Pre-Orientation Assignment: Learn College Terminology

The more you know about the language listed below, the better you’ll learn to navigate the path to your educational goals. Review and learn the terminology listed below and then answer all of the questions on the next page.

Print a copy of your completed worksheet and bring it with you to your Orientation session.

Learn the Terms

**Prerequisite:** A specific requirement that must be successfully completed before enrolling in a course. This could be a course needed to prepare for the next course, a specific test score, a completed form with signature, official documents turned into the college, etc. The computerized registration system will not allow a student to enroll in a course until all prerequisites have been met. Note that an Advisor or a Counselor cannot override prerequisites for any student.

**College Reading and Writing Readiness (CRWR):** This prerequisite means that a student is prepared at the level of college English. Almost all of the college level courses at CLC require CRWR prior to enrollment. CLC requires a student to earn CRWR prior to completing any degree program. CRWR can be demonstrated with a score of 17 or higher on the ENG and RDG sections of the ACT, the appropriate score on the CLC Placement Test, or by ranking in the top third of your high school class.

**Basic Algebra Readiness (BAR):** This prerequisite means that a student is prepared at the level of Basic Algebra, CLC’s MTH 102, which is a pre-college Math course. Basic Algebra Readiness is not only a prerequisite for Math courses, but also for Science and Technology-based courses. CLC requires a student to earn BAR prior to completing any degree program. BAR can be demonstrated by with score of 17 or higher on the MTH section of the ACT, the appropriate score on the CLC Placement Test, or by ranking in the top third of your high school class.

**Pre-College/Developmental Courses:** Foundation courses that prepare a student for college-level courses. These courses are not calculated into a student’s GPA, they do not count for credit, and they do not transfer for credit to another college. It is important to complete these courses early in a student’s academic career (1st semester), as they are essential to success in college level coursework.

**Credit hours:** These units represent the amount of time a student will spend in a class per week and how many credits a student will earn towards his/her degree upon successful completion. Also, the number of credit hours a student takes each semester will determine whether the student is considered Full-Time or Part-Time. Tuition is charged per credit hour at CLC. Classes typically range from 1-5 credit hours. All CLC degrees are a minimum of 60 credit hours. For every credit hour a student is enrolled into, he/she should study at least two hours outside of class, which includes reading, writing papers, preparing for tests and quizzes, etc.

**Full-Time:** A student who is enrolled in 12 or more credit hours (generally 4-5 classes) for the Fall and Spring semesters (6 or more credit hours during the Summer) is considered full-time. Students intending to complete an associate’s degree in two years must attend full-time. Most students who attend full-time do not work or only work Part time (less than 25 hours per week). Full-time students should put in at least 24 hours of study time every week in order to be successful.

**Part-Time:** A student who is enrolled in 1-11 credit hours (generally 1-3 classes) for the Fall and Spring semesters (5 or less credit hours during the Summer) is considered part-time. This is an ideal option for students who are working Full-Time (40+ hours per week), have children, have familial responsibilities, or other obligations that limit their ability to attend college. A student can change between Part-Time and Full-time at his/her discretion. Part-time students should put 2-22 hours of study time every week in order to be successful.
**Associate in Applied Science Degree:** Also known as a Career Degree, this is an academic program of approximately 60 credit hours in a career field meant to lead directly to the workforce. Typically, these degrees will not transfer to a four-year college or university unless a special agreement is in place.

**Associate in Arts Degree:** Also known as a Transfer Degree, this is an academic program of approximately 60 credit hours, mostly consisting of liberal arts and science courses, designed to satisfy the first two years of a Bachelor’s degree. Students should always check with their intended transfer school to determine specific major or program requirements that can be taken at CLC.

**Bachelor’s Degree:** Also known as a Four Year Degree, this is an academic program of approximately 120 credit hours, offered by a four year college or university that includes courses for general education, electives, and specific majors.

---

**Answer the Review Questions**

**Course Load**

*Check one and fill in the blank--*

During the upcoming semester, I would like to attend:

- ☐ Full-time
  - This means I will take at least ____ credit hours and study at least ____ hours every week.
- ☐ Part-time
  - This means I will take ____ credit hours and study at least ____ hours every week.

**Program of Study**

My intended major is: ________________________________

*Check one and fill in the blank--*

I would like to:

- ☐ Transfer to a four-year college/university to earn a Bachelor’s degree.
  - At CLC, the primary **transfer degree** is called the: ________________________________
- ☐ Enter the workforce after completing my CLC program of study.
  - At CLC, the **career degree** is called the: ________________________________

**Remember to print a copy of your completed worksheet and bring it with you to your Orientation session.**