

INFORMATION IN CREDIT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The first part of the course description contains the course discipline abbreviation, number, title, and the student unit value of the course. Example: ENGL 150: Reading and Composition 1A, 3.0 Units. It also contains the hours required for the course, the number of times the course may be repeated for credit (if any), and any prerequisites, corequisites, advisories, or other limitations.

The second part of the description is a brief explanation of the material covered in the course.

At the end of the description, University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) transfer and Associate degree information is included.

For further information regarding transfer or degree requirements, please refer to the Graduation and Degree Requirements Section and the Transfer Information Section of this catalog.

NONCREDIT COURSES

The college offers free noncredit courses in two areas. For English as a Second Language Noncredit (ESLN/ESLV) courses, please see the ESL listings. For Nursing Education Vocational (VOCN) courses, please see Nursing Education (NE) listings. No credit is awarded for noncredit courses. Noncredit courses have no prerequisites or repeatability restrictions, and vary in the number of hours of instruction offered.

STUDENT UNITS AND HOURS

Credit for courses offered at College of Marin is awarded in semester units. The value of the course is calculated on the basis of one unit for each lecture hour per week for one semester (together with two hours of preparation outside class) or three hours of laboratory work per week for one semester. Semesters (Fall and Spring) are 16 to 18 weeks in duration; the Summer session is 6 weeks. Courses meeting in the Summer session, or for less than the full semester, require an equivalent number of hours prorated on a per week basis.

PREREQUISITES, COREQUISITES, AND ADVISORIES

Prerequisites

A prerequisite is a condition of enrollment that a student is required to meet in order to demonstrate current readiness for enrollment in a particular course or program. The College requires students to complete prerequisite courses with a grade of C, P, or higher prior to registering in the course requiring the prerequisites. Examples of courses that may require prerequisites:

1. Courses for which specific prerequisites have been justified by content review, the appropriate level of scrutiny and any other validation procedures required by law (Title 5, 55201 a-f).
2. Sequential courses in a degree-applicable program.
3. Courses requiring a prerequisite to transfer to a four-year college.
4. Courses requiring preparation to protect health and safety.
5. Technical or vocational courses or programs that require special preparation.

Equivalent Course Work/Prerequisite Challenges

Some prerequisites may be satisfied by equivalent course work from an accredited institution other than College of Marin. Students also have the right to challenge prerequisites on certain, specified grounds and procedures. Please contact a counselor for more information.

Corequisites

A corequisite is a condition of enrollment consisting of a course that a student is required to take simultaneously in order to enroll in another course. Courses that require corequisites include courses that are part of a closely related lecture-laboratory pairing; for example, English 92 and English 92L. Students may not enroll in one without enrolling in the other.

Advisories

An advisory is a condition that a student is advised, but not required, to meet before or in conjunction with enrollment in a course or educational program. For example, students enrolled in Biology 110 are advised to also enroll in Biology 110L.

Other Limitations

Other limitations on enrollment may include:

6. Courses that require public performance or competition.
7. Blocks of courses for which enrollment is limited in order to create a cohort of students.

Physical Sciences Prerequisite Recency Requirement

To ensure student success, certain chemistry and physics courses have 5-year prerequisite recency requirements. Students may challenge these recency requirements by taking a test, by arrangement with the Physical Sciences Department chairperson.

GRADING SYSTEMS

Different grading systems are used for different courses. Some will be limited to letter grades, some will be limited to pass/no pass grading and the remainder will be optional letter or pass/no pass grades, upon agreement between the instructor and student. For some disciplines, grading is indicated in the catalog before the discipline's course descriptions. In general, courses required for a student's four-year major should be taken on a letter grade basis.

COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM

Courses in this catalog and in the schedule of classes are numbered in the following sequence:

- 0-099: Preparatory/remedial courses and courses that do not apply to the major. Not applicable to the Associate degree.
- 100-199: Courses taken during the first year of academic work or the first 30 units of course work. Applicable to the Associate degree.
- 200-299: Courses taken during the second year of academic work or the second 30 units of course work. Applicable to the Associate degree.
- 039 - Selected Topics: New "pilot" preparatory/remedial courses that do not apply to the Associate Degree. (Selected Topics courses are not listed in this catalog.)
- 139 - Selected Topics: New "pilot" courses that may be applicable to the Associate degree and are accepted for CSU elective credit (with limit). (Selected Topics courses are not listed in this catalog.)
- 249 - Independent Study: Offered in most disciplines, by prior arrangement with instructor, for 1 to 3 units, requiring 3 laboratory hours weekly per unit. Please see Independent Study listing. Independent Study courses may be applicable to the Associate Degree.