

The general education curriculum offers a prescribed core of general education courses that provide opportunities for life-long learning in various fields, including fine and applied arts, literature, foreign languages, science, and many other instructional areas.

Students desiring to transfer to a four-year college or university may take a transfer curriculum consisting of academic courses that meet college and university lower division major requirements in liberal arts, the sciences, and a variety of pre-professional fields. After completing the transfer curriculum at Santa Monica College, students may apply to transfer to a four-year educational institution to complete their upper division course work.

The career preparation curriculum prepares students for immediate employment or occupational upgrading. This can be done in two years or less of full-time training at Santa Monica College. Persons who are already employed may take courses that lead to promotion or salary enhancement.

Santa Monica College provides the community with many educational, cultural, social, and recreational programs to meet individual needs and personal interests. The programs include seminars, lectures, not-for-credit classes, art and photo gallery exhibits, concerts, theatrical productions, and planetarium shows.

## Evening Classes

Santa Monica College offers a comprehensive selection of classes scheduled during evening hours to provide educational opportunities to students who are unable or do not wish to attend day classes. Evening classes are considered an integral part of SMC's educational program, and admission and enrollment procedures are the same for day or evening classes. All College policies—including those on admission, probation, and disqualification—apply equally to day or evening students.

## Online Classes

Through its Office of Distance Education, Santa Monica College offers a selection of classes online over the Internet, which may be accessed from home, office, or other locations by using a computer with a browser and Internet access. Classes offered online are especially convenient for students who, for a variety of reasons, are unable or prefer not to travel to the SMC campus to attend classes. Online classes, like evening classes, are considered an integral part of SMC's educational program. All SMC policies—including those on admission, probation, and disqualification—apply equally to online students as they do to day or evening students. Online classes cover the same content, award the same credit, and are listed on student transcripts in the same way that on-campus classes are; they differ from on-campus classes only in their delivery method. For details on SMC's online classes, enrollment procedures, and technical requirements, point your browser to [www.smconline.org](http://www.smconline.org) or see the Schedule of Classes.

Hybrid classes are a combination of online-delivered coursework and mandatory meetings on the SMC campus. Please see the Schedule of Classes for details about specific on-campus meeting dates, times, and locations for hybrid classes.

## COLLEGE HISTORY

Four-year colleges and universities have their roots in medieval Europe, but community colleges are a uniquely American contribution to higher education.

Santa Monica College—located in the Santa Monica Community College District and operated under the principles first defined in School Law of California, 1917—is proud to be a part of that rich tradition of community service and public education.

A seven-member Board of Trustees, elected to a four-year term by the residents of Santa Monica and Malibu, governs the Santa Monica Community College District. A student-elected representative with an advisory vote serves on the Board as Student Trustee.

The College opened its doors as “Santa Monica Junior College” in 1929 to 153 students.

Although born on the eve of the Depression and familiar with financial constraints, SMC has thrived. Today, enrollment is about 33,000 students. The College, which began by holding classes in Santa Monica High School, is now located on a 40-acre campus at 1900 Pico Boulevard, and has five satellite campuses.

Santa Monica College has been headquartered at three locations since it opened. Classes were moved from the high school to an old elementary school building across the street. When a 1933 earthquake rendered that building unsafe, classes were held in a village of wood-framed tents affectionately nicknamed “Splinterville.” The Technical School was founded in 1937 at 2200 Virginia Avenue, which is now the site of Virginia Park.

Corsair Stadium, the first permanent structure built on the present campus, was erected in 1948. Groundbreaking ceremonies for the first classroom building were held September 11, 1950. With the completion of the Administration, Art, Music, Library, Little Theatre, and Student Activities buildings in January 1952, all classes except the vocational ones and the science labs were located on the new campus.

SMC's original Science Building was completed in February 1953. Three vocational buildings were added in 1957 for the cosmetology, sewing, and home economics programs, which were moved from the Technical School. The remaining classes at the Technical School were moved to the main campus in 1969.

By 1960, several new projects were built on campus: a spacious gymnasium with men's and women's locker rooms, a cafeteria building with classrooms, an enlarged student bookstore, and an addition to the library. Santa Monica College continued to change through the years, with new construction and the relocation of many classes to satellite campuses. Major construction projects included the Concert Hall in 1979; the Library, Learning Resources Center, and Instructional Materials Center in 1980; and the Business and Vocational Education Building in 1981. In 1983, the former library was renovated and renamed the Letters and Science Building. A four-story parking structure was completed in 1981, followed by two more parking structures in 1991, and another in April 2002.

In 1988, SMC opened its first satellite campus in the former Douglas Museum and Library complex at the Santa Monica Airport. Two years later, the second satellite campus opened at