

SDSU@Southwestern College FAQs



When can I apply to this program? How do I apply to this program?

Fall Start Application Period:
Oct. 1–May 15

Spring Start Application Period:
June 1–Sept. 30

Please visit our website at neverstoplearning.net/southwesterncollege for the latest application instructions and admission requirements.



What are the admission requirements of this program?

When applying to one of our degree completion programs, you should have 60 or more semester units (90 or more quarter units) completed, along with the minimum GPA requirements and all CSU requirements satisfied. All admission requirements for the Bachelor's in Business Administration, Bachelor's in Communication, and Bachelor's in Child Development programs are located on our website. An ADT (Associate Degree for Transfer) is not a requirement for program eligibility.

Want to Learn More?

Contact SDSU Global Campus at recruiter.global@sdsu.edu or **619-594-1623**. You can also contact Michele Hagggar, Director of Career and Transfer Connections, Southwestern College at swcctc@swccd.edu, or **619-421-6700 ext. 5247**.

When can I expect an admission decision?

Admission decisions will be made within two weeks of the application deadline.

What does the criminal justice degree completion program offer me?

SDSU's Criminal Justice program is designed to encourage thoughtful exploration of the ways that criminal justice systems provide "justice," or fail to do so. The program also focuses on criminal justice from a social justice perspective, allowing for the examination of policy issues as diverse as genocide, institutionalized racism, organized crime, and environmental destruction, in addition to traditional criminal justice issues. This degree appeals to students who are interested in working in the fields of law, law enforcement, probation and parole, corrections, or other social service agencies. This degree also prepares students for law school or graduate school in either criminal justice or a related field. An optional Minor in Public Administration is available to students within this program.

What does the business degree completion program offer me?

SDSU's B.S. in Business Administration program provides an overview and fundamental working knowledge of the varied aspects of a business. You'll receive a broad and generalized understanding of the functions of a business and how the various sub-disciplines within a business interact to contribute to the success of an organization. Courses are led by faculty and instructors from SDSU's renowned Fowler College of Business.

What does the communication degree completion program offer me?

SDSU's Communication program is a diverse applied arts and sciences program that teaches students how to develop integrated, interactive, international, and intercultural communication strategies designed for the twenty-first century.

Students will learn how communication promotes civic engagement and allows for effective participation in today's global community. The program also focuses on social problems, giving students the tools they'll need to engage the issues facing our local and global community in a constructive manner. Graduates have launched careers in sales, government, human resources, training, education, and consulting. Many graduates have also decided to pursue advanced academic or professional degrees in fields such as law, management, and marketing.

How do I determine if I have the required prerequisites for the program?

If you'd like to speak to an Admissions Advisor at SDSU about program details or application instructions, please call 619-594-7700 or email recruiter.global@sdsu.edu. You can also schedule an appointment with an Admissions Advisor using the contact information at the end of this flyer.

You can also use **SDSU Tap**, **Assist.org**, or our **Transfer Admissions Information** page to determine if you have taken the equivalent prerequisite courses.

SDSU@Southwestern College FAQs



Do you accept transfer credits into your program?

SDSU will accept courses from accredited colleges and universities that are designated as baccalaureate level at the institution where the work was completed. Some courses may be used to meet specific requirements in General Education or the major. Transferable courses that do not meet any specific requirement may be accepted as elective credits. More information can be found on our **Transfer Admissions Information** page.

How do I apply for financial aid?

Students may apply for financial aid without applying for admission to the University. Students should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be considered for all types of state and federal aid. Learn more about **how to apply for financial aid**.

Are these programs accredited?

All of the degree programs and majors at SDSU (in-person and online) are accredited via the WASC Senior College and University Commission. The "WASC Senior College and University Commission" is the regional accrediting agency that serves a diverse membership of public and private higher education institutions throughout California, Hawaii, and the Pacific as well as a number of international institutions.

SDSU's Fowler College of Business (FCB) is fully accredited by AACSB International — The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

Want to Learn More?

Contact SDSU Global Campus at recruiter.global@sdsu.edu or **619-594-1623**. You can also contact Michele Hagggar, Director of Career and Transfer Connections, Southwestern College at swcctc@swccd.edu, or **619-421-6700 ext. 5247**.

How is the program structured?

Our degree programs are structured to be flexible and convenient. The programs are self-paced, which means that you can either slow down by taking a lighter course load or speed up by taking a heavier course load. Courses are also taught asynchronously, which means that you'll be able to complete the coursework on your schedule. As long as you complete all assignments and deliverables within the time period that the course is offered.

