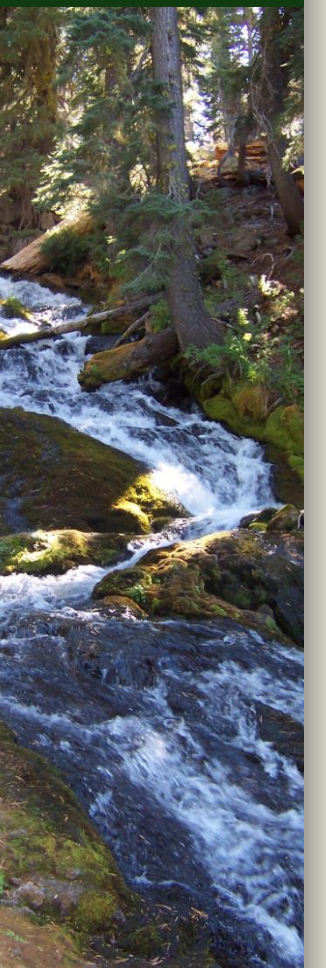
Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



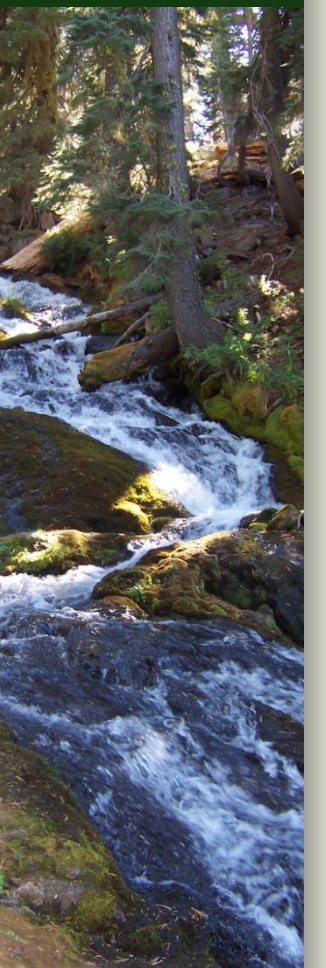
Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)

Kate Mahar

September 02, 2020

Student Services Council

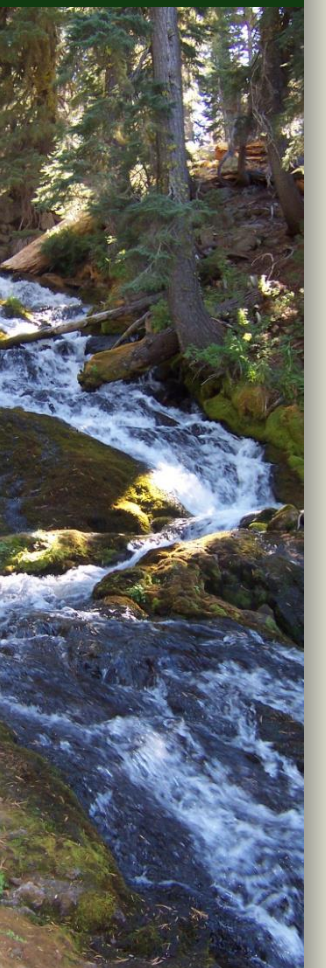
Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



What is Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)?

- **CPL is credit awarded for validated college-level skills and knowledge gained outside of a college classroom.**
- **It's a strategy to grant students credit for what they already know and can do.**
- **It acknowledges that our learners, especially adult learners, come to our college with strong skills and abilities that deserve recognition.**

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District

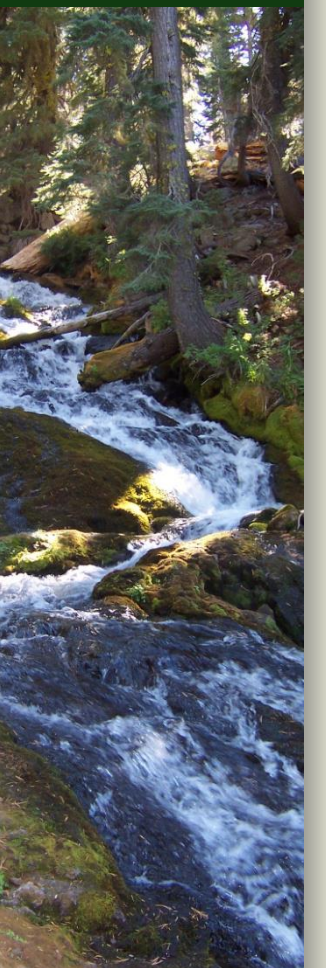


Why is CPL Important?

