



PALO VERDE COLLEGE

WHERE KNOWLEDGE TAKES ROOT AND OPPORTUNITY GROWS

One College Drive
Blythe, California 92225

(760) 921-5500

www.paloverde.edu

Addendum to the 2025-2026 Catalog

This addendum is an integral part of the College's Catalog. The contents of this catalog addendum are provided as an update and/or in addition to the content specified in the 2025-2026 catalog. Effective Spring 2026.

Palo Verde College has made every reasonable effort to determine that everything stated in the academic catalog is accurate. Sometimes changes to the academic catalog are necessary after the date of publication. Courses and programs offered, together with other matters contained herein, are subject to change at the discretion of the college.

Fees and Expenses/Tuition:

The following information has been removed:

~~ASSOCIATED STUDENT GOVERNMENT (ASG) MEMBERSHIP FEE~~

~~The goal of the Associated Student Government (ASG) is to improve and expand services to students. In addition to other privileges, ASG membership entitles students to free or reduced price admission to various activities, and discounts for various food and merchandise with local merchants. For further information, refer to the Student Handbook located in Student Services. Please note ASG fees are optional.~~

~~ASG MEMBERSHIP FEE:~~

~~\$10.00 per semester OR~~

~~\$18.00 per academic year~~

~~Picture I.D.'s are available in the ASG Office.~~

Students may complete 50% or more of a degree or certificate program at the following locations:

Main Campus

One College Drive

Blythe, CA 92225

Needles Center

725 West Broadway Street

Needles, CA 92363

Distance Education – Online Modality

Students may complete more than 50% of approved programs fully online through Palo Verde College's Learning Management System (Canvas).

Approved by ACCJC and U.S. Department of Education as a distance education modality.

Distance Education – Correspondence Modality

Programs delivered via correspondence to incarcerated students in correctional facilities throughout California.



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Approved modality for 50%+ program completion through ACCJC and U.S. Department of Education.

Course Repetition Definition

A “course repetition” occurs when a student attempts a course and receives an evaluative or non-evaluative symbol for the course (i.e. A, B, C, D, F, **FW**, W, P/NP, RD, I) and wishes to enroll again in the same course. Course repetition includes the following components. (Title 5, Section 55040)

COURSE REPETITION TO ALLEVIATE SUBSTANDARD WORK:

A student who has earned a substandard grade (D, F, **FW**, and NP) may repeat the course to improve the grade. A student may attempt a course a maximum of three times. To alleviate substandard work, a “course attempt” occurs when a student receives an evaluative or non-evaluative symbol for the course (D, F, **FW**, W, or NP). All course attempts in a student’s academic record count toward this enrollment limitation. The first or first and second substandard grades and units are excluded in computing the student’s GPA. The grade and units for the third or final attempt are included in the student’s GPA (Title 5, Section 55042).

GRADES AND GRADE POINTS

The Palo Verde College grading policies comply with the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. The College will ensure that grades earned at Palo Verde College by the student in non-degree applicable courses will not be included in the calculation of the student’s degree applicable grade point average. The following symbols have been authorized:

EVALUATIVE SYMBOLS	MEANING	GRADE POINT VALUES
A	Excellent	4
B	Good	3
C	Satisfactory	2
D	Less than satisfactory	1
F	Failing	0
FW	Failing Per federal regulations, students who receive federal financial aid and withdraw from or receive FW grades in their classes for the semester may be required to repay any unearned grant funds they have received.	0
P	Passing (At least satisfactory, units awarded not counted in GPA. Has the same meaning as "CR" as that symbol was defined prior to June 30, 2007)	



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NP	No Pass (Less than satisfactory, or failing, units not counted in GPA. Has the same meaning as "NC" as that symbol was defined prior to June 30, 2007)	
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NON-EVALUATIVE SYMBOLS

