



Curriculum Handbook

Introduction: Mission Statements

Curriculum is at the heart of the mission of every college. At Napa Valley College, the faculty has the primary responsibility for developing and maintaining curriculum. The Napa Valley College Academic Senate has established the Curriculum Committee to approve programs and courses and develop processes for curriculum review. These processes should ensure that the college offers rigorous, high-quality curriculum that meets the needs of our students. The following mission statements shall inform the work of the Curriculum Committee and its curriculum approval processes.

[California Community Colleges Mission Statement](#)

California Education Code §66010.4(a):

The California Community Colleges shall, as a primary mission, offer academic and vocational instruction at the lower division level for both younger and older students, including those persons returning to school. Public community colleges shall offer instruction through but not beyond the second year of college. These institutions may grant the associate in arts and the associate in science degree.

In addition to the primary mission of academic and vocational instruction, the community colleges shall offer instruction and courses to achieve all of the following:

1. The provision of remedial instruction for those in need of it and, in conjunction with the school districts, instruction in English as a second language, adult noncredit instruction, and support services which help students succeed at the postsecondary level are reaffirmed and supported as essential and important functions of the community colleges.
2. The provision of adult noncredit education curricula in areas defined as being in the state's interest is an essential and important function of the community colleges.
3. The provision of community service courses and programs is an authorized function of the community colleges so long as their provision is compatible with an institution's ability to meet its obligations in its primary missions.

A primary mission of the California Community Colleges is to advance California's economic growth and global competitiveness through education, training, and services that contribute to continuous work force improvement.

The community colleges may conduct, to the extent that state funding is provided, institutional research concerning student learning and retention as is needed to facilitate their educational missions.

[Statement on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the California Community Colleges](#)

California Code of Regulations, title 5 §51201:

With the goal of ensuring the equal educational opportunity of all students, the California Community Colleges embrace diversity among students, faculty, staff, and communities we serve as an integral part of our history, a recognition of the complexity of our present state, and a call to action for a better future.

Embracing diversity means that we must intentionally practice acceptance, anti-racism, and respect towards one another and understand that racism, discrimination, and prejudices create and sustain privileges for some while creating and sustaining disadvantages for others.

In order to embrace diversity, we also acknowledge that institutional racism, discrimination, and biases exist and that our goal is to eradicate these from our system. Our commitment to diversity requires that we strive to eliminate those barriers to equity and that we act deliberately to create a safe, inclusive, and anti-racist environment where individual and group differences are valued and leveraged for our growth and understanding as an educational community.

To advance our goals of diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice for the success of students and employees, we must honor that each individual is unique and that our individual differences contribute to the ability of the colleges to prepare students on their educational journeys. This requires that we develop and implement policies and procedures, encourage individual and systemic change, continually reflect on our efforts, and hold ourselves accountable for the results of our efforts in accomplishing our goals. In service of these goals, the California Community Colleges are committed to fostering an anti-racist environment that offers equal opportunity for all.

[Napa Valley College Mission Statement and Values](#)

Napa Valley College prepares students for evolving roles in a diverse, dynamic, and interdependent world. The college is an accredited open-access, degree- and certificate-granting institutions that is committed to student achievement through high-quality programs and services that are continuously evaluated and improved. The college serves student and the

community in the following areas: transfer courses, career-technical education and training, basic skills, and self-supporting contract education and community education classes.

Napa Valley College is a community of people excited about learning, where students are first and foremost in everything we do. We value, model, and encourage:

- Student success
- Honesty
- Creativity
- Integrity
- Adaptability
- Inclusivity
- Responsibility
- Openness to new ideas
- Respect for others
- Health and wellness

Institutional Learning Outcomes

Students who receive a degree from Napa Valley College will demonstrate the following:

1. Communication and Critical Thinking
2. Scientific and Quantitative Inquiry
3. Global and Civic Awareness
4. Intercultural Literacy and Creativity
5. Personal, Academic, and Career Development

(Recommended for approval by the Curriculum Committee on 9/3/2021)