



SOUTHWESTERN

AN OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SPRING TERM
STARTS MAR. 30, 2026

COLLEGE NEWS AND COMMUNITY CLASSES

Finding their paths

*SWOCC alums make their way –
and a difference – in the world*



Community Classes

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Where are we now? *SWOCC alums are that contribute to*

Rushal Sedlemyer's journey to self-sufficiency and a career she loves

"I grew up thinking, and telling myself, that there were a lot of things in life I would never be able to do or have," says Rushal Sedlemyer.

College, a career, and homeownership. They were not part of what she could imagine for herself.

Like many first-generation college students, Rushal grew up without clear examples of people who followed college or career pathways. Raised in rural Oregon, she had limited financial resources. Yet she made her way to SWOCC knowing she wanted more.

A new story

A graduate of Southwestern, Rushal is now the South Coast Natural Resource Specialist for Oregon State Parks and Recreation – a role that once sounded like a dream job. She owns her own home, holds a college degree, and has built a career she's passionate about. And it all began with one brave step toward education.

When Rushal enrolled at SWOCC, she didn't have a clear sense of where she was headed. She was interested in biology, but didn't realize the wide range of possible careers, from ecology and geomorphology to stewardship coordination and habitat restoration.

What she did know was that she wanted something better for herself, and she believed college was the key.

The path wasn't easy. Rushal faced major financial challenges and leaned on every resource available to her. She found TRIO, a federally funded program designed to support first-generation students. With TRIO, she found mentorship, encouragement, and a sense of belonging.

"It helped me be more engaged and less scared about going to college." She also found that SWOCC's smaller campus and class sizes were the right fit. "It felt manageable and welcoming compared to a big university."



Photo courtesy of Rob Brazie, Bullards Beach Management Unit

While at SWOCC, Rushal enrolled in an ecology class that made a lasting impression. She began volunteering with the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve and sought out hands-on projects wherever she could find them.

Rushal graduated from SWOCC in 2013 with her Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer degree. At the time, SWOCC did not yet offer a Natural Resources degree path, and Rushal was still unsure what her future held. But a simple flyer on campus changed everything.

It advertised an internship opportunity with the Coos Watershed Association. She applied and was accepted. During her time there, the Watershed staff encouraged Rushal to pursue a degree in Natural Resources. The experience opened her eyes to a new world -- working outdoors, studying ecosystems, and protecting natural spaces

now felt possible and exciting.

She eventually took advantage of SWOCC's dual enrollment partnership with Oregon State University, earning her bachelor's degree in Natural Resources in 2017. By completing many of her courses at SWOCC, she saved money, reduced travel, and continued using campus resources like the library and tutoring center.

Job Opportunities

Rushal continued building experience through volunteer work and seasonal field positions with organizations such as the Coos and Coquille Watershed Associations, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and local conservation districts.

Her first full-time job was as a Watershed Technician with the Coquille Watershed Association. Over time, she grew into a Restoration Project Manager role and spent seven years developing her skills, confidence, and leadership.

Then came a full-circle moment.

"Seven years ago, I met the person who was in the job I have now," Rushal recalled. "When I heard her talk about her work, I thought, 'Wow, that sounds like a cool job.'"

Today, Rushal oversees natural resource projects for Oregon State Parks along the coast from Newport to Brookings. She collaborates on habitat restoration, erosion control, and environmental planning. "Our state parks are special places," she said. "I'm honored to be the local voice advocating for them."

Looking back, Rushal is proud not only of where she is, but of how far she's come. All those things she once thought were impossible – college, a career, homeownership – are now part of her life.

"SWOCC was definitely my launch pad," she said. "It set me up for success in a lot of areas of life."

Cover photo courtesy of Brian Fowler, Park Manager, South Beach Management Unit

*making a difference in our community with rewarding jobs
economic growth and sustainability.*

START YOUR JOURNEY
Text or Call 541-240-8227
SWOCCbound@socc.edu

Mid-life return to college opens door to city management career for Nichole Rutherford

Nichole Rutherford knows what it means to show up for your community. As City Manager for the city of Coos Bay, she spends her days working alongside elected officials, city staff, and residents to shape the future of the place she calls home.



Her leadership is grounded in service.

"Community continues to inspire me," Nichole says. "We all play a role in making Coos Bay a great place to live, work, and recreate."

Nichole's path to this role didn't follow a straight line.

She grew up in the tiny southern Oregon town of Butte Falls, eventually moving and graduating from Reedsport High School. She started her college journey at Southern Oregon University. A year later, she transferred to SWOCC. Her decision was driven by practicality. SWOCC offered an affordable option close to home that allowed her to save and stay close to her support system.

Nichole didn't complete her degree right away. Her life took another direction. She got married, started a family, and put her college plans on hold. Nearly 15 years later, Nichole returned to SWOCC to finish what she started.

"From high school graduation to earning my bachelor's degree, twenty years passed by," Nichole says.

"Returning to school as an adult raising a young family, made the process accessible and doable. I took one course a term."

SWOCC was affordable, but more than anything at SWOCC, Nichole felt seen and supported.

"The class sizes and the professors were more accessible — like real people," she recalls. "It felt like the SWOCC team met me where I was."

