

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for PSCN 28

ORIENTATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Effective: Fall 2008

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

PSCN 28 — ORIENTATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS — 1.00 units

Exploration of practical strategies for academic success and to experience a positive transition into the American educational system and culture focusing on the new international student. Examines goal setting, cultural adjustment, college policies, graduation requirements, campus resources, programs and services, student rights and responsibilities, introduction to the California systems of higher education, student educational planning and other topics as needs are identified. Designed for first time international college students in order to enhance their transition into American society and maximize successful matriculation through college toward their academic goals. Required for all foreign-visa students. 1 hour lecture.

1.00 Units Lecture

Grading Methods:

Optional

Discipline:

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	18.00
Total Hours:	18.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT:

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Understand the function and expectations of the U.S. higher education system in order to maximize scholastic performance
2. Understand the California post-secondary education system and in particular the relationship between California Community College and the CSU and UC
3. Utilize appropriate campus resources
4. Demonstrate understanding of student rights and responsibilities
5. Follow correct registration procedures
6. Demonstrate ability to use the college catalog and class schedule
7. Demonstrate knowledge of transfer and AA/AS graduation requirements for F-1 students
8. Complete components of the matriculation process: assessment, orientation, counseling and educational planning
9. Discuss cultural differences and adjustment strategies
10. Review study skills for college success
11. Understand all federal regulations as required by the Department of Homeland Security through the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS)
12. Discuss importance of identifying career/educational goals

V. CONTENT:

- A. Overview of U.S. system of higher education
- B. Overview of higher education in California (CCC, CSU, UC and private)
- C. Student support services and other campus resources
- D. Student rights and responsibilities
- E. Registration procedures
- F. Review catalog and class schedule
- G. Detail AA/AS graduation requirements and UC/CSU transfer requirements
- H. Review matriculation components and develop plan for completion
 - I. Discuss ideas about adjusting to a new culture, comparing cultures and their distinguishing characteristics, and coping with cultural differences
- J. Study skills and strategies for college success
- K. Review international student immigration regulations Text
- L. Identify and develop career educational plan

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** - Lecture presentations
- B. **Audio-visual Activity** -
- C. Internet

- D. **Guest Lecturers** -
- E. Tours of campus resources
- F. **Discussion** - Group discussion/activities

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

A. Set goals and develop a student education plan B. Identify and locate campus resources C. Participate in small group class activities/exercises D. Type a one page paper on transitioning and cultural adjustment E. Maintain a binder/portfolio for future use and should contain student handbooks, lecture notes, assignments and handouts. F. Reading assignments from LPC College Catalog and LPC Student Handbooks

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

1. Exams/Tests
2. Quizzes
3. Class Participation
4. Home Work
5. Final Performance
6. Other:
 - a. Journal assignments

B. **Frequency**

1. Timeliness of assignments
2. 2 Quizzes
3. Completeness of binder/portfolio
4. Final exam

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. 2006-08 Las Positas College Catalog and Addendum
2007-08 Las Positas College Student Handbook
2. 2007-08 Las Positas College International Student Handbook

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: