

Glossary of Terms

Admission

Acceptance to enroll in courses at the College. In addition to the general admission requirements to the College, programs of study may have additional requirements for admission. Admission to the College does not guarantee admission to a specific program.

Assessment

Activities such as testing used to determine students' readiness for college-level work. DCCC uses placement tests such as ASSET, Accuplacer, and Compass.

Commencement

The graduation ceremony.

Contact Hours

The number of hours that a student spends in classrooms or labs "in contact" with the faculty member.

Continuing Education Courses

Courses that can improve job skills or further personal interests. These courses do not earn credit toward graduation.

Corequisite

A course that must be taken at the same time as another course.

Credit Hours

The value of a course, normally expressed in numbers of class meeting hours per week. A biology course might be valued at four credit hours because of the lab that goes with it, whereas an English course might be valued at three credit hours.

Curriculum Courses

Classes that award a grade of A-F and credit toward graduation.

Dropping a Course

Completing a form, signed by you and your academic advisor, that indicates that you plan to stop attending a particular course and not receive a grade. Courses can no longer be dropped after 60% of the course has been completed.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Calculated by dividing the number of quality points given for a grade by the number of hours required for the course. A student's GPA is between 0.0 and 4.0.

Prerequisite

A course that must be successfully completed before beginning the next course in the sequence.

Program Admission

Program admission requires that a student meet all criteria set forth by the academic department that provides instruction in that program. Please note that some programs have limited space available and all students may not be accepted.

Quality Points

Calculated by multiplying the number assigned to a grade A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0 by the credit hours earned.

Syllabus

The agreement between the instructor and the student that defines what will be taught, what the student is responsible for, and how learning will be measured for each course.

Withdrawal

Never attending or discontinuing attendance in all classes. The student must submit a form to the Records and Registration Office.