Research indicates that students who earn CPL:

- **are roughly twice as likely to complete a degree than those who do not**
- **accumulate more credits through coursework at the institution than their counterparts, which translates to increased enrollment for colleges**
- **save an average of 6-10 months in time to degree compared to their non-CPL counterparts**

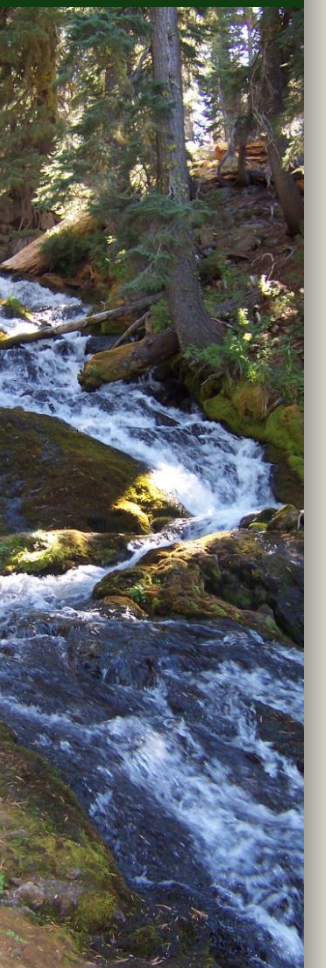
Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



CPL is often….

- The best kept secret on a campus….

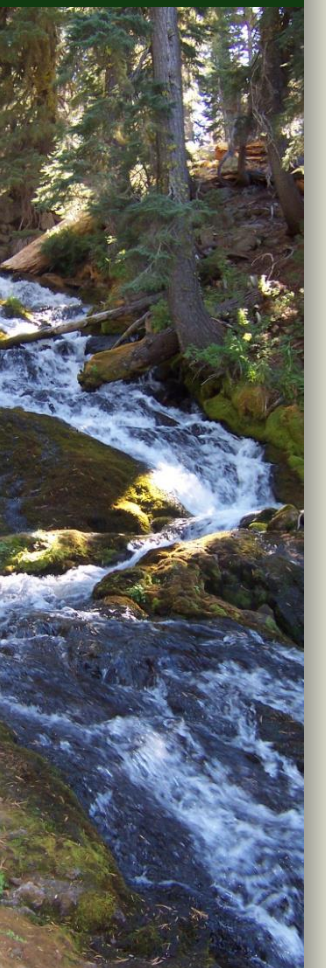
Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



§ 55050 Credit for Prior Learning

- Changes to Ed Code encouraging colleges to make CPL opportunities more transparent and consistent for students

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District

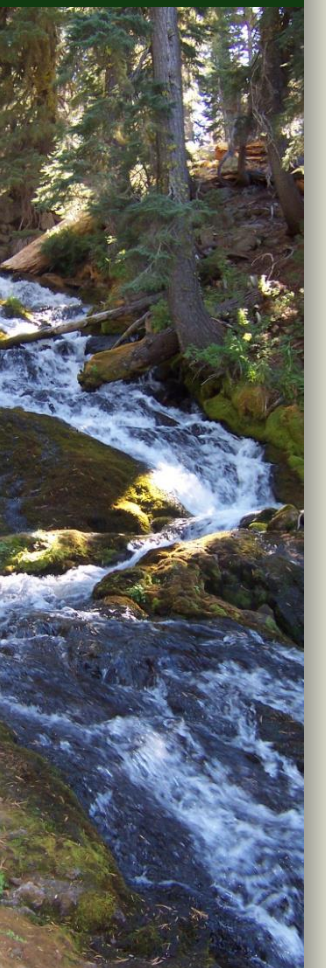


Types of CPL

Students' knowledge and skills might be gained through formal experiences such as:

- **Military training**
- **Industry training**
- **State/federal government training**
- **Volunteer and civic activities (e.g. Peace Corps)**
- **Apprenticeships, internships, work-based learning, or other industry-based experiential learning**

