

Credit balances remain on student accounts for a maximum of five (5) years. A student may either choose to maintain a credit balance on account or contact the Business Office to arrange for a refund. Refunds are NOT issued automatically. Fees paid by personal check will require 30 days for bank clearance before refunds can be processed. To be eligible for a refund/credit, a student must officially drop from a course. Student records are automatically held until all debts to the District colleges have been cleared.

Grades & Academic Standing

Academic Record Symbols (Grades) and Grade Point Average

Grades from a grading scale shall be averaged on the basis of the point equivalencies to determine a student's grade point average. The highest grade shall receive four points, and the lowest grade shall receive zero points, using only the following evaluative symbols:

Symbol	Definition	Grade Point
A	Excellent	4
B	Good	3
C	Satisfactory	2
D	Passing, less than satisfactory	1
F	Failing	0
CR	Credit (satisfactory: C or better; units not counted in GPA)	
NC	No credit (less than satisfactory or failing; units not counted in GPA)	

The GPA (grade point average) is determined by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of units attempted.

The following non-evaluative symbols are used at Cañada College:

I-Incomplete

This symbol is used if academic work is not completed by end of term, unusual circumstances were a factor for the student not completing the coursework, and the instructor agrees to provide an extension for when that work can be submitted. The work to be completed and the time allowed for its completion shall be set forth by the instructor in a written record which the student agrees to and signs. The record indicates the grade to be assigned in lieu of removal. The student will receive a copy of the record. A copy of the record will also be filed with the Admissions and Records Office. A final grade will be assigned by the instructor when the outstanding academic work has been completed within the required period. The grade determined by the instructor will be entered in the permanent record.

An "Incomplete" must be made up within one year following the end of the term in which it was assigned. Established College procedures may be utilized to request a time extension in cases involving unusual circumstances. The "I" shall not be used in the computation of grade point average.

IP-In Progress

This symbol is used in the permanent record of the student to confirm current enrollment and/or to indicate that the course extends beyond the normal end of the term. It indicates that work is in progress and that unit credit and a grade will be assigned when the course is completed. The "IP" shall not be used in the computation of grade point average.

RD-Report Delayed

This symbol is used by the Admissions and Records Office to indicate a delay in reporting the grade due to circumstances beyond the control



of the student. It is replaced by a permanent symbol as soon as the grade is made available. The "RD" shall not be used in the computation of grade point average.

W-Withdrawal

Note: It is the responsibility of the student to withdraw from a class. Any student not following the established withdrawal procedures may be assigned an "F" or "NC" grade by the instructor.

The term "drop" is used to refer to a specific period at the beginning of a term whereby removing one-self from enrollment will result in no record of enrollment in the class for transcript purposes. A student may drop from a semester length course during the first four weeks of instruction and no notation will be made on the academic record of the student. In courses of less than a regular semester duration, a student may drop prior to the completion of 30% of the period of instruction and no notation will be made on the academic record of the student.

A student may withdraw from a semester length course, whether passing or failing, at any time after the fourth week of instruction through the last day of the fourteenth week of instruction. A "W" symbol shall be noted on the student record. In courses of less than a regular semester duration, a student may withdraw from the 30% period of completion on instruction to the completion of 75% of the period of instruction. A "W" grade shall be noted on the student record.

Late Withdrawal

The academic record of a student who remains in class beyond the time periods set forth above must reflect an authorized symbol other than "W." However, after the end of the fourteenth week (or after the 75% period of instruction for a course less than semester length) withdrawal may be authorized in the case of extenuating circumstances. These are defined as verified cases of accident, illness or other circumstances beyond the control of the student. An approved withdrawal, under these conditions, shall be recorded as a "W." Petitions for late withdrawal may be obtained from the Admissions and Records Office or at the College website: www.canadacollege.edu.