There are a few key differences in the structure of each program depending on which degree you're earning. Each semester is broken up into blocks.

For our **business and communication programs**, all courses run in 8-week blocks. There are two blocks in each of the fall and spring semesters and one block during the summer semester. Only two courses are offered per block, which means that you can complete the program in as little as two years on a full-time schedule. The program also accommodates those who wish to take courses on a part-time basis.

For our **criminal justice program**, there are three courses offered during each block. There are two 8-week blocks during the fall and spring semesters, and the summer semester contains two 6-week blocks. If you take two courses per block, you can complete the program in 22 months. You'll also have the ability to accelerate your studies by taking up to three courses per block, which allows you to earn your degree in as little as 15 months. The program also accommodates those who wish to take courses on a part-time basis.



Who teaches the classes? Are they SDSU faculty?

Courses in the online program are team-taught. Faculty who have demonstrated an ability to excel in their regular on-campus teaching assignments prepare all course material using the most current technology and tools. Facilitators who routinely teach the course on-campus or are subject area experts monitor the course's day-to-day delivery. Together, their goal is to bring to you the same rigor and content as on-campus courses.

How long do I have to complete the program?

Although each course is expected to be completed by the end of the block in which it is offered, these degree programs are entirely self-paced. This gives you the ability to slow down by taking a lighter course load or speed up by taking a heavier class load. At full capacity, you can complete the business and communications programs in two years and the criminal justice program in 15 months.

Can I work while completing the program?

Yes.

SDSU@Southwestern College FAQs



How much does the program cost?

The cost of our programs varies depending on which degree you're earning, how many units you've transferred in, and other factors. We encourage you to reach out to one of our admission advisors to discuss your academic plan in order to determine your individual cost. Please note that you're also responsible for the costs of required texts and learning materials, as well as incidental fees related to your application for admission and graduation.

Once admitted, may I add another major or minor?

No, this is a degree completion program. Students completing the criminal justice program will have the option to minor in public administration. No additional majors or minors are permitted.

Is it the same degree as SDSU's on-campus degree?

Upon completion of the program, a student will be awarded the same degree that on-campus students receive.

- **Criminal Justice:** Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (with the option to apply for a Minor in Public Administration)
- **Business:** Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
- **Communication:** Bachelor of Arts in Applied Arts and Sciences in Communication

The diploma received and transcript will not distinguish that the program was completed online.

Want to Learn More?

Contact SDSU Global Campus at recruiter.global@sdsu.edu or **619-594-1623**. You can also contact Michele Hagggar, Director of Career and Transfer Connections, Southwestern College at swcctc@swccd.edu, or **619-421-6700 ext. 5247**.

Will I get to walk in my graduation ceremony at SDSU?

Yes, you'll have the opportunity to walk in the commencement ceremonies and participate in other SDSU activities.

Are international students eligible to apply?

Not at this time.

What grades are required to graduate from these programs?

A minimum GPA of 2.80 for the Criminal Justice program and 2.75 for the Business program and the Communication program is required in the following areas:

- SDSU GPA
- Cumulative GPA
- Major GPA
- Minor GPA

What kind of disability accommodations will be in place for these programs?

Each student will be authorized for his or her unique set of accommodations based on individual needs. Please consult our **Overview of Services and Accommodations** for more information.



How is academic integrity maintained in the online program?

All SDSU students are expected to follow standards for student conduct. Dishonesty, to include cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty, are behaviors inconsistent with the university's **Student Code of Conduct**, which is accessible online.

SDSU adheres to a strict policy regarding cheating and plagiarism. Any cheating or plagiarism in a class results in failing that class and the possibility of further disciplinary review. Students in the online program must agree that all required written submissions will be subject to review by Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. To uphold the integrity of exams and tests and level the playing field for students who fear that their classmates may be unfairly cheating to get higher grades, students in the online program must also agree to allow the use of a remote proctoring service when taking assessments

What does the SDSU@Southwestern College program mean for me?

Earning your degree through our SDSU@Southwestern College program means that you'll have full access to SDSU's online degree completion program, with courses taught by tenured and tenure-tracked SDSU faculty. You'll also benefit from on-site* instructional support, student advising, and other services at Southwestern College provided by SDSU.

*In-person components are available virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions. Once restrictions are lifted and in-person education resumes at each site, these services will be provided on your community college campus.