



Academic Senate for College of the Canyons

STANDING POLICY

Online Instructor Certification Requirements

Winter & Spring 2021

Section 55208(b) of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) holds “Instructors of distance education shall be prepared to teach in a distance education delivery method consistent with local district policies and negotiated agreements.” Accreditation Standard 3.A.11 of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) states and requires, “The institution establishes, publishes, and adheres to written personnel policies and procedures.”

At College of the Canyons the Academic Senate establishes distance education (Online) instructor certification standards. In so doing, the Academic Senate regularly collaborates with the Office of Instruction and its Office of Online Education. The state of emergency declared by the Governor of the State of California as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency resulted in ongoing declared emergency orders by the Chancellor of the Office of California Community Colleges. Therefore, and in recognition of such circumstances, the Academic Senate establishes the following distance education/online instructor certification requirements to be in effect for the winter and spring, 2021 semesters:

1. All provisional online certifications originally set to expire on December 31, 2020, as outlined in the adopted standards per Academic Senate action on May 7, 2020, will be honored and extended to June 6, 2021 after which time they will expire.
2. Instructors possessing only provisional online instructor certification should not be assigned nor allowed to teach 100%, asynchronous ONLINE classes during the 2021 winter and spring semesters.
3. The Academic Senate will revisit these adopted standards in anticipation of the 2021 summer and fall semesters in order to extend or amend this policy consistent with evolving state and local circumstances.

CCR Title 5 Section 55204(a) establishes the requirement of regular and effective contact between instructors and students and designates such standard to be an academic and professional matter within the purview of the Academic Senate per Title 5, Section 53200, *et seq.*

This policy is adopted toward the betterment of student learning and to ensure, among other things, such regulatory and professional standards are upheld.