MW-Military Withdrawal

Military withdrawal will be authorized when a student who is a member of an active or reserve U.S. Military Service unit receives orders compelling a withdrawal from courses. Upon verification of such orders, a notation of "MW" may be made on the student record. Military withdrawals are not counted in probation or dismissal calculations. Further information may be obtained at the Admissions and Records Office.

Grade Reports

After the end of the semester, the final grade report is available to students through Cañada's website: www.canadacollege.edu. Students may also make a request at the Admissions and Records Office to have a copy mailed to them. The official final grade report becomes a part of the student's permanent record.

Grade Option

Each division of the College may have designated letter grade courses in which a student may elect to receive Credit/No Credit (i.e., Pass/Fail). Grade option courses allow students to explore various fields of study

and to broaden their knowledge, particularly in fields outside their major, without jeopardizing their grade point average. Both methods of grading require the student to complete all assignments, exams, and/or class projects.

Students who elect the credit/no credit option are required to sign appropriate forms in the Admissions and Records Office. This decision must be made within the first 30% of the class length and is irreversible.

Courses taken on a credit/no credit basis may or may not be applicable toward fulfillment of the major, the certificate or general education requirements. In addition, four-year colleges and universities vary widely in the number of units of "Credit" grades they will accept. Students should consult the catalog of the college to which they plan to transfer to determine what limitations apply.

The use of courses graded "Credit" to satisfy major or certificate requirements must be approved by the Division Dean, in consultation with members of the Division faculty. A maximum of 12 units toward an associate degree or 6 units toward a certificate may be in grade-option courses in which a student has elected to receive a grade of "Credit."

Each division of the College may also designate courses in which all students are evaluated on a credit/no credit basis only. "Credit" grades earned in these courses are exempt from the 12/6 unit maximum described in the paragraph above.

Final Grades and Grade Challenges

In the absence of mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetency, the determination of the student's grade by the instructor shall be final once it has been filed and recorded by the Admissions and Records Office.

An earned grade of A, B, C, D, F, W, CR, NC may be changed by the instructor within one year if a clerical error is determined to have been made in calculating the grade. Grades cannot be changed on the basis of a student completing course work after the assignment of the final grade.

Students who believe a grade was assigned incorrectly should first attempt to resolve the matter with the instructor; if unsuccessful, they should contact the Division Dean; and, finally, submit a petition to the Vice President of Instruction. Petitions are available at the Admissions and Records Office.

Academic Standing

Academic standing is based upon all coursework completed in the San Mateo County Community College District (includes Cañada, CSM, and Skyline).

Scholastic Honors

A Dean's List of Students who achieve academic honors is posted at the end of each semester containing the name of each student who has completed 12 units or more of work for a letter grade during that semester with a grade point average of 3.3 or higher. A part-time students Dean's List is for part-time students who have completed

at least 12 units, completing at least 6 units and not more than 11.5 units within a term, and have earned a 3.3 GPA.

Academic honors are awarded at graduation to students who have attained a 3.3 cumulative grade point average in all degree applicable coursework. High honors are awarded to students who have attained a 3.5 average or above.

Grade Point Deficiency

The Academic Standards Policy is based on a cumulative grade point average of "C," the minimum standard of progress toward graduation or transfer.

All units and grade points are on a cumulative basis. At all times, a student must maintain a cumulative grade point total that is double the total units attempted ("C" average). If a student undertakes 12.5 units in one semester and 15.5 in a second semester, his or her cumulative units are 28, requiring a grade point level of 56. (Example: $56/28=2.00$ GPA.)

Any grade point total less than twice the attempted units is regarded as deficient. (Example: $55/28=1.96$ GPA)

Credit/No Credit courses will not affect a student's grade point deficiency.