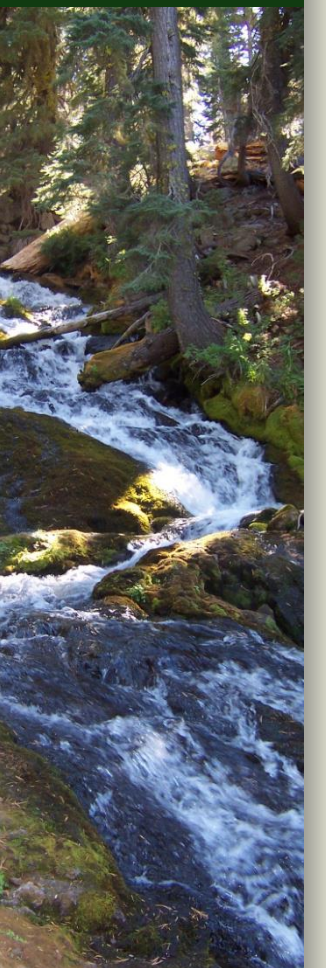
Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Types of Assessments

- Evaluation of Joint Services Transcripts/ACE Recommendations
- Evaluation of industry recognized credentials
- Portfolio submission
- Skills demonstration
- Credit by Exam
- AP Tests
- CLEP
- IB Exams
- High School Articulation

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



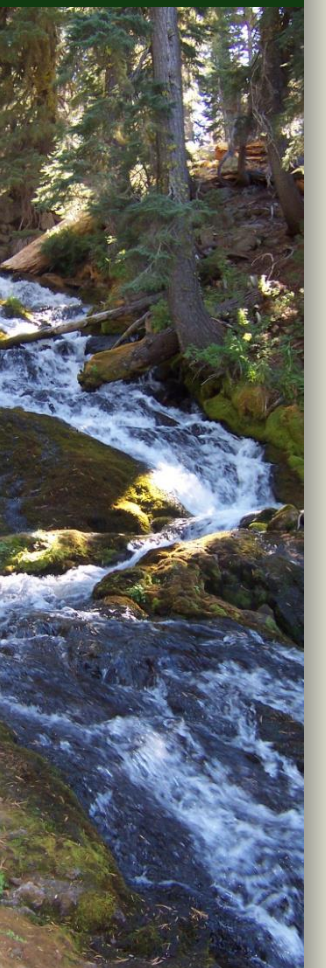
Shasta College & CPL

CPL Committee Formed, Fall 2019:

- Frank Nigro
- Tim Johnston
- Kate Mahar
- Becky McCall
- Buffy Tanner
- Rochelle Morris
- Cathy Anderson
- Liz Kohn
- Jennifer McCandless
- Angela Cordell
- David Gatewood

Also, have task forces for Veterans and Industry Recognized Credentials

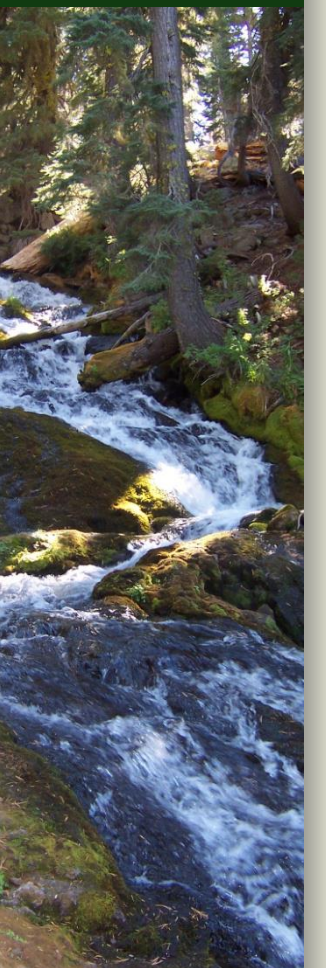
Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Research and Planning

- First goal is to research current formal and informal practices related to CPL and investigate CPL practices at peer institutions.

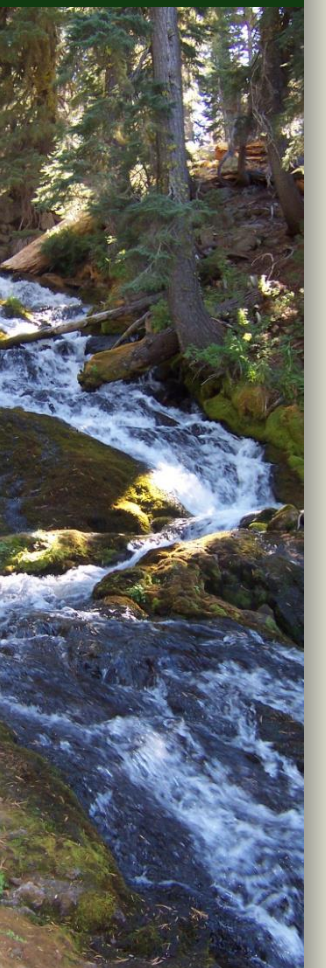
Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Engage Faculty and Staff

- Develop an inclusive faculty and staff engagement framework. Provide professional development opportunities to bring everyone to a similar understanding of CPL and how it benefits students and the institution.

