



NEWS

El Camino College Compton Center
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For Immediate Release

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El Camino College Compton Center's First Year Experience Program Helps Students Succeed

Whether you are transitioning from high school or attending college for the first time, meeting the challenges of this new experience is exciting but can also be overwhelming.

El Camino College Compton Center is now offering the First Year Experience/Learning Communities (FYE) program to assist students in succeeding in college. Established in 2008, FYE provides educational and career services in a supportive, caring environment. This semester, 70 students in the First Year Experience program will participate in learning communities at Compton Center (programs in which groups of students take multiple classes together), and also receive guidance from faculty mentors.

Research results from Purdue University and at other programs across the United States show that students who take part in a learning community earn higher grades, make friends faster, and graduate at higher or faster rates than students who don't participate.

2009 Animo Charter High School graduate Vanessa Leyva lives near Compton, but didn't consider attending Compton Center until she heard about the FYE program. "FYE is a great program for first-time college students because it puts you in a learning community where everyone has the same classes together," said Leyva. You meet new friends and work with them in every class, and the other students are more than happy to help you out. I believe this program will help me achieve my dream of transferring to either UC Santa Cruz or UC Santa Barbara to major in marine biology."

By participating in the FYE program, students learn to develop key study skills and discover options for studying in groups. They also have access to vital campus and college resources, and be able to explore a chosen major, create a career plan, interact in a multicultural environment; and learn how to access and manage electronic information such as e-mail, the Internet and library databases.

To be eligible for the First Year Experience/Learning Communities program, a student must qualify through the English Placement Exam.

"We are excited to give students the opportunity to be a part of a proven learning community environment through the FYE program," said Rebeca Mason, Compton Center FYE director/counselor. "Putting students together in the same set of classes provides maximum guidance and feedback on assignments, increases opportunities to interact with their professors, and gives them academic success strategies, career direction, and a smooth transition into college."

For information or to schedule an appointment to attend a FYE information session, contact Rebeca Nunez-Mason at 310-900-1600, ext. 2769, or via e-mail at rmason@elcamino.edu.

About Compton Center

El Camino College Compton Center is accredited and serving the residents of our local communities. Students may earn an associate degree, transfer to a four-year university or receive career training. Fees are only \$26 per unit. The college catalog and class schedule for day, evening, weekend and online courses is available on the Web site at www.compton.edu or may be picked up at Compton Center located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA. For more information, call 310-900-1600.

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