Ultimately, Nichole earned her Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer

degree and completed her bachelor's degree in Business Administration. She's grateful for the flexibility and care SWOCC offered throughout her journey.

Today, as City Manager, Nichole sees the vital role community colleges continue to play. And not just in individual lives, but in building strong local infrastructure.

"SWOCC is a key part of what the Coos Bay of tomorrow looks like," she says. "The college has heard the needs of the community and is developing training programs to help fill employment gaps — like the diesel mechanic curriculum and the partnership with local fire departments on the fire tower."

Nichole believes more people should know how accessible SWOCC is.

"Access to quality college education at an affordable rate is available just outside our back door," she says. "Because of SWOCC, I enjoy an engaging and fulfilling career."

It's a path she hopes inspires others to explore their own educational or professional goals.

From SWOCC to the World of Wine: Alum Nathan Midyette

For Coos County native Nathan Midyette's connection to SWOCC largely started through dual credit courses at North Bend High School, where he earned an associate's degree from SWOCC at the same time he graduated high school. As part of his education, he was able to complete a senior-year SWOCC internship at 7 Devils Brewery that introduced him to fermentation science.

With his Oregon Transfer degree from SWOCC, Nathan entered the University of Oregon well-prepared to pursue chemistry. With his degree and previous internship under his belt, he did two internships at King Estate Winery during college.

Today, Nathan works as a lab technician at King Estate Winery. "I really love this job as it is the perfect blend of art and science." Nathan said, "No two years are the same, and you are constantly learning from each individual vintage." Driven by a passion for the wine industry, he is dedicated to ongoing learning and development.



Where are we now?



North Bend grad becomes local District Leader

Dayna Cahill, Director of Teaching and Learning for North Bend School District

A proud North Bend High School graduate, Dayna Cahill didn't set out to become an educator. "I went to work in construction right after high school," she says. "It wasn't until someone suggested teaching that I considered education as a career."

SWOCC gave her the opportunity to stay local and earn her degree affordably. It led her back to North Bay Elementary (where she once attended) as a teacher and eventually as principal. Today, Dayna serves as Director of Teaching and Learning for the North Bend School District, where she's deeply committed to helping students and educators thrive.

"I have a deep sense of pride coming full circle and giving back to the district that raised me. My trajectory would have changed significantly had I not opted to go to SWOCC. That plan gave me my life."

Her story is proof that meaningful careers begin right here on the South Coast.

SNAP Recipients

Education and Employment Support

If you are receiving SNAP benefits and are working toward a career goal, Southwestern's **STEP (SNAP Training & Employment Program)** offers support to help you stay on track with your education and employment pathway.

What STEP Provides:

- Academic Support - GED®, college preparation, and one-on-one guidance
- Financial Assistance - Help with tuition, fees, books, supplies, transportation, and more
- School & Work Essentials - Tools, equipment, PPE, and work/interview clothing
- Career Readiness - Job search support, resumes, applications, and interview preparation
- Community Connections - Referrals to local resources and partner agencies.

Learn more: Call us at 541-888-7123 or email step@socc.edu. Visit our website at:

www.socc.edu/resources/snap-step



EARN YOUR GED

It's FREE!

Sign Up NOW

swoccapce.org

Attend In Person

Coos Campus
M-Th 9-11am
M-Th 12-2pm
Tu-Th 5-8pm

Curry Campus
M-Th 12-2pm

Attend By Zoom

For more info call

541-888-1593



Apply Now!

DIESEL MECHANIC TECHNOLOGY

Classes Start Fall 2026

Limited Entry Applications due May 14

Are you receiving SNAP benefits? Ask about support options through our STEP Program.



Learn more and apply at www.socc.edu/dieselmechanic

9 Months to a rewarding career as a Dental Assistant

- ☑ **Practical** - Numerous job openings
- ☑ **Hands-on** - Learn the skills that you'll use everyday
- ☑ **Comprehensive** - We cover everything you need to know

DENTAL ASSISTANT JOB STATS

\$54,834 Average annual southern Oregon coast wage

\$59,328 Average annual statewide wage

32 Annual southwestern Oregon job openings

811 Annual statewide job openings

Source: Oregon Employment Department



Text or Call 541-240-8227 | SWOCCbound@socc.edu

SOUTHWESTERN OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

TRIO

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The Student Support Services (SSS) program is one of the TRIO projects funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Division of Special Services for the Disadvantaged, Title IV, Higher Education Act of 1965. 100-percent of annual program costs (\$360,708) are provided through a grant by the U.S. Department of Education.

TRIO Student Support Services provides **FREE** services including:

- Tutoring • Advising • Transfer Planning
- Career Counseling • Private Study Area
- Financial Aid/Scholarship Assistance

www.socc.edu/trio 541-888-7419



AND MORE!