Grade Alleviation

A student who has received a grade of D, F, or NC in a course may repeat the course once for purposes of grade alleviation. Upon satisfactory completion of the repeated course (grade A, B, or C) the Admissions and Records Office will use the grade of the repeated course in computation of the grade-point average. The original grade will remain on the transcript, but will no longer be computed in the grade-point average. Course repetition completed at the other two colleges of the San Mateo County Community College District will be honored; course repetition involving work completed at a non-district institution may be honored upon request. Students may apply for such consideration to the Admissions and Records Office. Courses in which the student has received grades of A, B, C or CR are not subject to the provisions of this policy. Under unusual circumstances, a student may petition the Academic Standards Committee for permission to repeat a course more than once.

Under special, educationally justifiable circumstances, repetition of credit courses other than those for which substandard work has been recorded may be permitted. The student must obtain prior written permission from the Academic Standards Committee before such course repetition will be authorized. Grades awarded for courses repeated under this provision shall not be considered in calculating the student's grade point average and in no case will the unit value of the repeated course be counted more than once.

Academic Renewal Policy

Up to 36 semester units of substandard course work (i.e., D, F, and NC) within a maximum of two semesters and one summer session which are not reflective of the student's current demonstrated scholastic ability may be alleviated and disregarded in the computation of the grade point average under the following conditions:

1. A period of at least three years must have elapsed since the course work to be alleviated was completed, and
2. A student seeking the alleviation must have since completed 9 units of course work with a 3.5 cumulative grade point average, or 15 units of course work with a 3.0 cumulative grade point average, or 21 units of course work with a 2.5 cumulative grade point average, or 24 units of course work with a 2.0 cumulative grade point average, and
3. The substandard coursework to be alleviated must have been taken at Cañada College, College of San Mateo, or Skyline College. However, the course work upon which the application for alleviation is based may be completed at any college or university accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges or an equivalent accrediting agency.

The academic renewal policy may be applied when alleviation of prior course work is necessary to qualify a student for financial aid or admission to a program or transfer to another institution or for completion of a certificate or degree program. To request Academic Renewal, a student must file a formal petition to the Admissions and Records Office located in on the bottom floor of Building 9.

When academic course work is alleviated from the computation of the grade point average, the student's permanent academic record shall be properly annotated in a manner to ensure that all entries are legible, providing a true and complete academic history.

Probation

A student is placed on academic probation using the following criteria:

Academic probation based on grade point average: A student who has attempted at least 12 semester units, as shown by the official cumulative record, shall be placed on academic probation if the student has earned a grade point average below 2.0 in all units which were graded on the basis of the grading scale (see page 16).

Academic probation based on failure to maintain satisfactory progress: A student who has enrolled in a total of at least 12 semester units, as shown by the official cumulative record, shall be placed on academic probation when the percentage of all enrolled units for which entries of W, I, and NC are recorded reaches or exceeds 50 percent.

The two probationary criteria described above will be applied in such a manner that a student may be placed on probation under either or both systems, and subsequently may be dismissed under either or both systems.

Removal from Probation

A student placed on academic probation on the basis of grade point average shall be removed from probation when his/her cumulative grade point average is 2.0 or higher.

A student placed on academic probation on the basis of failure to maintain satisfactory progress shall be removed from probation when the percentage of units completed is above 50 percent.

The student is required to meet with a counselor and complete a Petition for Reinstatement each semester until GPA reaches 2.0, or successful completion of classes reaches over 50%, or both of the above.

Dismissal

A student in probationary status shall be subject to dismissal if in any two subsequent semesters either or both of the following criteria are applicable:

- a. The student's cumulative grade point average is less than 1.75 in all units attempted.
- b. The cumulative total of units in which the student has been enrolled for which entries of W, I, and NC have been recorded reaches or exceeds 50 percent.

A student in dismissal status must meet with a counselor in the Student Success Program in order to be reinstated to the College and allowed to enroll in classes. The Student Success Program consists of a workshop and meeting with a counselor during the semester. Normally, students in dismissal status are restricted to a certain number of units. The student must demonstrate academic progress during the semester after reinstatement in order to enroll in subsequent semesters. Students who wish to waive the Student Success Program requirements must receive approval from a counselor or the Dean of Counseling and Enrollment Services.

