## Academic Programs

West Valley College attempts to provide all the requisite information to students so that they may succeed in their academic goals; however, it is ultimately the responsibility of the student to determine and to fulfill all appropriate requirements for transfer, degrees, and certificates.

### Academic Program Opportunities

West Valley College provides academic programs that assist students in fulfilling appropriate requirements for transfer, associate degrees, and certificates.

West Valley College offers two curricular programs for students: (1) transfer programs for senior colleges and universities and (2) Associate Degree programs. West Valley College also offers career programs that prepare students for employment. Career programs offer two options: (1) associate degrees and (2) certificates. AA/AS major degree and certificate requirements are listed in the “Associate Degree, Certificate, and Selected Transfer Programs” section in this catalog. The following information is general in nature. Students interested in transferring to a university are advised to consult a counselor and/or the Transfer Center and the catalog of the Institution to which they intend to apply.

West Valley College provides extensive coursework for transfer to UC’s, CSU’s and private colleges and universities throughout the United States.

### Associate Degrees Opportunities

The associate degree may be sought as either a final educational goal or a major step toward a baccalaureate degree elsewhere. The successful completion of the A.A./A.S. degree may also result in preparation to enter an occupation. A minimum of 60 degree applicable units with a 2.0 grade average or better are required. A minimum of 12 units must be in residence at West Valley College and a maximum of 20 “Pass” units may be applied toward the completion of the associate degree. West Valley College offers both major specific and liberal arts associates degrees.

### Graduation Proficiency Requirement

Effective Fall 1983, any student who is a candidate for an associate degree is required to demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing and mathematics. Effective Fall 2005, students who are candidates for an associate degree are also required to demonstrate proficiency in information competency. Students can take the Credit by Examination option if they have successfully completed English 1A and they are currently enrolled. No other assessment test from another college will be accepted. Students are advised to discuss the proficiency requirements with a counselor.

### Second Associate Degree

Students interested in earning a second associate degree must fulfill major requirements for the second degree within five years of the awarding of the first associate degree. If fewer than 15 units are needed, additional units to total a minimum of 15 units must be completed in an area related to the major.

Continuing students, the general education and major requirements for the second degree are those listed in the College catalog for the academic year in which the student first takes courses for the first degree or any subsequent catalog thereafter.

Returning students, the requirements are those listed in the College catalog for the year in which the student returns or any subsequent catalog thereafter.

### Double Major

Students may earn a double major, and the requirements for the double major shall be those major requirements listed in the College catalog for the academic year in which the student begins the course work for the second major.

### Catalog Rights for Degree or Certificate Consideration

Students who maintain continuous enrollment, meaning they attended at least one semester or summer session during the academic year, may choose to graduate under the catalog in effect at the time they first enrolled at West Valley College or any catalog up to the time of graduation. Students who are considered returning students, meaning those who did not attend for a year or more before returning to college, must follow the catalog requirements in effect at the time of re-enrolment. For the purpose of catalog rights, the academic year begins each fall and ends with the subsequent summer session.

### Associate Degree Reciprocity

The West Valley-Mission Community College District has entered into a mutual agreement with seven other community colleges to accept the General Education of these colleges as completed.