



Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus / WT 140 – Water Distribution Systems

Basic Course Information

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|-------------------|--|---------------------|---|
| Semester: | Spring 2026 | Instructor Name: | Ramiro Salas |
| Course Title & #: | Water Distribution Systems / WT 140 | Email: | ramiro.salas@imperial.edu |
| CRN #: | 20918 | Webpage (optional): | |
| Classroom: | 3112 / Building 3100 | Office #: | N/A |
| Class Dates: | 2/19/2026 ~ 6/11/2026 | Office Hours: | N/A |
| Class Days: | Thursdays | Office Phone #: | (760) 355-6361 Dept. Sec. Tisha Nelson |
| Class Times: | 6:00 PM ~ 10:15 PM | Emergency Contact: | (760) 427-5787 Cell. |
| Units: | 4.0 | Class Format: | Face-to-Face |

Course Description

This course is designed to provide operators with the necessary skills required for the proper installation, inspection, operation, maintenance, repair, and management of water distribution systems. Among the topics covered are: distribution system mathematics, system hydraulics, system design, water mains and valve installation, fire hydrants, water services and meters, backflow and cross-connection control, pumps and motors, occupational safety, utility management, and federal regulations. (CSU)

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

None

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. Correctly perform basic operational adjustments and calculations for the operation of a water distribution system.
2. State and observe the implied responsibilities related to the operation of the water distribution system.
3. Analyze water samples laboratory data to perform operational adjustments in the water distribution system.
4. Feel more confident about their ability to identify cross connections.

Course Objectives

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

1. Operate and maintain designated water distribution systems.
2. Operate and maintain clear wells and storage tanks.
3. Monitor and maintain water quality throughout a distribution system.

4. Recognize and identify hazards and develop safe working procedures and safety programs for Water Distribution Systems.
5. Develop preventative maintenance programs and maintain records of inspection and repair for all water works equipment.
6. Address complaints from the public and maintain positive public relations,
7. List and demonstrate safe and effective methods to manage a water distribution system and facility.
8. Obtain knowledge necessary to pass California State Water Distribution operator certification exams up to journeyman level (Grade 2).

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Water Distribution System Operation and Maintenance

California State University of Sacramento, Seventh Edition

Office of Water Programs

ISBN: 978-1-323-83891-4

<https://www.owp.csus.edu/courses/drinking-water/water-distribution-system-operation-and-maintenance.php>

Recommended textbook(s):

Operator Certification Study Guide (AWWA)

ISBN-13: 978-1625762641

Web site(s) recommended:

<http://owp.csus.edu>

Water Treatment and Water Distribution:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/occupations/DWopcert.shtml

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

This is a Face-to-Face college format class; the student is required to physically attend class on college as scheduled it. Specific instructions and assignments will be available only through Zoom and Canvas.

Required materials: Any device able to work with CANVAS (laptop preferably), notebook, pen and pencil with eraser, calculator with at least 9 digits capability (not programmable), solar power recommended. **Cell phones will not be allowed as calculator. No red pens or pencils.**

Assignments: Will be made in class or homework and will not be accepted late. All class activities will be described in advanced on weekly basis at Modules on your Canvas class home page during the semester. Students will need to follow weekly instructions and to complete required assignments as needed. Power Point information will be presented and reviewed with students following course weekly schedule and will be available for review on CANVAS Home Page.

Prerequisite(s): None

CANVAS

Access to Canvas is extremely important for this class since the class eventually will be online; all the class content is located on your IVC Canvas site.

You need to login into [Canvas Student Login](#) and then go into the course. You can also use CANVAS to email your fellow students or myself. The Canvas Student Guides Site provides a variety of support available to students 24 hours per day. Additionally, a 24/7 Canvas Support Hotline is available for students to use: 877-893-9853.

You may also chat with someone live about your issue at:

<https://cases.canvaslms.com/liveagentchat?chattype=student&sfid=001A000000YzURSIA3>

If you need additional training using Canvas you may go here:

<https://training-portal-prod-pdx.insproserv.net/pages/tutorial>

Here it is an overview from the course key areas, each one can be accessed from the course menu:

- **Home Page**, will be the starting point of class and will give you as well a general overview from class activities and notifications during the semester.
- **Announcements**, will be made every week letting you know about the next week class schedule and activities.
- **Syllabus**, contains information that you will use throughout the course: Syllabus and Schedule.
- **Modules**, contains the weekly course chapter information that will be presented each week on class. Simply click on “next” to move forward from one item to the next one into the weekly module schedule.
- **Quizzes**, provides one-click access to weekly quizzes and occasional surveys.
- **Tests**, provides one-click access to chapter exams.
- **Grades**, lists your scores and the points possible for all assignments. Most quiz grades are posted immediately after completion. You will also see your current total points and percentage.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Exam grade scale is strictly base on score percentage. No partial credit will be given for math. All work must be shown for credit. You are strongly advised to be present and complete all quizzes and exams. Make up test, unless due to special circumstances, will not be granted.

Asking to make-up missed quizzes or exams is your responsibility and needs to be for a reasonable excuse. Exams may include true/false and multiple choice questions (math included).

Grade scale is as follows:

| | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| 100 - 90% | ~ | A |
| 89 - 80 % | ~ | B |
| 79 - 70 % | ~ | C |
| 69 - 60 % | ~ | D |
| 59 % or less | ~ | F |

Final grade shall consist of:

| Items to verify: | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Attendance | 20% |
| Class Participation | 20% |
| Chapter Quizzes & Exams | 20% |
| Final Exam | 40% |
| Final Grade | 100% |

Note: Grading criteria are guides only. Instructor retains the right to modify these criteria.

Course Policies

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. **It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. Failure to drop the class will result in an "F" for the semester.** See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, only students enrolled in the class may attend; children are not allowed.

Online Netiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

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



Disabled Student Programs and Services

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the [Disabled Student Programs and Services](#) (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

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.

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous Information Literacy Tutorials to assist students in this endeavor.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Subject to change without prior notice

| WT 140 Water Distribution Systems Course Outline | | | |
|---|------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| DATE | CHAPTER(S) | TOPIC | ASSIGNMENT |
| February 19, 2026 | | Introduction & Course overview | Textbook, laptop & calculator |
| February 26, 2026 | 1 | Introduction to Water Distribution | Class Practice & Quiz |
| March 5, 2026 | 2 | Water Storage Facilities | Class Practice & Quiz |
| March 12, 2026 | 3 | Dist. System Facilities | Class Practice & Quiz |
| March 19, 2026 | 1 - 2 - 3 | Review Chapters 1 - 2 - 3 | Exam Chps. 1 - 2 - 3 |
| March 26, 2026 | 4 | Operation & Maintenance | Class Practice & Quiz |
| April 2, 2026 | 4 | Operation & Maintenance | Class Practice & Quiz |
| April 9, 2026 | | No Class (Campus Closed) | |
| April 16, 2026 | 5 | Disinfection & Math | Class Practice & Quiz |
| April 23, 2026 | 4 - 5 | Review Chapters 4 - 5 | Exam Chps. 4 - 5 |
| April 30, 2026 | | Math review | Practice & Quiz |
| May 7, 2026 | 6 | Safety | Class Practice & Quiz |
| May 14, 2026 | 7 | Management | Class Practice & Quiz |
| May 21, 2026 | 6-7 | Review Chapters 6 - 7 | Exam Chps. 6 - 7 |
| May 28, 2026 | | Math review | Practice & Quiz |
| June 4, 2026 | All | General Review | Practice |
| June 11, 2026 | All | Final Examination | Good Luck! |