



## 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, Wireless LANs and 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 Introduction to Wireless LANs course map against?**

The Introduction to Wireless LANs will map to the Cisco Wireless LAN Support Specialist certification (642-582 EXAM). A valid CCNA is required before you can take the exam.



## **What Cisco Certification will Cisco's Fundamentals of Network Security course map against?**

The Fundamentals of Network Security will map to the Cisco Qualified Specialist Security – Firewall certification that is composed of two exams: 642-502 (SNRS), or 642-551 (SND) and 642-522 (SNPA). A valid CCNA is required before you can take the two exams.

## **Will the Cisco Fundamentals of Network Security course map to a vendor neutral certification?**

Yes, Cisco's Fundamentals of Network Security will map to the CompTIA Security+ certification.

## **Cisco Voice Classes**

El Centro also offers Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) courses. Cvoice, Unity and CallManager Express, CallManager and Unity are covered.

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

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

Introduction to Wireless LANS is usually offered over eight weeks.

CCNP courses are offered in a 10 week format.

Fundamentals of Network Security is offered as a semester length course. (usually 16 weeks)

VoIP, CallManager and Unity 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/cis](http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/cis)

## 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, Wireless, 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 Exploration – 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 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 1406, 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.

## 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 **Introduction to Wireless LANS** course (ITNW 1351/1451), it is recommended that students have basic networking skills and knowledge and completion of CCNA 1 and CCNA 2 is recommended before taking the course.

For the **Fundamentals of Network Security** course (CPMT 2334/2434), students should have completed CCNA 4 through the Cisco Networking Academy program or hold a current CCNA certification or have instructor consent before taking the course.

For the **Introduction to Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP)** course (EECT 2337/2437), students should have completed CISCO 2 (ITCC 1404) as a minimum or have industry experience with PSTN telephony before taking the course

The **Advanced VOIP** course (ITCC 2359) covers **Unity** and **CallManager** and requires a VoIP course or industry experience with VoIP prior to taking the course.

Before attempting the **AAS degree**, problem solving and logic structures used with computers are important. These skills can be obtained in ITSC 2435 Application Problem Solving.



## **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](http://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](http://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/cis](http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/cis)

