

English Instruction: Puente students take two consecutive writing classes, English 250 (Practical Writing) and English 1A (Composition). These classes provide a supportive and stimulating environment to build confidence in writing skills through an exploration of the Mexican American/Latino experience.

Counseling: Puente students work closely with their Puente counselor until they graduate, exploring career options, developing an academic educational plan and identifying lifetime goals. Students visit University of California and California State University campuses and attend an annual Puente student transfer conference. All Puente students are also required to enroll in Guidance 6 (Life Skills for Higher Education) and Guidance 1 (Self-Assessment and Career Development).

Mentors: Each Puente student is matched with a mentor from the business or professional community. Mentors share their personal, academic and career experiences and provide a window into "real-life" work environments. The network of trained Puente mentors provides many resources for the Puente students, their families, their colleges and their communities.

Student-to-Student Mediation

Mediation services provide students with an opportunity to problem-solve together in a safe environment. Trained student mediators will work with two or more students who are in conflict to reach mutually agreeable solutions. Mediation services are free and confidential.

Students wishing to become mediators can register for Introduction to Conflict Resolution (Psychology 6).

To obtain mediation services, contact the Counseling Department at 408-848-4723.

Transfer Services

The Career/Transfer Resource Center is designed to provide support services to students who are interested in transferring to a four-year college.

Services include specific transfer information, information on university majors and graduation requirements, assistance with filling out applications, scheduled meetings with university representatives and applications for the CSU and UC systems (a limited number of private school applications are also available.) The center also provides a resource library of college catalogs and books, referrals to transfer counselors to assist with planning and CSU application fee waivers.

An annual Transfer Day is held each fall with over 40 colleges and universities participating.

ASSIST: ASSIST is a computerized student-transfer information system that can be accessed over the internet. It displays reports of how course credits earned at one California college or university can be applied when transferred to another. ASSIST provides the most accurate and up-to-date information available about student transfer in California. www.assist.org.

TRIO Program

The TRIO Student Support Services Program is a federally funded program designed to assist 160 first generation, low-income, and/or disabled Gavilan College students as they prepare to obtain a two-year degree and/or transfer to a four-year university. TRIO is committed to increasing graduation and transfer rates by creating a "sense of place" for those students who sometimes feel isolated or disconnected during their college experience.

TRIO provides a variety of services including academic, career and personal counseling, supplemental grant aid, laptop and calculator lending, Summer Bridge Program, informational workshops, cultural & social activities, TRIO Lounge and much more.

Veterans' Resource Center

The Veterans Resource Center (VRC) provides resources and services for student veterans. The center is staffed by student veterans who are committed to helping other veterans manage the transition from military service to the college campus setting. The VRC provides a warm and welcoming place for veterans to connect with one another and learn about available campus services. Come by and see us in Library 109. We are here to help you succeed!