

The College of the Canyons Canyon Country Campus (CCC) offers year-round opportunities for community members who are looking to revisit their academic goals and dreams after time away from school, who are entering college for the first time, or who are hoping to update their job skills for a new career venture.

“Whether you just completed high school or it’s been 20 years since your last class, the COC Canyon Country Campus can help get you on your way,” said Dr. Dena Maloney, CCC Founding Dean.

Regardless of which campus the student primarily attends, CCC offers all the same support services as the Valencia campus, including assessment testing, counseling, financial aid and registration services — and often at a fraction of the time.

“Both campuses operate on one system, so no matter where your class is being taken — Canyon Country, Valencia or cyber space — you’re dealing with one entity that can assist you with all your student needs,” said Maloney.

At either campus, Maloney suggests students follow a simple four-step process that begins by filing an application for admission, either online or in person, with the COC Admissions Office. Students who have not completed any college level math or English courses must then take assessment tests to determine their coursework entry level. It’s recommended that students who are re-entering school after a prolonged absence retake the assessment tests. However, re-entering students with an associate or bachelor’s degree won’t need to be tested.

“Some people have the idea that, if they don’t pass the assessment test, then they aren’t going to be admitted to the college, and that simply is not the case,” said Maloney. “The testing process is just to help you be placed at the right level so you take a class in which you’re going to be successful.”

The CCC assessment center is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Fridays throughout the summer session. The two self-paced computerized tests usually take a combined 90 minutes to complete, however students may have as much time as needed to complete the tests. After receiving their results, students can schedule an appointment with an academic counselor to discuss school and career goals, select a major, determine course selection and map out a semester-by-semester educational plan prior to registration.

“I encourage all new students to come in and meet with a counselor, especially those who might not know what they want to major in or what career field they want to explore,” said Liz Shaker, CCC counseling faculty.

Thirty-minute counseling sessions are available by appointment at the CCC counseling office Monday through Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. throughout the summer session. It also offers career and life exploration courses focused on matching students with an academic and career plan based on their interests, skills and personalities.

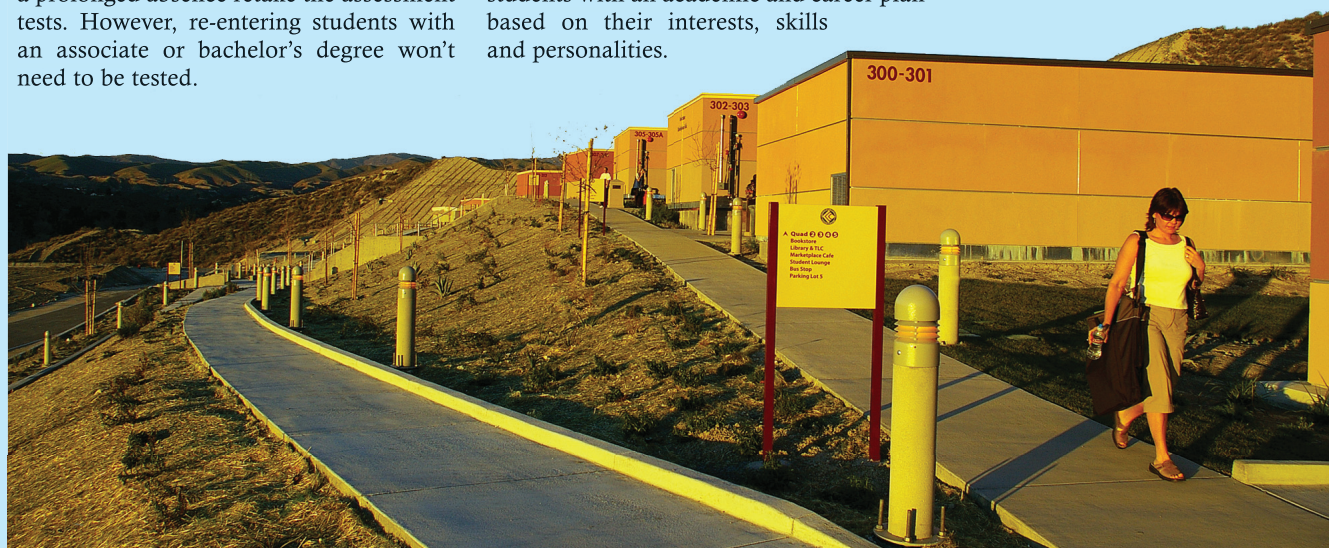
“College can be a little overwhelming to navigate on your own,” said Shaker, “so our counseling staff is here to help students through that process.”

The fourth and final step recommended before registration is a visit to the CCC financial aid office. Here students can pick up appropriate forms and receive assistance with the application process — even using campus computers to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and submit an application for a Board of Governors Fee Waiver.

The CCC financial aid office is open Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Assistance is available by appointment and drop-in service.

“Chances are, if you’ve been away from school for a while, the thought of going through these steps might be daunting,” said Maloney. “But it doesn’t take a lot of time, and you can get most or all of this done with just one visit to the Canyon Country Campus, regardless of which COC campus you eventually attend.”

By following the process described above students can be registered and ready to begin classes for the start of the fall semester on August 25, 2008. The Canyon Country campus is located at 17200 Sierra Highway in Canyon Country. For more information please call (661) 476-3800.



Dusk at the Canyon Country Campus