CP	Continuous progress (Enhanced Non-Credit Program), beginning with the 2016-2017 academic year forward.
EW	"Excused Withdrawal: The "EW" occurs when a student is permitted to withdraw from a course(s) due to specific events beyond the control of the student affecting his or her ability to complete a course(s) and making course completion impracticable. Upon verification of the conditions and consistent with the district's required documentation substantiating the condition, an excused withdrawal symbol may be assigned at any time after the period established by the governing board during which no notation is made for withdrawals. "EW" shall not be counted in progress probation and dismissal calculations. "EW" shall not be counted for the permitted number of withdrawals.
FW	The FW grade indicates a failing grade because the student has ceased to participate in the class sometime after the withdrawal deadline. The FW grade is treated in the same manner as an F grade for the purposes of calculating grade point average, course repetition, and academic standings for probation/dismissal.
I	"I" symbol (preceded by a letter grade) is used to denote incomplete academic work for the term. The "I" is followed by the letter grade assigned by the instructor at the time the incomplete was issued (this is the grade earned at the end of the term). The incomplete is a temporary mark assigned when the instructor determines that a student has been unable to complete course requirements by the designated ending date of the course, according to the following definition: Incomplete: Incomplete academic work for unforeseeable, emergency, and justifiable reason at the end of the term may result in an "I" symbol being entered in the student's record. A written contract between the instructor and the student, stipulating the conditions and timelines in which to complete the course is required. A final grade shall be assigned by the instructor when the work has been completed and evaluated. However, if the requirements are not completed within the timelines, the grade will convert to the letter grade assigned by the instructor at the time of the incomplete contract was issued. Examples of possible incomplete grades that one might be assigned are:
IF	incomplete that will convert to an "F" if contract not fulfilled within timelines ID - incomplete that will convert to a "D" if contract not fulfilled within timelines INP - incomplete that will convert to a "NP" (no pass) if contract not fulfilled within timelines. The "I" must be made up no later than one year following the end of the term in which it was assigned. An incomplete is issued only upon mutual agreement between the instructor and the student. The instructor and the student will agree upon course work and/or other requirements necessary for the removal of the incomplete mark.



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IP	"IP" is used to denote that the course extends beyond the normal end of an academic term. It indicates that work is "in progress", and that assignment of a grade must await course completion. The grade and units earned appear on the student's transcript upon course completion. The "IP" is not used in calculating the grade point average.
MW	"MW" is assigned only for students who are members of an active or reserve military service, and who receive orders compelling a withdrawal from courses. Upon verification of such orders, this symbol may be assigned at any time after the period established by the governing board during which no notation is made for withdrawals. "MW" shall not be counted in progress probation and dismissal calculations. "MW" shall not be counted for the permitted number of withdrawals.
RD	Report Delayed: "RD" may be assigned by the Director of Admissions & Records only. It is to be used when there is a delay in reporting the grade of a student due to circumstances beyond the control of the student. It is a temporary notation to be replaced by a permanent symbol as soon as possible. "RD" shall not be used in calculating grade point averages.
SC	Satisfactory Complete (Enhanced Non-Credit Program) beginning with the 2016-2017 academic year forward.
UG	Ungraded: "UG" will be assigned to all non-credit (ABE and NBE) courses beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year forward.
W	The "W" is used to denote withdrawal from a class or classes through 75 percent of the course (or the last day of the 14th week for regular term-length courses, whichever is shorter). The "W" is not used in calculating the grade point average but "W's" are used as factors in progress probation and dismissal procedures. No notation is made on the academic record of a student who withdraws during the first three weeks of a full-term course, or during the first 20 percent of a course offered as a short-term class. If a student remains enrolled for 75 percent of the course, either an evaluative or a non-evaluative symbol ("A", "B", "C", "D", "F", "P", "NP", "I", "IP") must be issued by the instructor, except in the case of verifiable extenuating circumstances. (See "Withdrawal from Classes" in this catalog for explanations of extenuating circumstances).

Courses:

ENG 120 Introduction to Creative Writing

Course Length: 3 hours lecture (54 total)

3 Units

Advisory: ENGL C1000 Academic Reading and Writing or an approved equivalent transferable first-year composition course.

This is an introductory course in creative writing. Students will compose fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction. Beginning writers are given the opportunity to explore and analyze forms of poetry and prose of cultural importance that broadens their understanding of the human



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condition, participate in workshop activities, and revise texts according to peer and instructor feedback.

GEL 105 Natural Hazards and Disasters

Course Length: 4 hours lecture (72 total)

4 Units

CalGETC:5A

Advisory: ENGL C1000 Academic Reading and Writing or student meets with an English tutor for extra help on reading comprehension and writing.

