



ACADEMIC INFORMATION

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Student Classification

Students at Gavilan College are classified by the following definitions:

FRESHMAN - Student who has completed 29-1/2 semester units or less of college credit

SOPHOMORE - Student who has completed 30 or more semester units of college credit.

FULL-TIME - Student enrolled in 12 or more semester units. (4 units for summer session)

PART-TIME - Student enrolled in less than 12 semester units.

Definition of a Semester

An academic year at Gavilan is comprised of two sixteen-week semesters, fall and spring. Classes are also offered during summer and winter intersessions.

Course Availability

Every course, course section or class, the average daily attendance of which is to be reported for State aid, wherever offered and maintained by the district, shall be fully open to enrollment by any person who has been admitted to the college and who meets such prerequisites as may be established pursuant to Chapter II, Division 2, Part VI, Title V of the California Administrative Code, unless specifically exempted by statute.

Gavilan College provides special registration assistance to disabled and disadvantaged students in compliance with Title V of the California Administrative Code, Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Attendance Standards

Students at Gavilan College are expected to attend all classes for which they are enrolled.

Students missing one more class hour than the unit value for a particular course without making prior arrangements may, at the instructor's option, be dropped without possibility of credit.

Students who do not attend the first class session may be dropped from class in order to admit other students desiring to enroll. If it is necessary for a student to miss more than three consecutive class periods, a Leave of Absence Petition Form should be obtained from the Admissions and Records Office.

The petition must be approved by all the student's instructors and returned to the Admissions and Records Office. Ordinarily, a petition for leave of absence will not be granted for more than two weeks. Prolonged absence, even when excused, may result in grade penalties, since the student is still responsible for course requirements.

Catalog Rights

Students who maintain continuous attendance status may, for purposes of meeting graduation requirements, elect to meet the requirements in effect at:

1. The time of entrance to Gavilan College, or
2. Any catalog year thereafter

Developing new course curricula is an ongoing process. After the catalog has been printed, new and revised courses and majors may be available. These changes will be available on the web version of the catalog, as it is a "living document." Consult with a counselor if your area of study has changed.

Continuous attendance is defined as enrollment in at least one credit course per academic year, including summers at any accredited college or university.

Attendance at another accredited institution of higher learning is not considered an interruption, providing the absence does not exceed four (4) years.

A student who is absent for at least three (3) consecutive terms, including summer, is considered to be a returning student for purposes of "catalog rights" and must follow the graduation requirements in effect at the time he or she returns or any catalog year thereafter

Course Repetition

Course Repetition There are limitations on the number of times a student may repeat a course. All courses listed in this publication with no repeat notation following the description may be repeated once without filing a petition if a grade of D, F, NC or NP was earned. A student may file a petition to repeat a course a second time if a grade of D, F, NC or NP is earned again. To file a petition, the student must meet with a counselor to evaluate circumstances and receive written approval. The student's transcript and grade point average will reflect the last grade the student receives in the course. A student may petition to repeat the course a third time by filing a Request to Repeat a Course Under Special Circumstances and providing the necessary documentation to support the special circumstances claim.

To repeat a course in which the student has received a final grade of "C" or better, a student must file a Request to Repeat a Course Under Special Circumstances prior to registering for the course again. Units and grade points for the repeated course are not computed in the grade point average unless the course is being repeated to meet legally mandated training requirements as a condition of continued paid or volunteer employment. This request must also be approved by a counselor.

Withdrawal Policy

Students may withdraw from a course by notifying Admissions & Records either online or in person. The following grading practices apply when withdrawing from a course:

- A student who withdraws from a course prior to 30% of the class meetings being held will receive no grade of record.

- A student may withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” prior to completion of 75% of the class meetings for the course; thereafter, the student will receive whatever grade they would have earned, based upon the entire semester’s work.
- A student may withdraw from a course up to four times and receive a grade of “W”; after a fourth “W”, the student will receive the grade they would have earned, based upon the entire semester’s work.
- A withdrawal may be excluded from the four-time maximum limit in the case of extenuating circumstances such as natural disasters or other circumstances beyond the control of the student including verified cases of accident or illness.

