepare for college-level courses and advance employability.

Can noncredit courses be repeated?

Yes. There are no repeatability limits for noncredit courses.

Can noncredit classes be transferred to another college?

No units are earned in noncredit courses and therefore are not designed for transfer to secondary institutions and do not apply toward degree.

Are noncredit vocational certificates recognized in the industry?

Yes. Many of these certificates are favorably recognized by business and industry, and are frequently used as a requirement for professional advancement.

Who should I contact for more information about noncredit instruction?

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