

WELCOME TO THE SELF-PACED, OPEN-ENTRY/OPEN-EXIT LAB CONCEPT

MD-335 / SAN MARCOS CAMPUS / PALOMAR COLLEGE

WHAT DOES SELF-PACED MEAN?

Once you check-in to the lab, attend the *Orientation* seminar, and attend your course seminar, you begin working in your course. You will have a complete course syllabus (outline) to follow as you work through your textbook instructions; the syllabus is key to your success in your coursework as it details everything to study and practice within your textbook, what assignments to complete and upload to your Blackboard course site, and when to take Quizzes and the final exam.

There is no structured time for you to come into the lab and work; whatever time fits into your schedule is when you should come into the lab during open lab hours. There is an instructor and lab assistant available in the lab during open lab hours to help you with your coursework. When you attend your course seminar, you will learn more details about your course, including the option to be able to work outside of the lab on your coursework. Thus, you can work as quickly or as slowly as you wish through the course—as long as you finish by the end of the semester!

Lectures for most courses are offered in the lab at varying days and times; these posted lectures give students an opportunity to spend time with an instructor reviewing specific chapter concepts.

WHAT DOES OPEN-ENTRY/OPEN-EXIT MEAN?

Open-entry means that you may add a lab class later than you add other structured classes on campus; the lab *Add* deadline is up to the last few weeks of the semester. This gives students the opportunity to complete as many lab classes as possible within the semester.

Open-exit means that you may complete course requirements as quickly as your schedule permits; in fact, many students complete one-unit classes within a few weeks from the time they are registered. Students do not have to wait until the end of the semester to take the final exam; you take the final exam when you finish the required coursework. Then, you can add additional lab classes if you wish.

What is **important** for you as students, though, is that once you begin your coursework, you finish it! Self-discipline, time management, the ability to follow the detailed course syllabus and textbook instructions, and regular submittal of assignments will ensure your success in your course(s)! So, for lab instruction to be meaningful to students, it is important that students receive continual feedback from their grading instructor. Therefore, from the date of check-in with lab personnel, students will submit their graded assignments regularly throughout the semester.

We hope you will enjoy your self-paced learning experience with us; please be sure to talk with lab staff anytime you may need clarification on procedures.