Workforce & Job Trainings

COOS CAMPUS

To register: Call 541-888-7352 • Email onestop@socc.edu • Visit our office in Dellwood Hall

Maritime Training

For a complete list of maritime trainings offered by



Columbia Pacific Maritime

Visit: <https://colpacmaritime.com/>

All classes take place at 2140 Newmark Ave, Coos Bay

MARI 0281 65 MASTER 100-TON (Includes OUPV)

This ten-day class will satisfy the exam requirements for the Master 100-ton or the OUPV 6-pack license. The Master is required to operate charter boats and other vessels carrying more than six passengers. Subjects include seamanship, navigation, 'Rules of the Road,' and the federal regulations for both inspected and uninspected passenger vessels. This also includes the OUPV class.

Ten days / \$1,300

MARI 0281 65 Mar 30-April 10

MARI 0281 66 April 27-May 8

MARI 0281 67 June 1-June 12



MARI 0033 APPRENTICE MATE OF TOWING

The scope of this course is to provide instruction in and evaluation of the rules and regulations for towing vessels and barges, and towing vessel terminology, hazards, and safety. This course is open to all mariners who either hold a license as Master not more than 200 tons, Apprentice Mate (Steersman), Mate (Pilot) of Towing; OR have satisfied the examination requirements for Master 200 tons within one year of completion of this course.

Two days, Thursday and Friday / \$500

MARI 0233 65 April 16-17

MARI 0233 66 May 14-15

MARI 0233 67 June 18-19

MARI 0527 UPGRADE 100 TO 200 TON

The scope of this class is to provide instruction and assessment in the subjects of navigation general, deck general, safety, and environmental protection as appropriate for the upgrading of an MMC National Officer Endorsement Master not more than 100 GRT to Master or Mate not more than 200 GRT Near Coastal. Upon successful completion of this upgrade class the mariner will have the knowledge of navigation, seamanship, and federal regulations necessary to accept the responsibility for the safety of vessels less than 200 GRT on near coastal routes, including its cargo and passengers; be aware of the obligations under federal regulations concerning safety and protection of the marine environment; and be able to take the practical measures necessary to meet those obligations.

Three days, Monday through Wednesday / \$700

MARI 0527 65 April 13-15

MARI 0527 66 May 11-13

MARI 0527 67 June 15-17

Job Training

IND 4100 TRAFFIC CONTROL FLAGGER CERTIFICATION

This training is an ODOT-approved, safety training course covering the requirements for flaggers and approved techniques for moving traffic cautiously and consistently through work zones. For ages 18 and over. Class books are included. Receive necessary credentials for employment upon successful completion.

Instructor: Michelle Holfield

Location: Eden 1

Cost: \$159

Time: 8:30am-12:30pm

Day: Tue 4/14/26 IND 4100 65

Day: Tue 5/19/26 IND 4100 66

Day: Tue 6/16/26 IND 4100 67



RE 0100 65 REAL ESTATE BROKER LICENSE COURSE

This accelerated course prepares you to qualify for the Oregon Real Estate Broker License Exam in just ten weeks. It is a hybrid course, combining live lectures with the 150-hour on-line home study to meet the Oregon Real Estate Agency (OREA) requirements. The course and instructor are certified by the OREA. For more information call Stacey Harrison at 503-551-4467 or email: stacey@sts.careers.

Instructor: Heather Rich

Location: Zoom Cost: \$695

- First Tuesday Class: April 7, 2026, 6:00pm-9:00pm
- Last Tuesday Class: June 9, 2026, 6:00pm-9:00pm
- One Saturday class: June 13, 2026, 9:00am-5:00pm

RE 0177 65 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Get prepared to take the State of Oregon Property Manager License Exam. This course is the fastest way to qualify to take the exam which covers the role of property managers, tenant relations, fair housing, lease agreements and more. You must attend all evening class sessions and have online capacity to complete the self-study portion of this course. Taught by an experienced Property Manager. For information call 503-551-4467 or email: stacey@sts.careers.

All materials provided.

Instructor: Terri Neimann

Location: Zoom

Cost: \$629

Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm

- First Tuesday Class: April 14, 2026
- Last Tuesday Class: May 26, 2026

CHILDCARE PROVIDER TRAININGS

Offered through Southwestern's CARE Connections Childcare Resource & Referral

For more information and to register call 541-888-7957.

Trainings Offered in Coos & Curry Counties and Online

Classes are offered at no cost online:

- Department of Human Services Childcare Provider Orientation
- Family Childcare Provider Overview
- Recognizing & Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect
- Introduction to Childcare Health and Safety

Online Learning



Convenient & Affordable Six-Week Courses



www.ed2go.com/socc



SWOCC WORKS

Construction & Heavy Equipment Operator Pre-Apprenticeship Program

- Entry-Level Construction Skills
- OSHA Safety Training
- Prepare for a Job in the Trades

CLASSES START MARCH 30, 2026

No experience necessary. Must be 18 years old to apply.

INTERESTED? Email swocccworks@socc.edu or call 541-888-1545

Community Classes

Southwestern offers lifelong learning and personal enrichment opportunities to the community. Non-credit classes are provided by qualified instructors from our community. Course and section numbers are located before the course title. Spring term classes are 11 weeks long, from March 30, 2026, to June 11, 2026, unless otherwise indicated by specific dates.

COOS CAMPUS COMMUNITY CLASSES • REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 9

To register: Call 541-888-7352 • Email onestop@socc.edu • Visit our office in Dellwood Hall

Art

WORKSHOPS WITH TRISTAN PERROTTI

SWOCC Guest Artist In Residence

All classes are for beginning and intermediate painters.



