

IV. Philosophy, Vision, Mission, Values, Core Offerings, and Practices

The College web pages announce the philosophy, vision, mission and values that the institution uses to guide its activities and decisions.¹ The mission statement was revised in fall 2014, the vision statement was reviewed in spring 2015, and values statements were reviewed and revised in 2015-16. The vision and values statements are pending Board approval in March 2016.

Philosophy

Antelope Valley College is a comprehensive community college in the California Community College System dedicated to providing services to a broad range of students with a variety of educational goals. Antelope Valley College is dedicated to providing educational programs and services as expressed in the California Master Plan for Higher Education. The College is committed to equal educational opportunity and reinforces that commitment through a program of active affirmation of diversity.

Antelope Valley College is dedicated to meeting the dynamic needs of a changing community. The College addresses the educational needs of a diverse and evolving population. The College recognizes that it is uniquely capable of responding to the requirements of regional business, industry, and public service, as well as the social and cultural needs of the Antelope Valley.

Antelope Valley College affirms the rights of the individual and respects human dignity. The programs and activities of the College foster the individual's ability to think clearly, critically, and independently to meet the demands of an increasingly complex society. The student is the primary concern of the College. The curriculum, activities, and services of the College help students understand their physical, cultural, ethnic, and social environment. The preservation of academic freedom provides a college environment in which students and faculty can examine ideas freely.

This philosophy is reflected in the curriculum, the student-faculty relationships, the services and resources, and the policies of the College.

Vision²

To provide quality education that enriches lives.

Mission

¹ Antelope Valley College web pages. Retrieved November 23, 2015 from <https://www.avc.edu/aboutavc/principles>

² Antelope Valley College, Strategic Planning Committee. March 18, 2015

Antelope Valley College, a public institution of higher education, provides a quality, comprehensive education to a diverse population of learners. We are committed to student success offering value and opportunity, in service to our community.

Values³

- Education - We are dedicated to students, faculty, staff and alumni in their endeavor for lifelong learning.
- Integrity - We expect honesty, trust, candor and professionalism from one another.
- Excellence - We commit to the highest quality in all our endeavors, being responsive to our community in innovative ways.
- Community - We create and foster relationships between AVC and its diverse constituents: students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community at large.

We offer:

Associate Degree Programs

Associate degree programs comprised of general education courses and proficiency requirements that are designated courses in a specific major or area of emphasis.

Associate degrees provide students with “the ability to think and to communicate clearly and effectively both orally and in writing; to use mathematics; to understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines; to be aware of other cultures and times; to achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems; and to develop the capacity for self-understanding.”

Career Technical Programs

Certificate and degree programs comprised of “essential career technical instruction” in a variety of business, technical, and occupational courses designed to enhance students’ knowledge and skills leading to employment, career advancement, certification, and state or federal licensure. We award both Chancellor’s Office approved Certificates of Achievement and locally approved Certificates of Proficiency.

Transfer/General Education Courses

Transfer/general education courses in communication and critical thinking, the physical and biological sciences, arts and humanities, social and behavioral sciences, and technical education are offered. Completion of these courses allows students to fulfill degree requirements or enroll in upper division courses and programs at accredited four-year institutions through our articulation agreements.

Basic Skills Courses

³ Antelope Valley College, Strategic Planning Committee. January 20, 2016

Basic skills courses in reading, writing, mathematics, English as a Second Language, and learning and study skills. These courses offer students essential foundation skills that are necessary for success in college-level degree applicable courses.

Student Support and Instructional Support

A variety of services are provided in academic, career, personal counseling, library instruction, course support, and learning assistance. These services support the needs of students in pursuing and achieving their educational goals.

Workforce Preparation and Economic Development

Workforce programs, job preparation courses (non-degree applicable) and a variety of services that contribute to the educational and economic well being of the community are provided.

Personal Enrichment and Professional Development

Community service offerings, non-credit, not-for-credit classes and services that develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for students to be effective members of the community are provided. These classes enhance the community's social, cultural, and economic wellbeing. Non-credit course offerings may lead to a Certificate of Completion and/or Certificate of Competency.

Practices

- Students and learning are primary in decision-making.
- Mutual respect and courtesy is the basis of our relationships.
- Professional standards, collaboration and teamwork are demonstrated.
- Innovation, accomplishments and creativity are recognized and rewarded.
- Open access to educational programs is provided to meet student needs.
- Safe physical environment and a secure infrastructure improve and supports student success and learning.
- Stewards of the college place service to the institution and community above self-interest.
- We strive to enhance the visibility of the Antelope Valley Community College District.
- We recognize that people make up the college and value them as individuals.