

Rising Scholars Vocational Program

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- ❖ EDUCATION BASED INCARCERATION STAFF: SR. LEE AND SGT GUBRAN

Brief Rationale

- ▶ These noncredit vocational courses will assist justice involved students in developing the skills needed to increase employability and reenter the workforce.

Brief History

- ▶ College of the Canyons joined the Rising Scholars Network in 2015 offering credit courses
- ▶ We currently offer 36 credit classes and 22 noncredit classes to justice-involved students.
- ▶ Noncredit courses were first offered at Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) and Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF) in summer 2020.
- ▶ The courses below were being offered in a similar version by 5 Keys Charter School prior to the end of their contract with LASD.

Noncredit Life Skills Classes Being Offered at PDC and CRDF

- ▶ NC.COUN-050 - Cleaning Up Your CA Criminal Record
- ▶ NC.COUN-060 - Parenting Strategies I
- ▶ NC.COUN-061 - Parenting Strategies II
- ▶ NC.COUN-070 - Anger Management I
- ▶ NC.COUN-071 - Anger Management II
- ▶ NC.COUN-080 - Domestic Violence I
- ▶ NC.COUN-081 - Domestic Violence II
- ▶ NC.COUN-090 - Addiction and Substance Abuse I
- ▶ NC.COUN-091 - Addiction and Substance Abuse II
- ▶ NC.LSKL-100 - Personal Health and Wellness
- ▶ NC.LSKL-101 - Mindfulness Strategies for Stress Management
- ▶ **Note: A request will be sent to the Curriculum Committee in fall 2021 to have the NC.COUN prefix changed to NC.LSKL.*

Other Noncredit Classes Being Offered at PDC and CRDF

- ▶ NC.CSKL-001-006
- ▶ NC.ENGL-001 - Essential Reading and Writing Skills I
- ▶ NC.ENGL-002 - Essential Reading and Writing Skills I
- ▶ NC.HLTH-001 - Adult and Pediatric CPR, First Aid and GED
- ▶ NC.WATR-100A – Green Gardener I
- ▶ NC.WATR-100B – Green Gardener II

Enrollment Totals

- ▶ Credit total enrollments 15/16 - 162
- ▶ Credit total enrollments 16/17 - 343
- ▶ Credit total enrollments 17/18 - 192
- ▶ Credit total enrollments 18/19 - 183
- ▶ Credit and noncredit total enrollments 19/20 - 371
- ▶ **Credit and noncredit total enrollments 20/21 - 2,996 not including Summer 2021.**

Partnership with LASD

- ▶ Because 5 Keys' contract was not renewed to offer classes beyond High School
- ▶ We are the only Community College that has an MOU with LASD,
- ▶ We have established a great collaborative relationship with LASD and they would like us to expand.
- ▶ Each student receives milestones for every 60 hours of coursework taken with an educational institution.
- ▶ These milestones earn credit towards an early release for the inmates housed in any LA County Jail. Many inmates are required by the judge to take these courses as part of their sentence.
- ▶ Now that we have an established relationship with LASD they have asked us to expand our offerings beyond Life Skills and begin teaching vocational classes using their existing facilities.

The Path Forward

- ▶ Justice impacted students are underserved in several ways
- ▶ Being one of the few educational institutions, and the only higher learning institution with a contract with LASD, we can offer both the students and the Sheriff's Department quality instruction on important topics which make a difference not only to the students but also to their families and the communities they live in.
- ▶ **The courses we currently have and those we plan to develop are all part of the overarching goal to help reduce recidivism and increase employability in justice impacted students.**

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- ▶ Gardening/Nursery - Being offered in fall 2021. Will be revised during the fall 2021 semester.
- ▶ Construction - Being offered in fall 2021. Will be due for a five-year revision in spring 2022 revised during the fall 2021 semester.
- ▶ Commercial Printing - Curriculum will be proposed in fall 2021
- ▶ Commercial Sewing - Curriculum will be proposed in fall 2021
- ▶ Commercial Painting - Curriculum will be proposed in spring 2022
- ▶ Masonry - Curriculum will be proposed in spring 2022
- ▶ Wood Working - Curriculum will be proposed in spring 2022
- ▶ Food Handler/Culinary - Will be offered in credit in fall 2021. Could be mirrored noncredit in the future.
- ▶ Welding - Will be offered in credit in fall 2021. Could be noncredit in the future.

Institutional Support

- ▶ Program will be housed in the School of Personal and Professional learning
- ▶ Faculty Support:
 - ▶ Garrett Rieck, Faculty Director of Continuing and Adult Education
 - ▶ Dr. Tara Williams, Chemistry Faculty and Rising Scholars Faculty
 - ▶ Regina Blasberg, Aivee Ortega, Diane Solomon
- ▶ Administrative and Staff Support:
 - ▶ Dianne Avery, Dean of Academic Innovation and Continuing Education
 - ▶ Release time is being offered each year for one faculty member to be assigned as the Rising Scholars Faculty Coordinator.
 - ▶ Three classified staff members that will support the program in varying degrees as part of their Instructional department and School of Personal and Professional Learning duties.
 - ▶ Recently hired a full-time classified staff member in Admissions and Records that will support the registration process for both the credit and noncredit side of the students' enrollment services needs.
 - ▶ One adult hourly that supports the dissemination of student materials and assignments to the students and faculty.
 - ▶ We will need to increase the hours of one of the classified staff members in the School of Personal and Professional Learning to 100% or 40 hours to fully help support the expanding needs of the program in a variety of different ways.



Physical Resources

- ▶ Facilities and equipment for all programs are available at Pitchess Detention Center. The EBI Staff fully supports the development of these vocational programs.
- ▶ The EBI staff and instructors for the course will identify what is needed prior to teaching the classes.
- ▶ Some equipment and materials are provided through EBI. All other equipment and material requests are sent to the Dean of Academic Innovation and Continuing Education.

Pictures of the Facilities



Financial Support

- ▶ California Adult Education Program (CAEP)
- ▶ Current and Formerly Incarcerated Students Grant
- ▶ Instructions funds
- ▶ Lottery funds
- ▶ State Chancellors funds
- ▶ Strong Workforce funds.

Mission of the College

- ▶ The mission of our college is to deliver a holistic and accessible education to all students, and to attain workforce skills.
- ▶ Equity goal from our latest strategic goals: "Attributing inequalities/gaps to unfair structural/political/environmental/social/cultural/historical practices and policies that have created barriers (deliberately or unintentionally) for individuals to improve their life opportunities through educational achievement"
- ▶ "College of the Canyons will provide support to facilitate equitable student success and maximize opportunity for all students with intentional efforts to address inequities among student groups, including minoritized student populations."

Closing Thoughts



Studies have shown that inmate participation in education, vocational and job training, prison work skills development, drug abuse, mental health and other treatment programs, all reduce recidivism, significantly.

— Bobby Scott —

AZ QUOTES

Questions?

