



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Summer 2025	Instructor Name:	Alexia Villagrana
Course Title & #:	COUN120: College Success Skills	Email:	Alexia.villagrana@imperial.edu
CRN #:	30244	Office #:	Building 100
Classroom:	2734	Office Hours:	By Appointment
Class Dates:	6/16/25-7/24/25	Office Phone #:	(760)355-6470
Class Days:	M, T, W, R	Class Format/Modality:	In Person
Class Times:	10AM-12:15PM		
Units:	3.0		

Course Description

This course is designed to assist students in learning how to reach their collegiate and life planning goals. Topics include college orientation, study skills, cultural diversity awareness, self-evaluation of personal characteristics related to educational success, and transitioning to college life. The central theme of the course is a holistic approach to the individuality of students in higher education, which include race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and age. Strategies covered will include skills such as creative goal setting, note-taking, listening, time-management, learning styles, critical thinking, test taking, library and financial resources and educational program planning. This course is recommended for new and continuing students. (CSU)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

N/A

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

- 1. Identify ten campus resources and be able to explain what resources they find are important for their personal college success.*
- 2. Identify three study tips and three ways to take notes and state how improving these techniques are important for student college success.*
- 3. Identify what is their short term/long term academic goal(s).*

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. Distinguish and Identify campus student support services on campus*
- 2. Construct a personal timeline utilizing course information about important college dates and deadlines used for class assignments, personal priorities and to assist with development of educational plan.*
- 3. Identify and utilize programs, services and resources, both on campus and in the community, that meet the individual student needs.*
- 4. Identify and utilize academic skills such as test taking, note-taking, textbook reading techniques, time-management learning styles for the purpose of maximizing their learning in college courses.*
- 5. Identify and utilize programs, services and resources, both on campus and in the community, that meet the individual student needs.*
- 6. With presentation from librarian, define & utilize effective library research strategies by locating informational sources in campus library and World Wide Web and translate skills to formalize class projects.*



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7. Identify and demonstrate orally and in writing effective communication skills to enhance positive interpersonal relationships.
8. Analyze the value of nutrition, physical and mental fitness, and how these relate to their personal success.
9. Analyze attitude, motivation, behavior, and their impact on academic performance and success; identify the role of personal, family, cultural, and societal assumptions and expectations.
10. Analyze educational forecasting; recognize the ways group identification, gender identity and family roles impact experiences and assumptions.
11. Describe their personal cultural identity and recognize cultural, linguistic and physical ability groups.
12. Develop critical thinking skills as they relate to personal and educational development.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Textbook Required (Free- Provided Online by Instructor)

Dillon, D. (2021). *Blueprint for Success in College and Career. Open Educational Resource (OER), 00-30-2021*

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

This course uses the Canvas platform to provide module objective(s), instructor-facilitated instruction/content presentation, anticipatory set, guided practice, opportunity for independent practice, assessment(s), and closure. The course is organized into 6 modules, each categorized into three (3) sub-sections: 1) To Do List, Objective(s), Lecture, Readings, 2) Discussion, and 3) Quiz. The following example illustrates the course organization, requirements, and instructional methods in a typical module:

▼ Module 01 - Orientation to IVC & Campus Resources
📅 Module 01- To-Do List, Objectives, Lecture, Readings
🗨️ Module 01- Discussion 1 Aug 21 10 pts
📄 Module 01 - The College Orientation Scavenger Hunt Assignment Aug 21 30 pts
📝 Module 01 - Quiz 1 Aug 21 15 pts

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Every module in this course provides students with an opportunity to demonstrate mastery of the course content and learning objectives. Each module includes formative, summative, and authentic, project-based assessments to measure student competency and performance. The following chart illustrates the course requirements and grading structure for this class:

Group	Quantity	Points Each	Points Total
<i>Discussions</i>	5	10	50
<i>Quizzes</i>	5	10	50
<i>Attendance</i>	25	1	25
<i>Final Project</i>	1	75	75
<i>Extra Credit</i>	1	25	25
Total Points Possible			225



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Grading Scale

A (100% - 90%)	D (69%- 51%)
B (89% - 80%)	F (50%- 0%)
C (79%- 70%)	I (Incomplete)

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance. We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

Course Policies

Attendance: Attendance is expected and will count towards your grade, unless you have a valid reason. Please email me in advance if you'll be absent.

Late Assignment Policy: Late assignments are defined as assignments submitted past the posted due date on Canvas, and will be accepted through the second to last day of the semester (7/23/25). However, late assignments will earn a maximum of half the grade earned on the assignment. For example, if you submit assignment "3" late, and earn a grade of 80% on the assignment, the assignment will automatically be lowered to a grade of 40% for being "late." Nevertheless, late assignments are encouraged as "half credit is better than no credit" and all points are applied towards the final point total.

Other Course Information

N/A

Financial Aid

Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Making SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.



IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Week	Topic	Assignment	Due Date
Week 1 6/16-6/20	Welcome & Foundations for Success	Discussion & Quiz #1	Sunday 6/22 @ 11:59PM
Week 2 6/23-6/27	Skills for Academic Success	Discussion & Quiz #2	Sunday 6/29 @ 11:59PM
Week 3 6/30-7/4	Critical Thinking, Research, and Technology	Discussion & Quiz #3	Sunday 7/6 @ 11:59PM
Week 4 7/7-7/11	Building Relationships & Communication Skills	Discussion & Quiz #4	Sunday 7/13 @ 11:59PM
Week 5 7/14-7/18	Financial Literacy & Wellness	Discussion & Quiz #5	Sunday 7/20 @ 11:59PM
Week 6 7/21-7/24	Academic Planning & Diversity Awareness	Final Project	Sunday 7/24 @ 11:59PM

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****