Moment of Triumph
Tristan Perrotti

ART 0808 65 STILL LIFE AS A STORY: OBSERVATIONAL PAINTING IN THE STUDIO

Students learn how to create emotionally resonant paintings using restricted color palettes, exploring complementary, split-primary, and monochrome-plus palettes.

Instruction emphasizes color psychology, mood construction, and intentional simplification, with hands-on

studio time for both small studies and a final project.

Instructor: Tristian Perotti

Location: Eden 3

Day: Fri 5/15/26

Cost: \$30 for materials

Time: 6:00pm-9:00pm

ART 0809 65 PALETTE KNIFE AND IMPASTO PAINTING

Students explore the bold, emotionally charged color strategies of the Fauvist movement, creating paintings that reject naturalistic color in favor of expressive, high-contrast palettes and strong contour line. Workshops include historical context, guided technique demonstrations, and a final studio project in the Fauvist style.

Instructor: Tristian Perotti

Location: Eden 3

Day: Fri 5/29/26

Cost: \$30 for materials

Time: 6:00pm-9:00pm

Learn more about Tristan Perrotti's work at: tristanperrottiart.com.

ART 0257 65 WHEEL THROWING II

For beginning and intermediate potters. Beginning potters create works of art through demonstrated and supervised basic wheel throwing techniques that support exploration in a studio setting covering the process of working with clay – designing, curing, finishing and firing.

Instructor: Annie Pollard

Location: Eden 5

Day: Tue

Cost: \$129

Time: 6:00pm-8:50pm

ART 0259 65 ADVANCED CERAMICS

An independent study course for pottery and clay artists, who have a good understanding of basic techniques, to gather to learn from each other, share ideas, and create new pieces. You will define your own learning goals and work towards them in a supportive environment. Because there is a wide range of skill level and technique focus among students, emphasis is placed on individual development and one-on-one attention. Course cost does not include clay. Clay is purchased as needed in class through the ceramics department.

Instructor: Ruben & Sandy Kretzschmar

Location: Eden 5

Day: Mon, Wed

Cost: \$209

Time: 12:30pm-3:20pm

ART 0146 65 SCRIBBLE ART & SKETCHBOOKS

This seven-week course blends expressive scribble art with guided sketchbook adventures. Students will explore famous artists, experiment with mark-making and composition and build a personal sketchbook practice rooted in intuition, curiosity, and play.

Instructor: Shinan Barclay

Location: Eden 7

Day: Thur: Time: 6:00pm-7:50pm

4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14

Cost: \$70

Community Classes

COOS CAMPUS COMMUNITY CLASSES • REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 9

Cooking

CRT 0105 65 BLISSFUL BRUNCH

In this hands-on class you will learn essential steps to creating a delicious brunch menu. Recipes vary and are chosen by the chef. Some of the recipes that may be covered include items such as proteins, a wide array of egg dishes, batters for the perfect pancakes and waffles, pastries, syrups/sauces, accompanying fruits/vegetables and other seasonal items, etc. You can look forward to honing your skills to make the perfectly blissful homemade brunch.

Instructor: Chef Alison Murphy

Location: OCCI Bakery

Day: Sat 5/9/26



Cost: \$89

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

PE 0525 65 POUND® FITNESS

Rock-Out while you Work-Out!! POUND® is a full-body cardio session, combining light resistance strength training with constant simulated drumming. Through continual upper body motion using lightly weighted drumsticks, you'll turn into a calorie-torching drummer! Rock, rap, dubstep, pop and old school music fuse to create the POUND® track series. The POUND® workout fuses cardio, isometric movements, plyometrics and isometric poses with pulse-racing, sweat-inducing drumming. Drum your way to a leaner, stronger physique – all while rocking out to your favorite music!

Instructor: Melissa Loudenbeck

Location: Rec Center 121

Day: Tue

Cost: \$85

Time: 5:30pm-6:30pm

PE 0507 65 YOGA BEGINNING

For skeletal alignment, flexibility, strength, balance. Safe, gentle class, keeping awareness on breath, while releasing stress and tension. Please bring your own personal yoga mat.

Instructor: Linda Laverty

Location: Rec Center 125

Day: Mon

Cost: \$75

Time: 1:00pm-2:15pm

PE 0507 66 YOGA ADVANCED

A more challenging Yoga practice with restorative and therapeutic benefits. Yoga mats, yoga blocks, yoga straps, and foam rollers will not be provided. Patrons may bring their own for use.