Student Notification

If the student is on probation or in dismissed status, he/she will receive notification in writing at the end of the semester.

Credit by Examination

A student who wishes to earn credit by examination must first receive written certification from the Admissions and Records Office indicating that the following criteria have been met:

- The student is registered at Cañada and in good standing, with a GPA of 2.0 or better.
- The student can demonstrate that he/she is qualified, through previous training or instruction, to successfully complete such examination.
- The Division Dean, in consultation with faculty, will make the decision to offer or not offer the exam based upon: a) the availability of a faculty member to administer the exam, and b) an assessment of the student's readiness to take the exam.
- Only courses which transfer to four-year baccalaureate granting institutions are available for credit by exam (this excludes all 800 level courses and certain other courses), except for certain occupational program courses. Laboratory-based science courses and Cooperative Education courses are not available for credit by exam.
- A letter grade or Credit/No Credit grade will be assigned upon successful completion of credit by examination and the student's academic record shall be clearly annotated to reflect that credit has been earned by examination. A student may challenge a course for credit by examination only one time. Petitions for credit by exam may be obtained from the Admissions and Records Office.

Credit may be earned by examination provided that the examination has been approved or prepared, administered and graded by faculty and other designated authorities of Cañada College.

A maximum of 12 units toward an Associate Degree or 6 units toward a Certificate may be earned for courses for which credit has been earned by examination. Credits earned by examination cannot be used to satisfy the 12 unit residence requirement for the Associate Degree or Certificate of Completion.

College Board Advanced Placement Test (AP) Policy

Cañada College grants credit toward the Associate Degree for all College Board Advanced Placement Tests on which a student scores 3 or higher. Students should send an official copy of AP results to the Admissions and Records Office and consult with a College Counselor. See pages 42–43 for more information.

CLEP - College Level Examination Placement

CLEP enables those who have reached the college level of education outside the classroom to demonstrate their achievement and to use the test results for college credit. Those students will be granted six units of credit for each of the five sections of the General Examination of CLEP if they score 500 or more. Credit for Subject Examinations will be given in those areas where there are similar courses offered at Cañada College.

Prerequisites, Corequisites, and Recommended Preparation

The Board of Trustees of the San Mateo County Community College District allows colleges to establish prerequisites, corequisites, and recommended preparation for courses and educational programs. Prerequisites and corequisites must be determined to be necessary and appropriate and must be established in line with Title 5 regulations in the California Administrative Code.

A prerequisite is a condition of enrollment that a student is required to meet in order to demonstrate current readiness for enrollment in a course or program. Prerequisites are so designated in course descriptions in this Catalog. A prerequisite course must be completed successfully before enrolling in a course which follows. Successful completion is defined as earning a grade of "C" or better.

A corequisite is a course that a student is required to take simultaneously in order to enroll in another course. Corequisites are so designated in course descriptions in this Catalog.

Advisories or recommended preparation for a course or program is a condition that a student is advised, but not required, to meet before or in conjunction with enrollment. Advisories are designated as "recommended" in course descriptions in this Catalog.

Students who wish to challenge a prerequisite or corequisite must complete a Petition to Challenge a Prerequisite form. Petitions are available from Admissions and Records, Building 9; or the Cañada College website at www.canadacollege.edu.

Prerequisite Checking and Enrollment blocks

The San Mateo County Community College District enforces all prerequisite and corequisite requirements. Most prerequisites are

subject to computerized prerequisite checking and students who have not met the prerequisites are blocked from enrolling in the course. Students may be dropped from a course for not meeting the prerequisite requirements.

How Can Students Meet Prerequisite Requirements?

There are several ways for students to meet prerequisite requirements.

1. Students may take the prerequisite courses.
2. Students may go through the placement test/assessment process and place into the target course.
3. Students can complete the prerequisite course or an equivalent course at another accredited college or university in the United States. This equivalency must be approved by the Office of Counseling and Enrollment.
4. Students may meet prerequisites through the College Board Advanced Placement tests. The use of AP Tests as prerequisites must be approved by the Office of Counseling and Enrollment.