Course Prerequisite

A prerequisite is a measure of readiness for a course or program that a student is required to meet as a condition of enrolling in a course or program. Successful completion (a grade of “C” or better) of the prerequisite is required.

HOW COURSE PREREQUISITES ARE ESTABLISHED

Course prerequisites are developed by faculty members and accepted by the Gavilan College Curriculum Committee with the intent of promoting student success. Courses are individually reviewed to assure that prerequisites are a valid measure of readiness for student success. Criteria used to establish prerequisites include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Most prerequisites are in degree programs within sequential content areas. A course may be established as a prerequisite for another course provided that skills, concepts and/or information taught in the first course are presupposed in the second course;
2. The course for which the prerequisite is required is one in which the student might endanger his or her own health and safety or the health and safety of others if the prerequisite is not met; or
3. A course may be established as a prerequisite for another course because appropriate faculty and the Curriculum Committee have established it as equivalent to the prerequisite established by at least three campuses of the University of California and/or the California State University.
4. Other prerequisite criteria may be developed and utilized by Gavilan College. These are available through the Office of the Vice President of Instruction.

CHALLENGE OF PREREQUISITE

Students who have reason to believe that they have already fulfilled a prerequisite, or that a prerequisite has been improperly established or implemented, may challenge the prerequisite. The student is responsible to provide compelling evidence to substantiate the challenge claim. Challenge forms are available at the Admissions and Records Office and must be completed and returned to the Vice President of Instruction prior to the first day of classes.

The college must respond to a completed challenge submitted by a student

within a period of five (5) school days or the challenge is valid. Although the student may register in the class for which the prerequisite is being challenged, if the challenge is denied, the student will be dropped from the class. Academic credit will not be awarded for successfully challenged prerequisites. For further information regarding the prerequisite challenge, contact a counselor.

Course Advisory

An advisory is a measure of readiness for a course or program that is recommended a student meet in order to enroll in a course or program. Successful completion with a “C” or better is strongly recommended.

HOW COURSE ADVISORIES ARE ESTABLISHED

Course advisories are developed by faculty members and accepted by the Gavilan College Curriculum Committee. Courses are individually reviewed to assure that the advisories assist a student to efficiently and successfully complete the course. The departments and the Curriculum Committee have concluded, after review of content, that the advisory or its equivalent is strongly recommended.

Units

DEFINITION OF A UNIT

Units of credit are based upon the Carnegie Unit, which requires a minimum of 3 hours of course-related work per unit of credit each week throughout a 16-week semester.

During a 16-week semester at Gavilan College, a typical 3 unit lecture class will meet an average of 3.3 hours per week for classroom instruction and require an additional 6.7 hours per week of outside work (reading, library research, problem-solving, projects, term papers, etc.) for a total of approximately 10 hours of course-related work per week (or 160 total hours for the course). This time requirement increases to 27 hours per week during a 6-week summer session.

Units of credit earned in laboratory/activity classes are also based upon the 3 hours per week per unit ratio.

A typical full-time load is approximately 15 units per semester, requiring a minimum of 720 hours of course-related work when class lectures, labs and outside homework are combined. This will vary somewhat, based upon assignments, individual goals and academic ability, but each student is encouraged to budget adequate time for required study.

DEGREE VERSUS NON-DEGREE UNITS

Gavilan College has designated certain courses “non-degree appropriate.” This means that units earned in selected courses will not count toward an associate’s degree. This information is contained in the course descriptions in this catalog.

Full-term Semester Unit Loads:

1-5 units	Less than half-time student
6-8 units	Half-time student
9-11 units	Three-quarter time student
12+ units	Full-time student (12 units is the minimum number of units to be eligible for full veteran's benefits, Dean's List and intercollegiate athletic competition)
15 units	Full-time student (President's Honor Roll eligibility).
18 units	Must have minimum GPA of 2.5 and counselor's approval.
19 units	Counselor's approval required. Appeals by students will be directed to the Vice President of Student Services or designee.