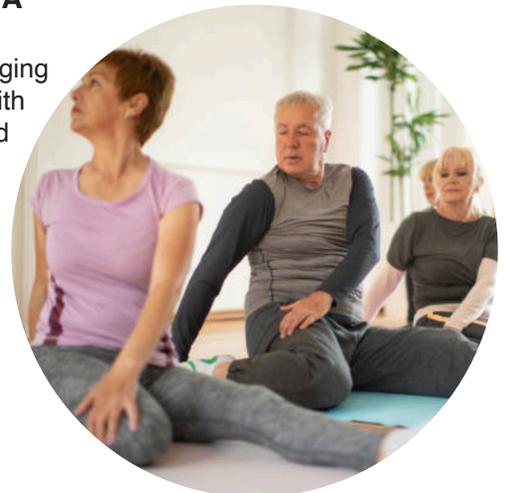
Instructor:

Linda Laverty

Location:

Rec Center 125

Day: Wed



Cost: \$75

Time: 1:00pm-2:15pm

Fitness & Recreation

PE 0503 65 PILATES® EXERCISE

Pilates® is a body-conditioning routine that helps build flexibility, muscle strength, and endurance in the legs, abdominals, arms, hips, and back. It puts emphasis on spinal and pelvic alignment, breathing, and developing a strong core, as well as improving coordination and balance.

Instructor: Melissa Loudenbeck

Location: Rec Center 121

Days: Tue, Thur

Cost: \$105

Time: 12:00pm-12:50pm

PE 0505 01 TURBO KICK

Turbo Kick is a combination of intense kickboxing moves, as well as a unique blend of intense interval strength and endurance training all perfectly choreographed to high-energy and motivating music. Turbo Kick requires no previous kickboxing experience or equipment.

Instructor: Melissa Loudenbeck

Location: Rec Center 121

Days: Mon, Wed

Cost: \$105

Time: 5:30pm-6:20pm

COOS CAMPUS COMMUNITY CLASSES • REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 9**PE 0244 65 LEARN TO PLAY DISC GOLF**

This four-session course will teach participants basic skills for playing disc golf. Participants will be provided with three discs to practice with and keep (included in the fee), while learning how to achieve the lowest scores possible for their ability. The course will be led by Derek Tonn, a SWOCC employee and Ambassador with DGA Disc Golf in California (www.discgolf.com) since 2018.

Location: Rec Center Court
 Days: Sat 3/7, 3/21, 3/28
 Day: Sat 4/4
 Grassy Area in between Newmark Buildings
 Times: 10:00am-12:00pm

Cost: \$125

Includes \$50 fee for discs

WR 0100 65 WRITING YOUR AUTOBIOGRAPHY/ MEMOIR

Elements of autobiography/memoir are presented, discussed, and practiced in writing short stories from your life. Reading short excerpts from published works expands understanding of these elements. The class is a supportive and positive writing group, helping each other develop stories while learning and laughing.

Instructor: Sally Harrold

Location: Zoom

Day: Tue

Cost: \$105

Time: 11:30am-1:50pm

PHL 0844 65 PLAYING AROUND WITH PHILOSOPHY

In this playful course we will play around with common idioms that include the word "play" to introduce philosophical concepts. Then we will apply those concepts to the phenomenon of play itself and discuss what the philosophy of play might mean, while we play games, play films, play music, and may even read a play. The entire field of play, beyond physical reality alone, will be the stage where we play the hunches of our emerging understanding that child's play, like Arron Schwartz's "sharing," is a moral imperative that requires us to play it safe by playing fair, teaches us that turnabout is fair play, and is potentially evident when playing the devil's advocate. It's a community education class in horse play from which no one will want to play hooky.

Instructor: Pete Hodges

Location: Tioga 105

Days: Thur

Cost: \$100

Time: 10:00am-11:50am

Special Interest

G 025CA 65 REGIONAL GEOLOGY – CAPE ARAGO FIELD TRIP

A lecture in the field to highlight the significant geologic features along the southern Oregon Coast with stops focused between Cape Arago and Bandon. The course consists of a field trip arranged to illustrate the geologic setting, stratigraphy and structure, topography, age and origin, significant events through geologic time, and special features unique to the region. Also offered as G145CA for credit.

Instructor: Ron Metzger (rmetzger@socc.edu for inquiries about the trip)

Location: Itinerary and details in Canvas and sent via email
 Cost: \$60 (including transportation; participants need to bring lunch)
 Date: Sat 4/18/26
 Time: 7:00am-6:30pm

**MUP 0105 65 COMMUNITY CHOIR**

The SWOCC Community Choir provides an opportunity for singers of all levels to participate in a musically and socially engaging choral ensemble. The Community Choir will focus on providing a safe and stimulating environment for people of all backgrounds to learn, practice, and perform quality choral literature in a large group setting. Focus will be placed on healthy vocal production, musically inspiring performance, strong social connections, and effectively working with others. A wide variety of musical styles will be explored, and participants will present a concert performance at the end of each term. This is a non-auditioned ensemble, but the ability to match pitch is requested.

Instructor: Ken Graber

Location: Hales Center for Performing Arts

Day: Mon

Cost: \$30

Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm



Southwestern's Small Business Development Center

Looking to the future

As we look forward to 2026, the SBDC is ready to help our region's businesses with a wide variety of guidance, including:

- Starting a business
Growing a business
Business plans and becoming "more bankable"
Profit-focused action plans
Relocating a Business
Exit strategies and selling a business
Buying a business
Global Trade (imports/exports and developing foreign clients and markets)

Almost every business along the South Coast qualifies as a small business, according to the standards set by the Small Business Administration.