Corequisite: GEL 106 Natural Hazards and Disasters Laboratory

This course examines the physical forces responsible for Earth's destructive natural processes and the impacts on humans and the environment. Course emphasizes the Earth system and connections between the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere. The course may include extra credit field trips to areas of interest or alternative assignments as noted in syllabus.

GEL 106 Natural Hazards and Disasters Laboratory

Course Length: 1 hour lab (54 total)

1 Unit

CalGETC:5C

Advisory: ENGL C1000 Academic Reading and Writing or student meets with an English tutor for extra help on reading comprehension and writing.

Corequisite: GEL 105 Natural Hazards and Disasters

The laboratory component to an introduction of Natural Hazards and Disasters including the interactions between and impacts of humans with the environment. Course emphasizes the Earth system and connections between the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere (life). The course may include field trips (video, online, or in-person) during class time.

GGR 101 Physical Geography

Course Length: 4 hours lecture (72 total)

4 Units

CalGETC: 5A

Advisory: ENGL C1000 Academic Reading and Writing, college level math and GEL 106 Natural Hazards and Disasters Laboratory.

This course is a spatial study of the Earth's dynamic physical systems and processes. Topics include: map and image analysis, Earth-sun geometry, weather, climate, landform development, erosion, water, glacial processes, desert processes, fluvial processes, coastal processes, soils, and the biosphere. Emphasis is on the interrelationships among environmental and human systems and processes and their resulting patterns and distributions. Tools of geographic inquiry are also briefly covered; this may include maps, remote sensing, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). The course may include extra credit field trips to areas of interest or alternative assignments as noted in syllabus.

GGR 102 Physical Geography Laboratory

Course Length: 1 hour lab (54 total)

1 Unit



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CalGETC:5C

Advisory: ENGL C1000 Academic Reading and Writing, college level

Corequisite: GEL 106 Natural Hazards and Disasters Laboratory.

This course is designed to provide supplemental exercises in topics covered in Physical Geography lecture. Lab experience will include map analysis and interpretation, weather prognostication, landform processes and evolution, tectonics, biogeography, and habitat analysis. The course may include field trips (video, online, or in-person) during class time.

Programs:

Alcohol and Drug Studies, AA

This Associate of Arts (AA) degree in alcohol and drug studies integrates essential knowledge in addiction, recovery, and counseling techniques. Preparing students for immediate entry into substance abuse counseling roles and further study in behavioral health. The 39 core units meet California's state certification requirements, ensuring professional readiness for addiction counseling. Additional AA coursework deepens academic foundations, positioning graduates for advanced entry-level opportunities in the field. Designed for transfer within the California State University (CSU) system, this program supports continued education in California's public universities. It is accredited by CCAPP, ACCBC also known as CAADE and CADTP, affirming that graduates meet the highest standards in certification and professional practice. For details on transfer options, students are encouraged to consult with their academic advisor.

Program Requirements:

Required Core Courses (Foundation Core Courses): Total 18 Units- Complete all of the following:

- ADS101 - Introduction to Addiction Studies
- ADS102 - Pharmacology and Physiological Effects of Addiction
- ADS104 - Addiction Prevention Education and Outreach/Referral
- ADS105 - Co-occurring Disorders and Chemical Dependency
- ADS110 - Introduction to Social Work and Human Services
- ADS111 - Law and Ethics in Alcohol and Drug Studies

Required Core Courses (Skill Building Courses): Total 15 Units- Complete all of the following:

- ADS103 - Case Management and Documentation
- ADS106 - Counseling Interventions
- ADS107 - Group Counseling
- ADS108 - Family Dynamics of Addictions
- ADS109 - Substance Abuse in Special Populations

Required Core Courses (Field Study Courses): Total 6 Units- Complete all of the following:

- ADS150 - Practicum for Alcohol and Drug Studies I
- ADS151 - Practicum for Alcohol and Drug Studies II

In addition to the Required Core Courses, students must complete the CalGETC General Education pattern listed in the catalog.34-38

Program Student Learning Outcomes:



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1. Explain various addiction models and theories, including the social, political, economic, and cultural contexts that shape addiction. Assess risk and resiliency factors alongside the behavioral, psychological, physical, and social effects of psychoactive substances.
2. Describe and apply diagnostic criteria and treatment modalities for substance use disorders, employing culturally sensitive treatment and placement criteria across the continuum of care. Emphasize ethical standards, self-awareness, and professional readiness, integrating an interdisciplinary approach to treatment, recovery, and crisis management.