Summer and Intersession Unit Loads:

4-5.99 units	Full-time student
6 units	Must have a 2.5 GPA and counselor's approval
more than 6 units	Counselor's approval required. Appeals by students will be directed to the Vice President of Student Services or designee.

Computing Grade Point Average (GPA)

To determine current or cumulative grade point average, divide the total number of grade points earned by the total number of units attempted.

Grade point values:

A = 4 points
A- = 3.7 points
B+ = 3.3 points
B = 3 points
B- = 2.7 points
C+ = 2.3 points
C = 2 points
D = 1 point
F = 0 point

Example:

CLASS	UNITS		GRADE/VALUE		GRADE POINTS
ACCT	4	X	(A) 4	=	16 points
ENGL	3	X	(B) 3	=	9 points
	7 units attempted				25 points

Placing values into formula above:

$$25 \text{ points} \div 7 \text{ units attempted} = 3.57 \text{ GPA}$$

Pass/No Pass units are not computed in the grade point average.

Semester to Quarter Conversion Formula

Some colleges and universities operate on a "quarter" calendar of three twelve-week terms; fall, winter and spring.

The following formula shall be used when converting quarter hours to semester hours or semester hours to quarter hours in order to compute graduation requirements, grade points for the required standards of scholarships, non-resident student regulations, and the college calendar.

Semester credit hours (or semester units of credit) are converted to quarter credit hours (or quarter units of credit) by multiplying the number of semester credit hours by one and a half.

Example: 15 Semester credits \times 1-1/2 = 22.5 quarter credits.

Quarter credit hours are converted to semester credit hours by multiplying the number of quarter hours by two-thirds.

Example: 22.5 quarter credits \times 2/3 = 15 semester credits

Grading Options

Courses offered under the pass/no pass (P/NP) grade option are determined by the Gavilan College Board of Trustees and cited in this catalog.

Students receiving the pass (P) grade must have achieved the course objectives equivalent to at least a "C" grade in order to receive the units of credit assigned to the course. The grade point average of a student receiving a pass (P) or no pass (NP) grade will not be influenced.

A pass/no pass course is not included in consideration for honors such as Dean's List or President's Honor Roll. See page 42 for additional information.

For some courses, students have the option of selecting a final grade of pass/no pass or a traditional letter grade of "A", "B", "C", etc. Review the course description in this Catalog to determine which courses are designated as having this option.

Before selecting a grading option, students should consider the following:

- Once the option has been selected, the student's decision is final and irreversible.
- To select one option over another, a student must complete the Grading Option form and file it with the Admissions & Records Office prior to the NRS (No Record Shown) date for the course. This date is 30% of the course length. Short-term classes are calculated differently (See Admissions and Records).
- If the student opts for a P/NP final grade, the units are not included in the semester GPA but are considered for the purposes of probation and dismissal.
- A P/NP grade is not used in consideration of honors.
- A total of 20 units of P/NP graded units (not including those courses required by the major which are designated P/NP only) may be applied to an associates's degree or certificate.

- The student should carefully consider the transferability of P/NP units to other institutions. Some universities may not accept any P/NP courses and others limit the amount of P/NP units that will be accepted. Please consult a counselor before selecting the Pass/No Pass option.

Academic Record Symbols

Symbol	Definition	Grade Points
A	Excellent	4
A-	Excellent	3.7
B+	Good	3.3
B	Good	3
B-	Good	2.7
C+	Satisfactory	2.3
C	Satisfactory	2
D	Passing, less than satisfactory	1
F	Failing	0
P	Pass (at least satisfactory; units awarded not counted in Grade Point Average)	0
NP	No Pass (less than satisfactory or failing; units not counted in Grade Point Average)	0
I	Incomplete (incomplete academic work for unforeseeable, emergency and justifiable reasons). The requirements necessary to complete the course must be fulfilled the next term of attendance (excluding summer) within the next year. If the "I" grade is not removed in this fashion, it will be converted to an "F".	0
IP	In Progress (In Progress shall be used to denote that the class extends beyond the normal end of the academic term).	0
W	Withdrawal (Student Withdrawal from class will be designated a "W" only between the Monday of the fourth week and the Friday of the twelfth week). Withdrawal at other times follows this pattern:	
	Weeks*	Symbol
	1 through 3	No Record Shown (NRS)
	4 through 12	W
	13 to end of term	F
MW	Military Withdrawal (called to active duty)	0

*Approximate times indicated. Specific dates are printed in the Schedule of Classes. These times are applicable only to semester-long courses.