2025 was a year of many accomplishments:

- Awarded the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce's 2025 Community Award
Our Center worked with over 200 current/prospective business owners.
We had a great cohort of Small Business Management (SBM) participants complete their nine-month program in Curry County.
We presented numerous business education workshops at various regional events.
As always, we work with business owners one-on-one to provide confidential advising to help business owners in our region have the best chance to succeed.

Our Team has been busy working to improve our skills:



Gayle Goldstone, our business advisor at our Curry Campus in Brookings, achieved her AI U (Artificial Intelligence) certification, learning more about various AI tools that our region's businesses can use to improve the quality and efficiency of what they do.

Derek Tonn, our Center Director in Coos Bay, also obtained his Exporting and Trade Counseling Certificate with the Small Business Administration (SBA), as well as renewed his Cybersecurity certification as one of Oregon's only SBDC employees with this skill.



Mary Loiselle, our business advisor in Coos Bay, is always sharpening her skills in helping business owners develop and refine their business plans.

Scan Code To Register



CONTACT YOUR SBDC TEAM: Register for confidential, no-cost business advising services at oregonsbdc.org/SWoregon

Or call 541-888-7182 to get that important start to 2026!

Curry Campus

JOB TRAINING & COMMUNITY CLASSES

To register: Call 541-813-1667 • Email curryfirststop@socc.edu • Visit us on the Curry Campus

Southwestern offers lifelong learning and personal enrichment opportunities to the community. Non-credit classes are provided by qualified instructors from our community. Course and section numbers are located before the course title. Spring term classes are 11 weeks long, from March 30, 2026, to June 11, 2026, unless otherwise indicated by specific dates.

For a complete list of degrees available at the Curry Campus go to www.socc.edu/curry and click on Degrees & Certificates.



Job Training

ENTRY-LEVEL BOOKKEEPING CERTIFICATE

Complete three classes and an internship to earn an entry-level bookkeeping certificate. These classes prepare people for positions that require basic bookkeeping skills and provide a basic understanding of accounting principles and procedures, spreadsheets, and QuickBooks accounting software. Upon completion of this certificate, students will be ready to take the first level of QuickBooks certification. Contact the Student Success Center at 541-813-1667 or CurryFirstStop@socc.edu to make an appointment to talk to an advisor and learn more about this certificate.

IND 4100 TRAFFIC CONTROL FLAGGER CERTIFICATION

This training is an ODOT-approved safety training course covering the requirements for flaggers and approved techniques for moving traffic cautiously and consistently through work zones. For ages 18 and over. Class book is included. Receive necessary credentials for employment upon successful completion.

Instructor: Michelle Holifield

Location: Curry Campus 118

Cost: \$159

Day: Tue 3/24/26

Time: 9:00am-1:00pm

Day: Tue 4/21/26

Time: 9:00am-1:00pm

CHILDCARE PROVIDER TRAININGS

Offered through Southwestern's

CARE Connections Childcare Resource & Referral

Trainings available at no cost online or in-person, preparing individuals to become licensed or Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) Listed child care providers. Trainings available in Coos, Curry and online. Orientation Part 1 must be completed online prior to registering for Orientation Part 2.

ERDC Child Care Provider Orientation Part 2 (HDFS 9006 DHS Orientation)

- March 5, 2026 (Zoom)
- May 7, 2026 (Brookings)
- June 4, 2026 (Zoom)

For more information please call 541-888-7957 or email qualitychildcare@socc.edu.

Fitness

PE 0502 99 BETTER BONES AND BALANCE®

Better Bones and Balance® is an exercise program that was developed and tested by researchers at Oregon State University. This program targets strength and balance through key exercises shown to reduce the risk of falls and fractures and is suitable for ambulatory individuals who are at beginner and intermediate exercise levels.

Instructor: Lisa Reed

Location: Langlois

Lions Club

Cost: \$89

Day: Mon, Fri

Time: 9:00am-

10:20am



PE 0502 98 BETTER BONES AND BALANCE®

This section is for students that are new to the Better Bones and Balance® exercise program.

Instructor: Lisa Reed

Location: Langlois Lions Club

Day: Mon

Cost: \$45

Time: 11:00am-12:00pm

PE 0570 99 LOW-IMPACT DANCE AEROBICS

This class uses easy-to-follow dance steps and rhythmic movements that are choreographed to upbeat music. It's a fun way to get moving while improving your cardiovascular system, muscle strength, flexibility, balance, and boosting your overall fitness level. This is a great class for active seniors no matter your level of fitness.

Instructor: Mary Whitaker

Location: Curry Campus 138A/B

Days: Tue, Thur 3/31/26-5/14/26

Cost: \$45

Time: 8:30am-9:45am

CURRY CAMPUS COMMUNITY CLASSES • REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 9

PE 0504 99 TAI CHI

This course in Tai Chi is a gentle, relaxed, non-sweat, personal exercise (translated as the “Grand Ultimate”) for any age. The ‘Yang Form’ will be taught along with ‘Chi Gwa’ (circulating breath) and ‘Silk Cocoon Chen’ (fine intertwining energy). This course is noncompetitive and will start with the basics, and then individuals will progress at their own rate.

