

Glossary of Terms

Abbreviations commonly used at Oxnard College

Academic Year: Fall and spring semester. The academic year traditionally begins with fall semester.

Add Authorization Code: 4-digit number given to a student by the instructor of a closed class. Enables student to override the closed status using WebSTAR.

Add Card: A green card used to add classes during the first two weeks of instruction.

Adding: A student-initiated enrollment in a course, usually by use of an Add card, Authorization Code, or remote web access.

Advisory: An “advisory” is a note that relates to a particular course. It may be a recommendation for preparation the student is advised to have before enrolling in a course, though enrollment would not be blocked as it would be with a prerequisite.

Articulation: The process by which the elements of an educational program are interrelated. For example, an articulated course is one for which the educational requirements are the same at OC as at a four-year college or university, such as UCSB. Therefore, if a student takes a course at OC that has been articulated for transfer to UCSB, that course will be accepted as equivalent in content to a similar course at UCSB.

Assessment Test: Tests given to students prior to registration for classes. English and math skills are evaluated and the results are used to help students select appropriate classes.

Associate Degree

(AA or AS): A degree granted by a community college which recognizes a student’s satisfactory completion of an organized program of at least 60 semester units, including the major and general education requirements.

AA: Associate in Arts (degree)

AS: Associate in Science (degree)

ASG: Associate Student Govt. The student government body at OC.

Audit: The method a student uses to enroll in a course for which authorized fees are paid but no units are earned. A student may not register as an auditor until the last two days of the program adjustment period.

Bachelor’s Degree: A degree granted by four-year colleges and universities.

BOGG: Board of Governors Grant – a form of financial aid that pays enrollment fees for eligible students.

Cal Grant: California financial aid program available to college-bound students based on high school academic achievement and family financial need.

CAN: California Articulation Number identifies courses that have been articulated as being essentially the same, and assigns a cross reference number that is recognized state-wide.

Catalog Rights: The set of general education and other non-major requirements as established in a specific year’s catalog. Catalog rights remain in effect as long as a student maintains continuous enrollment. e.g., If you first enrolled at OC in 2000 and are continuously enrolled until now, but the requirements for graduation have changed, you can graduate by completing the requirements that were in effect when you started in 2000.

Certificate of Achievement: A certificate awarded which recognizes a student’s satisfactory completion of an organized program of vocational study, including a prescribed number of units in specified areas.

Certificate of Completion: A certificate that may be awarded by an individual instructor to a student for completion of a specific course, or courses, in a specialized area of study and usually in one semester.

Challenge: The process by which a student may meet a specific requirement through successful performance on a comprehensive exam. No units are awarded for challenge, but the requirement is met.

College Work Study Program: A program of federal financial aid which promotes funds for student jobs on campus.

Co-requisite: A course that is required to be taken at the same time or in conjunction with another.

Course Load: The number of units a student is taking in any given term. A full-time student is one who is enrolled in 12 or more course units of credit during a semester.

Course Title: The descriptive name of the course. It gives a general idea of the content of the course.

CRN: Course Reference Number listed in class schedule.

CSU: California State University

Credit: The award granted for completing a course, usually described in semester, term or quarter hours.

Drop: A withdrawal (drop) initiated by either a student, instructor, or administration from an enrolled course.

Elective: Any of a number of courses from which a student is allowed to select. A course not required in the curriculum which the student is following, but which is acceptable for credit.

EOPS: Extended Opportunity Programs & Services. A state-funded program which provides both financial and learning skills assistance to students who may not otherwise have been able to attend college because of cultural, economic, or educational background.

EAC: Educational Assistance Center. Provides services to disabled students.

Faculty Central: Faculty website includes schedule by day/time, summary class rosters, add authorization codes, census/instructor drop posting, list of administrative and student initiated drops, early alert activation, and grade posting. faculty.vcccd.edu/webstar

Financial Aid: Money available from the federal and state governments and various community sources to help meet college expenses. Financial Aid possibilities include grants, loans, scholarships, and work-study programs.

Full-time Student: 12 units for a regular semester, 4 units for summer session.

GE: General Education

GPA: Grade Point Average

Grades (evaluative symbols) which are given for course work are assigned numerical values. Your grade point average is the numerical average of the quality of the work done in all your courses for which grades are assigned.

IGETC: Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum.

Lab: A study period during which students perform experiments or activities to help them understand and learn the material related to the course.

Lecture: A class meeting whose primary function is the dissemination of information.

Lower Division: Courses at the freshman and sophomore level of college.

Major: An organized program of courses in a specific area of study, leading to a Certificate of Achievement or an Associate degree.

Matriculation: A process which brings a college and a student who enrolls for credit into an agreement for the purpose of realizing the student's educational objective. A student is provided services including admission, orientation, assessment, counseling or advising, enrollment and follow-up to help ensure successful attainment of the stated educational goals.

LRC: Learning Resource Center (Library and learning resources, tutoring)

Maximum Unit Load: A student may enroll for up to 19.5 units in a regular semester.

Open Entry/Open Exit: Courses which are structured so that students may enroll at any time during the semester. Course content is usually self-paced. Open exit indicates that as soon as the student accomplishes the requirements for the course, the course is completed.

Prerequisite: The preliminary requirement that must be met before a certain course can be taken.

Probation: Probation is a warning status placed upon a student who is not performing satisfactorily. The student must improve scholastic achievement during this period.

PACE: Program for Accelerated College Education

PIN: Personal Identification Number. (password)

Quarter: A fourth of an academic year. There are three quarters in an academic year.

Semester: Half of an academic year. A semester is usually 16 to 18 weeks.

Short-term Course: A course that meets for less than the entire time frame for a regular-term course, generally 18 weeks for a Semester.

Student Central: WebSTAR - student website. www.oxnardcollege.edu/webstar.

Telecourse: Instructional television or video viewing courses, with some classroom attendance.

Term: An academic calendar unit; e.g., a quarter or semester.

Transcript: An official unabridged and certified list of courses taken by a student in an institution of higher education showing identification of the student, as well as units of credit, and final grades for all courses.

Transfer Credit: Credit accepted from another college for application toward a degree.

Transfer Certification: Designated transfer courses used to meet GE requirements at the universities.

Unit of Credit: A unit of academic credit used as a basis for evaluating the amount of college work accomplished. Generally, one unit is awarded for three hours work per week per term on the part of the student. In most college courses, one unit is awarded for a lecture course that meets for an hour each week, because the average student spends two hours in preparation for a lecture. One unit of credit is normally awarded for a laboratory, field work, drawing, music, practical arts, physical education or other type of course usually does not require the same amount of outside study or preparation.

UC: University of California