Non-Traditional Credit

Students may be granted nontraditional academic credit (e.g., military service, credit by examination, USAFI, CLEP, AP, etc.) upon proper application and, with the exception of Advanced Placement, the successful completion of 12 credit units at Gavilan College with a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.0.

University of California does not grant credit for College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams. CLEP credit WILL NOT be used to certify the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum. Some California State Universities will grant credit for certain areas and some will not grant credit at all. Transfer students are advised to contact the university they will be attending for specific information regarding CLEP credit.

CREDIT BY EXAMINATION ("TEST OUT")

Students who have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher in at least 12 units of college work completed at Gavilan College may petition for credit by examination during any term in which they are enrolled.

Procedures:

- Students who may qualify for credit by examination are:
 - Students who have never taken the class for credit.
 - Students of exceptional ability who have studied on their own.
 - Students with experiential background who can meet the objectives of the course.
- Students will pay tuition for the challenged class. A minimum of \$100 will be paid prior to taking the challenge examination. The exact fee will be based upon the actual costs of providing the exam.
- Applications for Credit by Examination are available from the Admissions and Records Office and require the signature of the appropriate instructor, department chairperson, and appropriate dean.
- A copy of the graded challenge examination will be submitted to the appropriate dean's office. The type of examination is to be determined by the instructor and the department chairperson in concert with the appropriate dean.
- The final grade will be submitted to the Admissions and Records Office for posting on the student's transcript.
- Students desiring to take the Challenge Examination who, due to extenuating circumstances, do not meet the above qualifications may submit a written appeal for waiver to the appropriate dean.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Gavilan College grants up to six semester units of transfer credit for each College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Test on which a student receives a score of 3 or higher. The AP results must be submitted to the Office of Admissions and Records with a request for evaluation. Students receiving a score of 3, 4 or 5 on the Math and English AP exams will be exempt from the placement assessment test. AP units will not apply toward financial aid, nor can they be used to satisfy the residency unit requirement.

The previously used CR and NC grades have been replaced by the P and NP grades of record.

Advanced Placement credit will be awarded as follows:

Examination	Score**	Equiv. Gav. College	Semester Units	IGETC Area
American History	3,4,5	HIST 1,2	6	3A or 3B*
Art History	3,4,5	ART 1A, 1B	6	3A or 3B
Biology	3,4,5	BIO 10	4	5B w/lab
Chemistry	3,4	CHEM 30A	4	5A w/lab
	5	CHEM 1A	5	5A w/lab 3B and 6A
Chinese and Language Cult				
Computer Science A	3,4,5	CSIS 45	3	
Computer Science AB	3,4,5	CSIS 45,46	6	
Economics, Macro	3,4,5	ECON 1	3	4B
Economics, Micro	3,4,5	ECON 2	3	4B
English Language & Comp	3,4,5	ENGL 1A	3	1A
English Composition & Lit	3,4	ENGL 1A	3	1A or 3B*
	5	ENGL 1A, 1B	6	1A or 3B*
(Max # Units in English= 6)				
Environmental Science				5A w/lab
European History*				4B or 4F*
French Language				3B and 6A
French Literature				3B and 6A
German Language				3B and 6A
Government & Politics:				
U.S.	3,4,5	POLS 1	3	4H
Comparative	3,4,5	POLS 3	3	4H
Human Geography				4E
Italian Language & Cult				3B and 6A
Japanese Language & Cult				3B and 6A
Latin Literature				3B and 6A
Latin: Vergil				3B and 6A
Math/Calc AB	3,4,5	MATH 1A	4	2A
Math/Calc BC	3,4,5	MATH 1B	4	2A
Math/Statistics	3,4,5	MATH 5	3	2A
Music Theory	3,4,5	MUS 3A	3	
Physics B	3,4,5	PHYS 2A	4	5A w/lab
Physics C Mechanics	3,4,5	PHYS 4A	4	5A w/lab
Physics C Elec/Magnetism	3,4,5	PHYS 4B	4	5A w/lab
Psychology	3,4,5	PSYC 1A	3	4I
Spanish	3,4	SPAN 1B	5	
	5	SPAN 2A	5	3B and 6A 3B or 4F
World History				