Instructor: Deane McConnell

Location: Curry Campus 137A/B

Day: Tue

Cost: \$63

Time: 10:00am-11:20am

PE 0504 98 TAI CHI

Instructor: Deane McConnell

Location: Curry Campus 137A/B

Day: Tue

Cost: \$63

Time: 5:30pm-6:50pm



ART

WORKSHOPS WITH TRISTAN PERROTTI

*SWOCC Guest Artist
In Residence*

All classes are for beginning and intermediate painters.

ART 0805 65 BEGINNING IMPRESSIONIST PAINTING

Students learn the core methods of Impressionist painting through guided demonstrations and supervised studio practice, focusing on light, color theory, and rapid brushwork. Instruction covers the Impressionist approach to observation, color theory, and building a finished painting from loose studies. Space is limited.

Location: Curry Campus 138A/B

Day: Saturday 4/18/26

Cost: \$30 for materials

Time: 1:00pm-3:50pm

ART 0806 65 EXPRESSIVE PAINTING WITH LIMITED PALETTES

Students learn how to create emotionally resonant paintings using restricted color palettes, exploring complementary, split-primary, and monochrome-plus palettes. Instruction emphasizes color psychology, mood construction, and intentional simplification, with hands-on studio time for both small studies and a final project. Space is limited.

Location: Curry Campus 138A/B

Day: Saturday 5/2/26

Cost: \$30 for materials

Time: 1:00pm - 3:50pm

*Learn more about Tristan Perrotti's work at:
tristanperrottiart.com.*

Special Interest

ASL 0501 99 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

Introduces the natural, signed language of American deaf people. Includes instruction in proper sign formation, American Sign Language (ASL) grammar and vocabulary, expressive and receptive skills. Emphasis on the history of ASL, the deaf community in North America, and deaf education.

Instructor: Bj Farris

Location: Curry Campus 206

Days: Tue, Thur

Cost: \$115

Time: 3:30pm-4:50pm

BA 0134 99 RETIREMENT INTELLIGENCE

This is a virtual class held via Zoom designed to help individuals plan for retirement. What's your retirement dream? Learn how to put together a plan that will help you reach your goals. Class includes a workbook to help individuals create their own plan and a private coaching call. Pre-register by March 31.

Instructor: Jesse Coffee

Location: Virtual Zoom

Days: Tue 4/7/26 & 4/14/26

Cost: \$39

Time: 6:00pm-7:30pm

HE 0591 99 MEDICARE 101

In this class students will learn about the four parts of Medicare: Medicare part A, B, C, and D. They will learn about the timelines surrounding Medicare enrollment and

the policies. An in-depth presentation on Medicare Advantage Plans and Medicare Supplements will be provided. Students will leave the class with the tools to make informed decisions on what type of plan best fits their own, or a family member's needs.

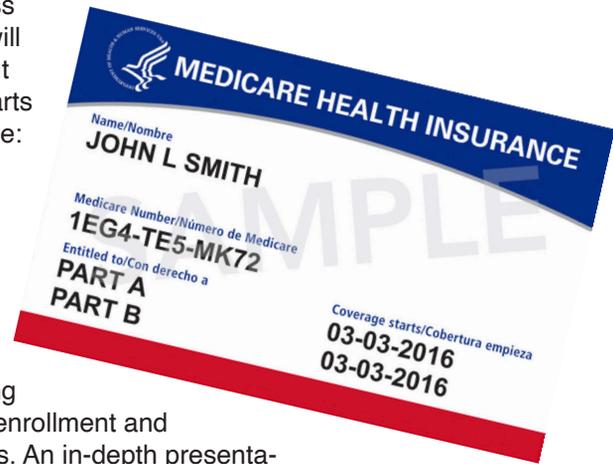
Instructor: Becky Holm

Location: Curry Campus 137A/B

Day: Mon 4/20/26

Cost: Free

Time: 2:00pm-3:20pm



**FIND A LIST OF COMMUNITY CLASSES FOR BOTH CAMPUSES AT:
www.socc.edu/community**

CURRY CAMPUS COMMUNITY CLASSES • REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 9

HE 0201 99 MEDITATION

Quantum Reiki Meditation is an evolved holistic wellness technique developed by Aranka Fisher and open to all students. In class we will cover the etheric & physical body systems, breath, the soul, mind, consciousness, universal source, energy chakras, crystals and more. In class we will do a deep guided Quantum Reiki Meditation to help activate one's pineal gland (third eye), connect to source, the soul, earth etc. to receive infinite source light energy and get deeply detoxed & enlightened while in a higher state of consciousness and awareness. Meditation techniques have been practiced for thousands of years globally and can help to release stress, fear, pain, improve sleep, relax the mind and whole body, evolve in consciousness and more. Bring your crystals to class. Dress comfy. We stand to do the meditation but you can sit if needed. Come and have a magnificent experience.

Instructor: Aranka Fisher
 Location: Curry Campus 138A/B
 Day: Thur

Cost: \$75
 Time: 6:00pm-6:50pm

SBDC 0590 99 LEARN BY DOING: BUSINESS PLANS AND BASIC FARM FINANCIALS



Join us to discuss how farm business analysis tools such as business plans and farm financial statements can help with decision making and achieving your farm's goals. This will be great material for smaller or younger operators, producers who

want to brush up on some of the financial conversations and/or farms that might be thinking about making some changes that a business plan might help discuss. No charge for the event.

