



Information Competency Graduation Requirements For the Associate Degree

Students entering between Fall 2005 and Summer 2007 must take:

- Library 4 – Information Competency (1 unit)

Students entering in Fall 2007 or later must take:

- Part 1: Library 4 – Information Competency (1 unit)

AND

- Part 2: One subject course certified for Information Competency from the following list:
 - Art 001A, Survey of Western Art 1
 - Art 001B, Survey of Western Art II
 - Art 1D, Art of the 20th Century
 - Art 001E, Design in Society
 - Art 55, Intro. To Computer Arts
 - Bio 010, Intro. To Biology
 - Bio 045, Microbiology
 - Bio 055, Biology of Sex
 - Bus 51, Intro. To Business
 - CHS 002, Child Growth and Development
 - CA 017, Technology Competency
 - CA 074, Stop Surfing – Start Researching
 - CIS 002, Intro to Computing
 - COUNS 005, College Success
 - ENGL 001B, English Composition
 - FD 032, History of Fashion
 - H-ED 008, Understanding Health
 - Libr 06, Stop Surfing – Start Researching
 - PE Th 038A, Intro. To Sports Medicine
 - PE Th 051 Dance in America
 - Theatre 010, Theatre Appreciation
 - WS 002, Women in the Arts

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. When should I take Library 4?

It is highly recommended that you take Library 4 in the same semester you take English 1A.

2. I'm a returning student who initially entered West Valley in 2002 and took a few years off. Now I'm back to finish my degree. Do I have to follow these graduation requirements?

Yes. According to the West Valley College Catalog, students who took a year or more off before returning to college must follow the catalog requirements in effect at the time of re-enrollment.

3. I'm a returning student who initially entered West Valley in Fall 2006 and did not attend in Spring 2007. Do I need to fulfill the second part of the requirement by taking one of the courses certified for information competency?

No. Students who maintain continuous enrollment, meaning they attended at least one semester or summer session during the academic year, may choose to graduate under the catalog in effect at the time they first enrolled at West Valley. You will still need to take Library 4.

4. What if I took a similar course to Library 4 at another college? Can I substitute that coursework?

If the course outline and syllabus are similar to what is taught in Library 4, then this part of the requirement may be waived. Contact the Admissions and Records office. They have a partial list of transferable classes from local colleges.

5. Is Library 4 transferable?

Yes. The credit from Library 4 is transferable to the California State University system (CSU) and the University of California System (UC).

6. Can I test-out of Library 4?

It is up to the department chair. Come to the Library and speak to the Information Competency Librarian. If you are permitted, you can take the Credit By Examination option and may take it only once. The grade received will be recorded on your permanent record. If you fail the examination, you must take the class. For more information go to http://www.westvalley.edu/library/ic/cred_by_exam.html.

