

WWCC 101: College Terms Made Simple

College can come with a lot of new terms—here's a quick guide to help you feel more confident and in the know.

- **Academic Advisor or Navigator** – A staff or faculty member who helps you choose classes, plan your degree, access academic and financial resources, and stay on track to graduate. Meet with them regularly!
- **Add/Drop** – The process of adding or removing a class from your schedule. There's a deadline each quarter to do this without penalty. Dropping a class late may affect your financial aid.
- **Canvas** – The online system where you'll find your course materials, submit assignments, check grades, and message instructors.
- **Childcare (CCAMPIS)** – A grant-funded program that helps eligible students pay for childcare while attending WWCC. Learn more at wwcc.edu > CCAMPIS.
- **ctcLink** – The statewide online system you'll use to register for classes, view your schedule, check financial aid, and pay tuition. Every student gets a ctcLink ID number.
- **Credit** – A number that tells you how much time and work a class takes. Most classes are 3–5 credits. You need a certain number of credits to earn your degree or certificate.
- **Academic Requirement Report** – A tool in ctcLink that shows what classes you've taken and what you still need to graduate.
- **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) – The form U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens use to apply for financial aid. It looks at your family's financial need to help determine grants, loans, and work-study. Fill it out every year at fafsa.gov.
- **WASFA** – Washington's version of the FAFSA for undocumented students or others who aren't eligible for federal aid. Learn more at readyssetgrad.wa.gov.
- **Financial Aid** – Money to help pay for college. It may come from federal, state, community and/or college sources and include grants, loans, scholarships, or work-study jobs.
- **Full-Time Student** – A student enrolled in 12 or more credits per quarter.
- **Grant** – Free money for school that you don't have to pay back, if you meet the requirements.
- **Hold** – A block on your account that may stop you from registering or accessing services. Usually caused by unpaid fees or missing information. Check with the appropriate office to resolve it.
- **Office Hours** – Times when your instructor is available outside of class to meet, answer questions, or help with coursework. You'll find these in your syllabus.
- **Part-Time Student** – A student enrolled in fewer than 12 credits per quarter.
- **Office of Admission and Records (OAR)** – The office that manages your enrollment, grades, class schedule, and transcripts.
- **Syllabus** – A document given out at the beginning of each class. It includes class rules, assignment due dates, grading policies, and contact info for your instructor. Always read it!
- **The Dome** – Short for the Dietrich Dome, this large gold dome on the Walla Walla campus is the home of Warrior Athletics. It's eye-catching, iconic, and a local favorite—where you'll catch games and events.
- **The Knee** – The open area in the Main building (on the Walla Walla campus) by the staircase to the library where campus events are often held.
- **Transcript** – Your official record of all the classes you've taken and the grades you earned.
- **Withdrawal** – Dropping a class after the add/drop deadline. A "W" will appear on your transcript, and it may affect financial aid. Talk to your advisor before withdrawing.