Presented by Oregon Agricultural Trust
 Location: Curry Campus 137A/B
 Day: Tue 3/17/26

Cost: Free
 Time: 2:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Writing

WR 0115 99 INTRODUCTION TO GRANT WRITING

This Introduction to Grant Writing course provides a basic understanding of grant writing and the foundations of project development. We will cover how to prepare your organization to apply for grants and identify local sponsors and small grants to consider. The course is open to all but geared toward smaller non-profits.

Instructor: Alisa Green
 Location: Curry Campus 109
 Days: Sat 4/11/26 & 4/25/26

Cost: \$75
 Time: 10:00am-12:50pm

WR 0768 99 W.E.D. WRITE. EDIT. DISTRIBUTE

Class presents an overview of the variety of formats available in media that include, reporting, interviewing, written, visual and vocal forms, print broadcast, visual and digital media with an emphasis on understanding the unique requirements for each. Students will learn to recognize opportunities for content, hone writing skills, and practice creative presentation to heighten interest. Emphasis on amassing factually accurate information, creating logically developed stories that respect deadlines, space, universally accepted journalistic standards, and ethical practices are building blocks of this course.

Instructor: Stephanie Abrams
 Location: Curry Campus 118
 Days: Thur 4/09/26 - 5/07/26

Cost: \$75
 Time: 12:30pm-2:30pm



WR 0768 98 W.E.D. WRITE. EDIT. DISTRIBUTE: FROM INTERVIEW TO PUBLICATION

Learn the basic process of journalistic reporting and writing used in all forms of news media. Emphasis is placed on organizing facts, observations, research, and background, in an effective narrative built on ethical, responsible journalistic practices. Students will develop a news judgment and distinguish between news, analysis, and opinion.

Instructor: Stephanie Abrams
 Location: Curry Campus 118
 Days: Thur 5/14/26 - 6/11/26

Cost: \$75
 Time: 12:30pm-2:30pm



CONNECTED SENIORS

Stay Connected. Stay Confident.

Join Us for Free Senior Citizen Computer Classes in Port Orford!

Beacon Broadband, Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative, Inc., Pacific High School, and Southwestern Oregon Community College are proud to sponsor **Connected Senior**. It's a friendly program designed to help seniors feel more confident using today's technology. The course is hosted at the Port Orford Library and is designed at NO COST to help seniors who want to learn in a supportive, hands-on environment.

TO SIGN UP FOR CONNECTED SENIOR

Call the Curry Campus at 541-813-1667
or email CurryFirstStop@socc.edu.

Classes meet Fridays, April 10-May 29 from 10-11am



FILM WORKSHOPS FOR YOUTH HELD AT THE CURRY CAMPUS

The Wild Rivers Film Workshop returns this year offering students ages 12-18 an immersive, hands-on introduction to filmmaking from concept to completion. Guided by professional filmmakers, participants work collaboratively to develop story ideas, write scripts, capture footage, and edit a finished short film – gaining practical, real-world production experience at every stage. Workshop meets June 16 - 26, 2026.

For more information visit wildriversfilmfestival.com or email info@wildriversfilmfestival.com.

FRIENDS OF CURRY CAMPUS SPEAKER SERIES

EXPLORING OUR LIVING PLANET

Second Thursday of Every Month | 1 to 2 pm | Curry Campus Community Room

Join us each month for a fascinating topic presented by local experts.



APRIL 9

Kelp Beds to Forests

TOM CALVANESE



MAY 14

African Wildlife

VICKI GORHAM



JUNE 11

Galapagos Wildlife

DENNIS TRIGLIA

Talks are free and sponsored by the Friends of Curry Campus. Check the News Section of our website for lecture details. For more information contact the Curry Campus at 541-813-1667.

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STEAM PATHWAYS Lecture Series

FREE

PHYSICS – APRIL 14/6pm

Solar & Space Physics Frontiers with AI

GEOLOGY – MAY 7/6pm

Hazard Mitigation in Coastal Oregon

STUDENTS – MAY 26/6pm

Student Research Symposium

Coos Campus: Umpqua Hall Lecture Room

Curry Campus: Watch Party

Watch a live stream of lectures at
www.youtube.com/@SouthwesternOR/streams



SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

Saturday - May 16, 2026

Featuring CEO and atmospheric scientist
Greg Jones of Abacela winery

\$195 Per Person - Funds raised go towards equipment

6:00-8:00pm

OREGON COAST CULINARY INSTITUTE

For more information call
541-888-7209 or email
foundation@socc.edu

Tickets:
socc.edu/give



♥ **Help support student scholarships!** www.socc.edu/give

Students who receive scholarships complete their studies at a rate 25% higher than those who don't receive this support. Tax-deductible scholarship donations help make college possible for local students. Give online or clip this form and send a check payable to SWOCC Foundation, 1988 Newmark Ave., Coos Bay, OR 97420.

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Email Address _____

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General Nursing Welding Culinary

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