



CISCO CERTIFICATION FAQ'S

What Cisco Certification training is offered at El Centro College?

El Centro is an authorized **CISCO NETWORKING ACADEMY** offering courses to help prepare students to take the appropriate Cisco Certified professional exams for CCNA and CCNP, Network Security and Voice over IP (VoIP).

What do these initials stand for?

CCNA = Cisco Certified Network Associate

CCNP = Cisco Certified Network Professional

Does El Centro College also offer a certificate and/or an Associate Degree, which includes the Cisco courses?

Yes, we offer a CCNA certificate program called Networking Associate and a CCNP certificate program called Networking Professional.

We also offer an associate degree program called Network Administrator and Support with CCNA and CCNP specializations.

What Cisco Certification will Cisco's CCNA Security course map against?

The CCNA Security curriculum prepares students for the Implementing Cisco IOS Network Security (IINS) certification exam (640-553) leading to the CCNA Security certification. This course can also be applied to the Information Technology certificate.



Cisco Voice Classes

El Centro also offers Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) courses. Cvoice, Cisco Unified Communications Part 1 and 2. Quality of Service and Troubleshooting are covered.

How long does each Cisco course last and when do they meet?

Each CCNA evening, hybrid and weekend course lasts for 7 1/2 weeks.

CCNP courses are offered in a 10 week format.

CCNA Security is offered as a semester length course. (usually 16 weeks)

Intro to VoIP, Adv. VoIP and a Capstone Case Study are offered as semester length courses. (usually 16 weeks)

Classes are offered during our Fall, Spring, and Summer sessions.

All classes are offered for credit and concurrent continuing education.

How can I get more information about these courses?

Pick up our Credit Class Schedule for actual times and locations. This information is also available at our website

www.elcentrocollege.edu/program/IT

How many courses are required by Cisco to prepare for various certifications?

CCNA requires you to complete 4 courses

CCNP requires you to complete 4 courses

Network Security and Voice require different courses depending on the certification(s) pursued



How many courses are required to complete the certification tracks required in the Networking Associate Certificate, the Networking Professional Certificate and the Network Administrator and Support Associate degree offered at El Centro?

The **Networking Associate Certificate** requires:

ITCC 1401 Cisco Exploration 1– Network Fundamentals
ITCC 1404 Cisco Exploration 2 – Routing Protocols and Concepts
ITCC 2408 Cisco Exploration 3 – LAN Switching and Wireless
ITCC 2410 Cisco Exploration 4 – Accessing the WAN

The **Networking Professional Certificate** requires:

ITCC 2450 Building Scalable Internetworks
ITCC 2451 Implementing Secure Converged Wide-area Networks
ITCC 2452 Building Multilayer Switched Networks
ITCC 2453 Optimizing Converged Networks

The **Network Administrator and Support AAS** requires:

A Primary Specialization Track selected from CCNA, CCNP, Convergence Technology, UNIX/LINUX or Microsoft courses and a Secondary Specialization Track selected from CCNA, CCNP, Convergence, UNIX/LINUX, security or Microsoft courses.

In addition, PC Hardware and PC Operating Systems courses are required, plus five general education courses.

Can I take more than one course per 8-week session?

For the CCNA program, you may only take one class every 7 ½ weeks. It is recommended that you take the CCNA courses in sequence. (ITCC 1401, ITCC 1404, ITCC 2408, ITCC 2410).

For the CCNP program, it is suggested that CCNP 1 be taken first, however, all CCNP courses may be taken in any order. (ITCC 2450, ITCC 2451, ITCC 2452, ITCC 2453).

CCNP V6 courses will be offered soon. CCNP-Route, CCNP-Switch, CCNP-TShoot.



Are there any prerequisites for these programs?

For the **CCNA track**, you should have an advanced understanding of computers and operating systems. If you lack this knowledge, you could take ITSC 1401, Introduction to Computers, BCIS 1405 Business Computer Applications or COSC 1300 Computer Literacy.

Before attempting the **CCNP track**, completion of CCNA 4 or CCNA certification is required.

For the **CCNA Security** course (CPMT 2334/2434), students are expected to have CCNA-level networking concepts knowledge and skills, along with basic PC skills and Internet navigation skills. Students are not required to have completed other Networking Academy courses prior to enrollment.

For the **Introduction to Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP)** course (ITCC 1308/1408), students should have completed CISCO 4 (ITCC 2410) as a minimum or have industry experience with PSTN telephony before taking the course.

The **Advanced VoIP** course (ITCC 2359/2459) covers Cisco Unified Communications Manager Parts 1 and 2 and Quality of Service and requires a VoIP course or industry experience with VoIP prior to taking the course. A capstone Case Study for VoIP is also available.

Before attempting the **AAS degree**, problem solving and logic structures used with computers are important. These skills can be obtained in ITSE 1429 Programming and Logic Design.

What are the classes like?

Classes are a combination of lecture and lab and you will have weekly lab assignments. The lab is open seven days a week during the fall and spring semesters. During the summer, the lab is open Sunday through Friday. Netlab allows remote access to routers and switches. Hybrid classes are available for selected courses which require less time on campus to earn credit.



Who teaches these classes?

All instructors have completed Cisco Academy train the trainer courses. Many work full-time in the networking industry.

How do I sign up?

Obtain a Credit Class Schedule from our campus or look online at www.elcentrocollege.edu for a class schedule, fill out an application form online or complete it and take it to the Admissions office. Admissions is open 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until 4:00 p.m. Fridays. The telephone number is 214-860-2311.

Online registration is available for students who (1) have a TSI status of exempt, waived, or complete, (2) are in good Academic standing, (3) have no active blocks on their student record and (4) have a valid email address. To register online, go to www.dcccd.edu and choose e-Connect from the "Current Student" menu.

What do I need to bring with me when I register?

Bring your application and proof of residency. This can be a driver's license. If you have renewed your license this year, bring a utility bill sent to you at least one year ago. Also, bring transcripts for coursework completed outside the DCCCD.

Will I be required to take assessment tests before registering for Cisco classes?

As long as you are taking classes that apply to the **Networking Associate or Networking Professional Certificate**, a TSI waiver will be provided and you will not have to take assessment tests. You will be required to take the assessment test before registering for any general education courses required in the AAS degree.

How much do the courses cost?

Effective Spring 2009, if you have been a Dallas County resident for the past 12 months, each 4 credit hour course will cost \$164.00. Out-of-district tuition is \$304.00 per course. Out-of-



State or Out-of-Country tuition is \$484.00 per course. The Board of Trustees may change these costs at any time.

Does El Centro College give me the certification after I complete classes?

No, El Centro will give you a grade for completing each course. Your designated Cisco certification (e.g. CCNA, CCNP) will come from Cisco after you pass the appropriate test at an official testing site. You will receive a list of official testing sites at the end of each course.

How much does the certification test cost?

At the present time, expect to pay in the range of \$125.00 – \$150.00 per test without a voucher, but prices are subject to change.

For more information visit our website

www.elcentrocollege.edu/program/IT