How Can Prerequisites and Corequisites Be Challenged?

Prerequisites and Corequisites may be challenged. Challenges must be submitted prior to the first day of the term. Prerequisite Challenge Petition forms are available in the Office of Counseling and Enrollment or Admissions and Records. The completed Prerequisite Challenge Petition, a letter justifying the challenge, and all documentation (transcripts, samples or work, letters) must be submitted to the Office of Counseling and Enrollment or Admissions and Records. The challenge is resolved within 5 working days and an appeal to the decision may be made through the Office of the Vice President of Student Services. A challenge to a prerequisite or corequisite must be based on one of the following grounds.

1. The prerequisite or corequisite is not established in accordance with district policies or Title 5 regulations.
2. The student has the knowledge and ability to succeed in the course despite not meeting the course prerequisite.
3. The student is subject to undue delay in goal attainment because the prerequisite or corequisite has not been made reasonably available.
4. The prerequisite or corequisite is unlawfully discriminatory or applied in an unlawfully discriminatory manner.

Transcripts

Official transcripts will be sent to employers, colleges and other institutions upon a student's written request. Requests are generally processed within 3 working days from date received. Only courses taken at Cañada College, CSM, and/or Skyline appear on the transcript; transcripts from high schools and other colleges will not be forwarded. The first two transcripts are free. Each additional transcript costs \$5.00. Additional \$10 fee for a rush transcript; not available for prior records. Official transcripts given directly to the student may be opened only by the receiving institution.

Currently enrolled students who wish to have their academic records from other accredited institutions within the United States evaluated by the Admissions and Records Office and have those units placed

on their permanent record at Cañada College may do so by requesting their official transcript to be sent directly to the Admissions and Records Office. Upper-division credits completed at a four-year college or university will not be accepted or counted toward an AA/AS Degree or Certificate at Cañada College. Lower division coursework completed at a college or university outside the United States will be considered for inclusion on a transfer student's record at Cañada College only after the transcript from the foreign institution has been evaluated by an approved agency which is able to provide a translation of the transcript, and a detailed report which includes subject breakdown, grades, upper or lower division, semester or quarter and number of units completed. Students should contact the Admissions and Records Office for the names of approved agencies.

Transferring within the District

Students may take classes at more than one of the San Mateo Community College District. Students may also transfer from one College within the San Mateo County Community College District to another without penalty, although differences in curriculum offerings among the three colleges may exist. District students who transfer from one District College to another receive full credit for instruction completed at any of the SMCCD Colleges. Individual courses taken at a particular College within the District that satisfy an area in the associate degree general education pattern, statutory, and/or specific area requirements shall be accepted by the other two District colleges as satisfying those same requirements.

Students who have completed the entire General Education pattern, basic competency, and statutory and specific area requirements at one District College shall be determined to have completely fulfilled all of those same areas for graduation at any of the District Colleges. Upon transferring to another District College, students shall be required to complete only those courses applicable toward the major for the Associate Degree or Certificate program. Students are expected to meet the major course requirements established by the College to which they have transferred that will issue the Associate degree or Certificate.

Students who have taken course work at more than one of the District's Colleges shall ordinarily be recommended for graduation from the College in which they have taken the majority of their course work.

Units of Work and Credit

A "unit" of college credit usually represents one hour per week of lecture and approximately two hours per week of homework, or 3 hours per week of laboratory for semester-length courses.

Honor Society

Cañada College is affiliated with Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, which recognizes the scholarly achievements of over 1.5 million students throughout all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canada, and Germany. The local chapter is the Beta Zeta Nu chapter. Phi Theta Kappa maintains academic standards for both induction and continued membership. New members must complete at least 12 credit hours and attain a GPA of 3.5 or better. Continuing members must maintain at least a 3.25 GPA. Contact the chapter advisor of Phi Theta Kappa for further information.