

Institutional Expectations for Learning Communities

Learning communities intentionally link together courses and coursework to provide greater curricular coherence, more opportunities for active learning, and increased interaction between students and faculty. There are several different learning communities at Las Positas College, including the College Foundation Semester, English/Health, English/Psychology, English as a Second Language/Early Childhood Development). All of these learning communities involve a group of students taking several connected courses together as a cohort, so that a sense of community is established to support student success.

Student Enrollment in Learning Communities

All the classes in a learning community are intentionally link together to provide greater curricular coherence, more opportunities for active learning, and increased interaction between students and faculty. The central goal is to develop a sense of community. As such the following registration/add/drop policies apply:

- All the classes are linked together.
- Students are required to register for all the classes in the learning community. Students are expected to remain enrolled in all classes in the learning community for the duration of the semester.
- If a student feels the need to drop a class within a learning community the student has two options: 1) drop all class in the learning community or 2) speak with one of the learning community teachers about our situation and request instructor permission to drop a portion of the learning community classes.
- Dropping a portion of the LC classes will be allowed only with instructor permission. It is important to Las Positas that students have every opportunity to succeed in their academic coursework. While the intention is that students successfully complete all the LC courses, we understand that there are circumstances in which student success in a portion of learning community courses is better than no success in any of the courses.

The *Institutional Expectations for Learning Communities* were co-developed by Las Positas College Faculty, Staff and Administrators during the October 13, 2010 Basic Skills Committee meeting. Faculty from all learning communities participated in the development of the expectations.