California General Education Transfer Curriculum (CalGETC) Certificate of Achievement

The CalGETC Certificate of Achievement certifies that a student has successfully completed the California General Education Transfer Curriculum (CalGETC), satisfying lower-division general education requirements for transfer admission to both the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems. Completion of this certificate streamlines the transfer process and demonstrates academic preparation in critical thinking, communication, quantitative reasoning, arts and humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. Students must meet minimum grade requirements as specified by transfer institutions. This certificate does not guarantee admission to any university or major program.

Program Requirements: 34-38 Units

1: English Communication Total 10 Units: Complete all the following

- **1A: English Composition**
 - ENGLC1000 - Academic Reading and Writing
- **1B: Critical Thinking and Composition**
 - ENGLC1001 - Critical Thinking and Writing
- **1C: Oral Communication**
 - COMMC1000 - Introduction Public Speaking3

2: Mathematic Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning: Total 3 Units

- STATC1000 - Introduction to Statistics
- PSY155 - Introduction to Statistical Analysis for the Social Sciences
- MAT108 - Liberal Arts Mathematics
- MAT110 - College Algebra
- MAT130 - Finite Mathematics

3: Arts & Humanities (take 1 course in arts and 1 course in humanities): Total 6 Units

- **3A: Arts: Total 3 Units**
 - ART101 - Introduction to Art
 - ART110 - Survey of Western Art from Prehistoric through the Middle Ages
 - ART111 - Survey of Western Art from Renaissance to Contemporary
 - ENG125 - Introduction to Film
 - MUS121 - Music History and Appreciation
 - MUS137 - History of Rock and Roll
 - THA110 - Introduction to Theatre
 - THA151 - Acting I
- **3B: Humanities: Total 3 Units**



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- ENG102 - Composition and Introduction to Literature
- ENG125 - Introduction to Film
- ENG122 - Survey of World Literature I
- ENG140 - Survey of American Literature II
- ENG222 - Survey of World Literature II
- HIS110 - World Civilization I
- HIS120 - World Civilization II
- HIS125 - California History
- HIS130 - American History I
- HIS140 - American History II
- PHI100 - Introduction to Philosophy
- PHI120 - Introduction to Ethics

4: Social and Behavioral Sciences: Total 6 Units

- ANT101 - Cultural Anthropology
- ANT102 - Aztecs, Maya, and Their Predecessors
- ANT107 - Magic, Witchcraft, and Religion
- ANT201 - Introduction to Archaeology
- CHD101 - Child Growth and Development
- ECO105 - Principles of Macroeconomics
- ECO106 - Principles of Microeconomics
- GGR103 - World Geography
- HIS110 - World Civilization I
- HIS120 - World Civilization II
- HIS125 - California History
- HIS130 - American History I
- HIS140 - American History II
- POLSC1000 - American Government and Politics
- SOC101 - Introduction to Sociology
- SOC115 - Introduction to Chicano/a Studies
- SOC120 - Research Methods in Sociology
- SOC160 - Introduction to Crime
- SPE105 - Introduction to Intercultural Communication
- PSYCC1000 - Introduction to Psychology
- PSY115 - Human Sexuality
- PSY150 - Introduction to Research Methods
- PSY201 - Lifespan Development
- PSY205 - Introduction to Biological Psychology
- PSY210 - Abnormal Psychology
- PSY215 - Social Psychology
- SOC121 - Social Problems
- SOC140 - Introduction to Gender
- GGR120 - Introduction to Human Geography



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5: Physical and Biological Sciences (Courses must be in 2 different disciplines, 1 must be a lab course) Total 7 Units