* AP exams may be used in either area regardless of where the certifying CCC's discipline is located. Example: US History at a CCC is approved for Area 3B. The US History AP may be used in either Area 3B or 4F.

** Scores of "3" may not be accepted for all courses by some 4 year colleges and universities.

Advanced Placement exams in Biology, Chemistry or Physics B allow California Community College campuses to apply 4 semester or quarter units. For Environmental Science, Physics C: Mechanics and Physics C: Electricity/Magnetism, 3 semester or 4 quarter units are applied for IGETC certification. Therefore, students who complete these exams will be required to complete at least 4 semester or 5 quarter units to satisfy the minimum required units for area 5.

PROCEDURES FOR CREDIT BY EXAMINATION - NURSING PROGRAM

Students will receive the following orientation regarding Credit by Examination:

1. All nursing program students will sign a statement that they have been made aware of the college policies on Credit by Examination.
2. Students challenging a nursing course must be eligible for the course and must have met all program entry prerequisites, including admission procedures for the nursing program.
3. The college reserves the right to deny challenge to any specific course.

Academic Standards

DEAN'S LIST

Special recognition is accorded students who maintain a 3.0 (B) grade point average during any semester in which they accumulate at least 12 graded (A, B, C, D, F) units at Gavilan College. Dean's List achievement shall be noted on the student's transcript.

PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL

Special recognition is accorded to students who earn a 3.5 or higher grade point average during any semester in which they accumulate at least 15 graded units (A, B, C, D, F) at Gavilan College. President's Honor Roll achievement shall be noted on the student's transcript, and additional special recognition shall be given.

STANDARDS FOR PROBATION

Academic Probation: A student who has attempted at least 12 semester units as shown by the official academic record shall be placed on academic probation if the student has earned an accumulated grade point average below 2.0.

Progress Probation: A student who has enrolled in a total of at least 12 semester units as shown by the official academic records shall be placed on progress probation when "W," "I," "NC" and "NP" recorded entries reach or exceed fifty percent (50%) of all units in which a student has enrolled.

Removal from Probation: A student who is on academic probation for a grade point deficiency shall be removed from probation when the student's accumulated grade point average is 2.0 or higher.

A student on progress probation because of an excess of units for which entries of "W," "I," "NC" and "NP" are recorded shall be removed from probation when the percentage of units in this category drops below fifty percent (50%).

STANDARDS FOR DISMISSAL

A student who is on academic probation shall be subject to dismissal from the college if the student earned a cumulative grade point average of less than 2.0 in all units attempted in each of three consecutive semesters.

A student who has been placed on progress probation shall be subject to

dismissal if the percentage of units in which the student has been enrolled for which entries of "W," "I," "NC" and "NP" are recorded in at least three consecutive semesters reaches or exceeds fifty percent (50%).

A student who has been dismissed may petition for reinstatement with a written petition. The petition will be reviewed by a counselor. A decision can include continued enrollment, continued enrollment with a reduced unit load for a predetermined period or dismissal from the college for a predetermined period of time. Petitions are available from the counselors and the Admissions and Records Office.

A student deficient in grade points who transfers to Gavilan College from another college will be admitted on probationary status and allowed to remain as long as a 2.0 or higher grade point average is maintained.

