GET ON THE FAST TRACK TO LEARNING!

FASTER COURSE SEQUENCE COMPLETION
REACH YOUR GOALS
FOCUS ON FEWER SUBJECTS AT ONE TIME

Due to the current budget situation, students are finding it takes longer to graduate or transfer. Reach your educational and career goals quicker by getting on the Fast Track. With over 70 courses to choose from, you can select the classes that meet your academic goals and complete in less time.

For more information or to find out if Fast Track courses are right for you visit www.chaffey.edu/fasttrack.
Fast-Track Class Planning Information and Guides

Students taking all of their courses in a Fast-Track format have the highest rate of success, so this is a great option for students able to attend class more hours a week and focus diligently on studies throughout the term. The following guides are designed to help plan a term’s schedule effectively using Fast-Track classes alone and with full-term classes. Course showing in the worksheet are examples only and don’t reflect all possible options, as there are many combinations available. Meeting with a counselor is always recommended when including Fast Track in a planned schedule. Counseling appointments can be made by calling (805)652-6200.

**Math and English First** – Students should take needed Math and English classes as soon as possible in their college experience. Refer to assessment scores to determine eligibility for course enrollment, as pre-requisites may apply.

**Transferring to CSU (California State University)** – Take Math and English in the first semesters of college if possible. Refer to the CSU General Education pattern when considering selection of Fast-Track courses, and to assessment scores to determine eligibility for course enrollment, since pre-requisites may apply.

**Transferring to UC (University of California)** – Take Math and English in the first semesters of college if possible. Refer to the IGETC General Education pattern when considering selection of Fast-Track courses, and to assessment scores to determine eligibility for course enrollment, since pre-requisites may apply.
Time Management: Essential to Fast Track Success

For every class, college students should plan to spend double the amount of class time on studying and homework requirements. Thus, students taking 12 lecture units per term should plan to spend 36 hours per week on college level work, which is almost the same as is spent on a full-time job!

Students taking one or more of their classes as Fast-Track must also realize that — because these classes are taught in a half-term rather than a full-term — the compressed timeframe means a more intense pace.

Example:

- A full-term 3-unit lecture class meets 3 hours/week in class. Adding in 6 hours/week in studying/homework = 9 hours/week for 16 weeks.
- A Fast-Track 3-unit lecture class meets 6 hours/week in class. Adding in 12 hours/week studying/homework = 18 hours/week for 8 weeks.

In both examples, a student puts in 144 hours of class time and out-of-class work, but in the Fast-Track class that time is compressed into half the number of weeks.

Sample Planning for a full load, combining Fast Track and full-term courses

For the most accurate assistance with planning, students should meet with a counselor. Students taking a mixture of Fast-Track and full-term classes are more successful than those taking only full-term classes, but must keep in mind that Fast-Track classes will have a more intense pace than full-term classes.

Students should also remember that Session 2 stand-alone Fast-Track classes are not figured into financial aid distribution until they are registered for.
Chaffey’s multi-pronged Fast-Track initiative is designed to shorten the time needed by students to complete requirements for graduation and/or transfer. Analysis of student success predictors reveals that students who take advantage of accelerated instruction achieve higher levels of academic success.

Linked Fast Track Classes
Some Math and English Fast-Track offerings are linked. These linked Fast-Track classes consist of two sequential courses packaged together in a single semester, with both the first and second class taught in the same time/day slot and (usually) by the same instructor. Students are given the opportunity to enroll in both classes at the same time. Students who choose not to exercise that option may be able to register into the session 2 class during the second session registration period, if seats are still available. The linked session 2 courses will be open to all students for registration until filled. Since spaces may become available for the session 2 classes throughout the registration period, students are encouraged to check the open class list frequently for new openings.

Stand-Alone Fast Track Classes
Stand-Alone Fast-Track classes provide students the ability to complete courses in a half-term. Classes in multiple disciplines are offered in both session 1 and 2, allowing students to take different subject area courses each session. This is an excellent way for students to get general education classes done quickly.

Important implications of Fast Track Classes for students receiving financial aid, international students, veterans, athletes, EOPS students, and Cal Works students.

Students who register for linked session 2 classes during the session 1 registration period, will have those session 2 class units calculated into their initial financial aid distribution.

Students registering in stand-alone session 2 classes or in the session 2 class of a linked pair after the session 1 registration period will not have those units count toward their financial aid until they register for them. In these cases, Financial Aid will be recalculated after registration for the Session 2 classes, and distributions will be made after the third day of Session 2 classes.

TIPS FOR STUDENTS TAKING FAST TRACK
Congratulations! You are taking a Fast Track class!

Know what taking a Fast Track class requires.
• Taking a Fast Track class means that you will be covering the same amount of material as a full-term semester in only 8 weeks.
• To reach your highest level of success, expect to spend at least two hours outside of class for every hour of class time. For example, in a 3-unit lecture class, expect to spend about 12 - 15 hours outside of class each week. In a 4-unit class, expect to spend about 16 - 20 hours a week outside of class completing course work.

Plan your schedule for the whole semester.
• Be aware of all important dates (last day to drop, test and quiz dates, deadlines for projects/essays, etc.).

Get organized! Start the first day of class.
• Get to know some of your classmates and trade contact information in case you miss class or have questions.
• Assignments begin the first day of class! Purchase your book the first day of the first class meeting.
• Find out if your instructor has any tools or strategies to succeed in the class as early as possible.
• Create a calendar or schedule based on your class syllabus. Figure out how many hours a day you need to study for your classes. Plan where and when you will complete coursework. Remember to plan for any Success Center requirements as well.

Attendance is critical.
• In order to succeed at your highest level, make your class(es) a priority. Plan all personal appointments and commitments around your class schedule.
• Each class meeting is almost a week’s worth of instruction. Missing even one class can cause you to fall behind. Plan on attending every class for the entire class period. Contact classmates and/or your instructor if you do have to miss a class to find out what you missed.

Seek out support.
• Find out about the Success Center resources, workshops, groups, and tutoring and utilize them as often as possible.
• Talk to a Counselor or a Success Guide early in the semester.
• Talk to your instructor as soon as you have any questions or difficulties with the class material.
• Work with classmates in study groups or find a study partner.

Expect to succeed!