- **5A: Physical Sciences: Complete one of the following courses**
 - AST101 - Introductory Astronomy
 - AST105 - Astronomy: The Solar System
 - AST110 - Astronomy: Beyond the Solar System
 - GGR101 - Physical Geography
 - GEL101 - Physical Geology
 - GEL103 - Environmental Geology
 - GEL105 - Natural Hazards and Disasters
 - PHY100 - Physics Concepts
 - CHE101 - Introduction to General Chemistry
 - CHE109 - Chemistry for Health Sciences and Nursing Disciplines
 - CHE210 - General Chemistry I
 - CHE211 - General Chemistry II
- **5B: Biological Sciences: Complete one of the following courses**
 - ANT100 - Introduction to Biological Anthropology
 - BIO100 - Introduction to Biology
 - BIO111 - Basic Microbiology
 - BIO190 - Biology Sequence I for Majors
 - BIO191 - Biology Sequence II for Majors
 - BIO210 - Human Anatomy
 - BIO211 - Human Physiology
- **5C: Lab: Complete one of the following courses**
 - AST105 - Astronomy: The Solar System
 - AST110 - Astronomy: Beyond the Solar System
 - CHE101 - Introduction to General Chemistry
 - CHE109 - Chemistry for Health Sciences and Nursing Disciplines
 - CHE210 - General Chemistry I
 - CHE211 - General Chemistry II
 - BIO101 - Introduction to Biology Laboratory
 - BIO111 - Basic Microbiology
 - BIO190 - Biology Sequence I for Majors
 - BIO191 - Biology Sequence II for Majors
 - BIO210 - Human Anatomy
 - BIO211 - Human Physiology
 - GEL102 - Physical Geology Laboratory
 - GEL104 - Environmental Geology Lab
 - GEL106 - Natural Hazards and Disasters Laboratory
 - GGR102 - Physical Geography Laboratory
 - ANT108 - Introduction to Biological Anthropology Lab

6: Ethnic Studies: Total 3 Units

ETH101 - Introduction to Ethnic Studies

ETH210 - Introduction to Mexican American Studies

Program Student Learning Outcomes:



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3. Demonstrate critical thinking and effective communication skills through written, oral, and visual presentations across diverse academic disciplines.
4. Apply quantitative reasoning and mathematical concepts to analyze, interpret, and solve real-world problems.
5. Analyze artistic, cultural, and historical perspectives to appreciate human diversity and global interconnectedness.
6. Understand and apply scientific methods to evaluate natural phenomena and distinguish scientific evidence from personal opinion.
7. Critically examine social, political, and economic structures and their impact on individuals and societies.
8. Integrate knowledge from multiple disciplines to develop informed and ethical decisions in personal, academic, and civic contexts.

Child Care Certificate of Completion (Non-Credit)

This certificate indicates that students have achieved and demonstrated competencies required to provide child care for children ages 0-12. Students will learn the basics of child development, behavior modification techniques, how to care for children who have experienced trauma, CPR/First Aid, basic record keeping and computer use, and other currently relevant topics related to the care and education of young children.

Program Requirements Complete all of the following

NBE100 - Child Growth and Development

NBE145 - Child Abuse and Neglect

NBE111 - Preparation in Education

Program Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate understanding of how children develop physically, social-emotionally, cognitively and linguistically.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge and application of behavior modification techniques.
3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of how to care for children who have experienced trauma.
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of CPR/First Aid, basic record keeping, computer use, and other currently relevant topics related to the care and education of young children.

Arts – Early Childhood Education Certificate of Completion (Non-Credit)

This certificate provides professional development and personal growth in the area of Early Childhood Education - The Arts. All required courses for this certificate must be passed successfully to earn the certificate.

Program Requirements Complete all of the following

NBE130 - Art for Early Childhood Education

NBE131 - Music for Early Childhood Education

NBE135 - Literature for Early Childhood

Program Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate competency in designing and teaching creative art activities for young children.



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2. Students will demonstrate competency in incorporating and teaching various types of music activities for young children.
3. Students will demonstrate competency in selecting and teaching language and literature activities for young children.

Developing Capable Youth Certificate of Completion (Non-Credit)

This certificate demonstrates successful completion of two courses focusing on parenting, education and communication skills to use in guiding children and youth as they develop into capable individuals. All required courses for this certificate must be completed with a passing grade.

Program Requirements Complete all of the following

NBE120 - Developing Capable People

NBE227 - Parenting Principles and Communication

Program Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will acquire competency to use in helping youth develop into capable individuals.