



The Inside/Out College Program is designed to provide higher educational opportunities for “inside” (incarcerated) and “outside” (campus) students which explore critical sociological issues through individual and group activities, assignments, and projects. The program is modeled after The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program developed and designed by Lori Pompa of Temple University in 1997 to bring college students and incarcerated individual together as peers in a classroom setting that emphasizes dialogue and critical thinking.

The Inside-Out model is designed to counter predominant stereotypes and myths held about jails/prisons and inmates through personal engagement. Participants are encouraged to see crime and justice issues from new perspectives that otherwise might not be considered. Students are assisted in seeing themselves as potential agents of social change and encouraged to build new ideas about public service and meaningful citizenship.

For more information regarding The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program go to www.insideoutcenter.org.

Who We Are

About Us

The Imperial County Inside/Out College Program is the first Inside/Out model college program in the nation offered through a county partnership between a community college and county jail. The first Imperial County Inside/Out college course was offered in Fall 2014.

The Inside/Out College Program is an educational component of the Imperial County Community Corrections Partnership’s (CCP) efforts to reduce recidivism in Imperial County.

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COLLEGE PROGRAM

Preparing for Life Beyond Bars

Provided through a cooperative partnership between:

IMPERIAL VALLEY
COLLEGE

IMPERIAL COUNTY
SHERIFF’S OFFICE

BREAKING DOWN
THE WALLS
THAT SEPARATE US...
THROUGH
TRANSFORMATIVE
LEARNING



Pathway to ADS Certification

Students participating in the Imperial County Inside/Out College Program take college-credit courses in the IVC Addiction Disorder Studies (ADS) Program, leading to certification in chemical and behavioral addiction counseling. The IVC CAADE-accredited 36-unit college program provides the opportunity for individuals to earn a certificate and enter the workforce, including ex-offenders who meet all the criteria.

The program is certified by the California Association for Alcohol/Drug Educators (CAADE). Students completing the program apply for credentialing as Certified Addictions Treatment Counselors (CTAC), which signifies training and experiential requirements to facilitate behavioral change for persons affected by alcohol and other drug addictions.

What is Inside/Out?

The Inside/Out model of instruction brings college students and incarcerated individuals together as peers in a classroom setting that emphasizes dialogue and critical thinking.

“Thanks to this class and the inside/out college program, I feel a lot more comfortable about walking into a classroom. The Inside/Out class has given me the confidence to say and believe strongly that pursuing my education is something I can do!”

~Inside Student

Inside/Out classes are limited to 30 students – 15 “inside” (incarcerated) students and 15 “outside” (campus) students. Students register for the classes through IVC and pay the required enrollment and student fees. Students are eligible to apply for financial assistance through the Federal Pell Grant program and the California Community College Promise Grant.

Assistance in processing college registration and financial aid applications is provided for students through Student Services at Imperial Valley College and Inmate Programming at the Imperial County Sheriff’s Office.



Classes are held at the ICSO Sheriff Services Center (SSC). Inside students are selected for participation based upon eligibility requirements established by the Imperial County Sheriff’s Office. Outside students are selected in accordance with the IVC open enrollment policy.

Students are required to attend an orientation during the first week of class to review the program rules of conduct and the requirements for program participation. Strict adherence to the program rules of conduct is required for all students.

“Inside/Out helped me to realize how vital this class is to so many people. My classmates expressed throughout the course a heightened sense of purpose, a strong study ethic, and an expressed desire to do and be something/someone better.”

~ Outside Student
