Innovation in Curriculum—Experimental Courses

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Elizabeth Atondo, Los Angeles Pierce College
Leticia Hector, San Bernardino Valley College
Wheeler North, ASCCC Treasurer
What brought you to this session?

Today we will:

- Share what is an experimental course & regulations of the CCCCCO.
- Provide an example of an experimental course (SBVC).
- Discuss why we should or shouldn’t consider approving experimental courses.
An experimental course is one for which full information on some approval criterion, such as feasibility or need, cannot be determined until the course is actually offered on a pilot basis.

After an experimental course has been offered more than once in the same year, it must be submitted to the college curriculum committee for approval as a regular course, or the college must discontinue offering the course as experimental.

*(CCCOO Program and Course Approval Handbook, 5th edition)*
Example of an Experimental Course
(San Bernardino Valley College).

**READ 951: Reading Skills I and II (4 Units)**

**Prerequisite:** A score of 48 or above in SBVC Reading Assessment.

**Lecture:** 4 contact hours per week.

This course is a basic skills reading course that prepares students for READ 015 and ENGL 914. It is designed to assist students in improving reading through an emphasis on word attack skills, vocabulary development, general comprehension skills, and basic writing conventions. Study strategies, specific to identified learning styles and strengths will be incorporated. READ 951 is an accelerated program, meant to develop skills normally taught in READ 920 and READ 950.

*Not applicable to Associate Degree*
SEQUENCE OF READING COURSES at SBVC
(Your placement within the sequence is dependent on the results of the SBVC assessment process.)

- **READ 915**
  - This course provides additional support for ESL students.

- **READ 951**
  - Reading Skills I & II
  - This is an accelerated course meant to develop skills normally taught in READ 920 and READ 950.

- **READ 920**
  - Reading Skills I

- **READ 950**
  - Reading Skills II
  - (Prerequisite for ENGL 914)

- **READ 015**
  - Recommended for students who want to develop proficiency in reading.

- **READ 100**
  - Course Credit transfers to CSU.

- **READ 102**
  - Course satisfies CSU “Critical Thinking” requirement.

- **ENGL 015**
  - Students may take READ 015 & ENGL 914 concurrently.

- **ENGL 101**

- **ENGL 102**

- **ENGL 914**
  - Course Credit transfers to CSU.
Why should or shouldn’t we consider approving experimental courses?
QUESTIONS?

*Feel free to contact us at:*

Elizabeth Atondo, Los Angeles Pierce College  
[eatondo@piercecollege.edu](mailto:eatondo@piercecollege.edu)

Leticia Hector, San Bernardino Valley College  
[lhector@valleycollege.edu](mailto:lhector@valleycollege.edu)

Wheeler North, ASCCC Treasurer  
[wnorth@sdcccd.edu](mailto:wnorth@sdcccd.edu)