ACADEMIC RENEWAL

In accordance with state guidelines, academic renewal may be accomplished in one of two ways:

1. Repeat a course graded "D", "F", "NC" or "NP". The grade and units of the first attempt will remain on the student's permanent record but will be annotated to show that they are no longer computed in the grade point average.
2. Petition for renewal of a maximum of three terms of substandard course work which is not reflective of the student's demonstrated ability. To be eligible for renewal, the following criteria must be met:
 - a. A period of two years has elapsed between the time of the petition and the date of the course work to be renewed.
 - b. Subsequent to the semester being renewed, the student must complete either:
 - 30 or more units with a grade point average of 2.0 or
 - 24 units with a grade point average of 2.5 or
 - 18 units with a grade point average of 3.0

No grade or course will be removed from the student's permanent record. However, the record will be annotated to show that the coursework for that term is not computed in the grade point average. Subject completion, but not unit value, will be allowed for any course completed satisfactorily in the term(s) to be renewed for the purpose of satisfying requirements for a certificate or degree. (All work, including the semester(s) for which academic renewal has been granted, will be computed in determining honors (3.50) at graduation.)

Cooperative Work Experience

The Cooperative Work Experience Program provides an opportunity for the application and integration of specific knowledge and skills to current work place practices.

Cooperative internships emphasize the development of individualized performance objectives. Insights obtained in an actual occupational internship and

the experience obtained from business and industry result in skills that are essential to fast track career futures.

A student may earn from 1 to 16 units which may be accepted in certain vocational programs as electives and as elective transfer credit by four-year colleges and universities. Students should consult with counselors for specific transferability guidelines. Students must have a volunteer or paid job and a "C" grade point average to enroll.

Distance Learning Program

Distance learning refers to instruction delivered through technology to students at a distance from their instructors. All distance learning courses are academically equivalent to traditional classroom instruction. They are not easier, as some students think. In fact, they may be more difficult, if we consider the amount of technical ability needed, plus the self-discipline needed to keep current.

Methods of instruction include:

- Online classes, using a computer with an individual email account and access to the World Wide Web. Class meetings and the majority of coursework are done primarily online. However, one or more on-campus meetings may be held.
- Telecourses, using a set of videos which can be checked out from the Gavilan Library or either the Hollister or Morgan Hill branch campuses. Videos are also cablecast on GavTV (channel 18 in Gilroy, Hollister and San Juan Bautista). There may be 3 or fewer required meetings for classes.
- Hybrid courses are a mix of online meetings plus face-to-face meetings, usually in a 50/50 ratio.

For information, contact the Distance Education Coordinator via email at disted@gavilan.edu. For a list of courses currently offered through the Distance Learning Program, visit the website at <http://www.gavilan.edu/disted/>

Evening Program

The evening program at Gavilan College is an extension of the day program. Courses meeting the requirements for the Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees and for transfer in most majors to four-year institutions and a variety of occupational/technical courses are available at all three locations. A student may choose to attend only at night, or combine day and evening courses.

Many college facilities are available on the main campus to students enrolled in the evening program. These include the college library, counseling services, tutoring services, the science, arts, business and occupational laboratories, the student bookstore, cafeteria and the Student Center. The satellite sites in Hollister and Morgan Hill are also open in the evening.



Study Abroad Programs

Gavilan College will be offering students the opportunity for world-wide learning experiences through various travel and study programs. These programs may be offered during summer sessions or the regular fall or spring semesters.

Gavilan has previously offered programs that have included travel and study in Mexico, England, Spain and other countries.

For a current list of course opportunities, see the Class Schedule or the College Website or contact the Office of the Vice President of Instruction at (408) 848-4761.

South Bay Regional Public Safety Training Consortium

As a member of the South Bay Regional Public Safety Training Consortium, Gavilan College offers courses for students who are interested in Correctional Officer, Law Enforcement, Reserve Police Officer, Dispatcher, Fire Technology, Probation Officer, or Juvenile Hall Counselor careers. The Consortium is funded by all colleges regionally to provide vocational specific training which may require special facilities, special training conditions or is presented outside of the regular schedule of college classes.

The application and registration process is completed at the South Bay Regional Public Safety Training Consortium Center located in south San Jose. Although open to the public, the majority of these courses are intended to serve the "already employed". If you have questions about these courses, or if you would like information about a career in any of these programs, please call (408) 270-6458 or visit the webpage at www.theacademy.ca.gov.