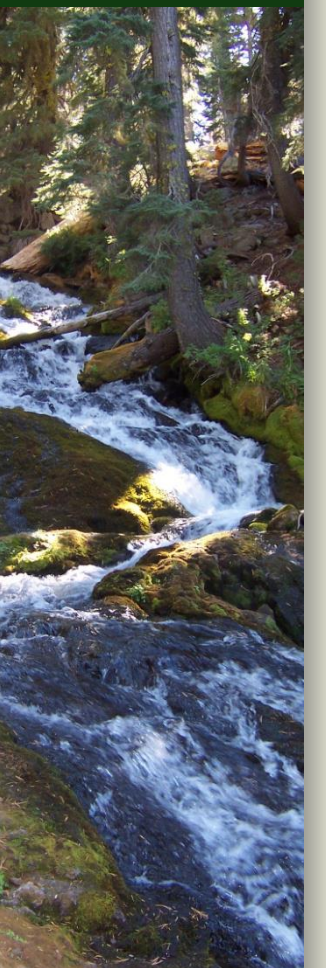
Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Build CPL Program Infrastructure

- Create quality policy, procedure and processes, and establish both fiscal and human resources and services for effective and efficient CPL program operations.

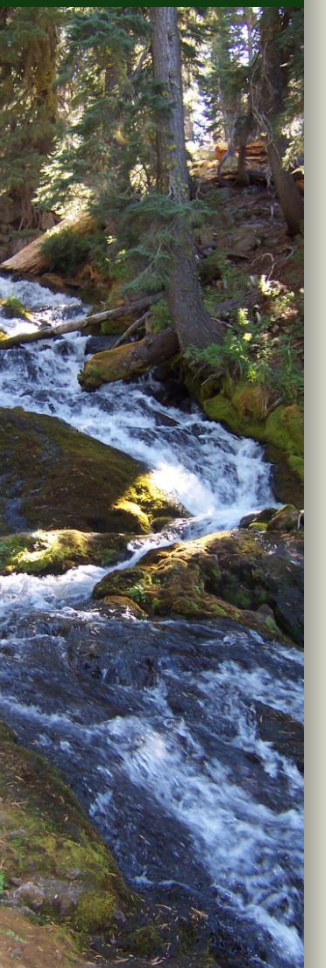
Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Marketing and Outreach

- Create outreach campaign that includes formal announcements, clear procedures, etc. and pair that with informal instructor-student and counselor -student interactions to help identify and secure the CPL program pipeline.

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Shasta College & CPL

Online Instructor Training Developed – Canvas Screenshot:

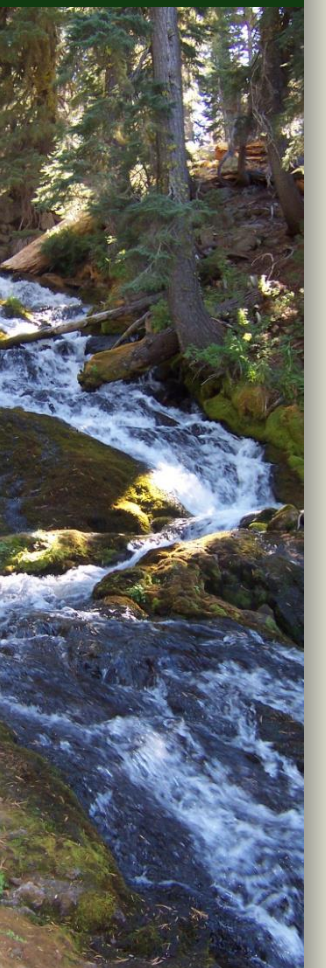
Credit for Prior Learning - Instructor Guide

Edit

Here at Shasta College we honor life experiences prior to becoming a Knight. This is why we are developing a comprehensive Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) program to ensure the opportunity to receive course credit for prior knowledge and experience.

What is Credit for Prior Learning?
Why are we doing this?
Faculty's Role in CPL
Step by Step Process

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Shasta College & CPL

Online Instructor Training Developed – Canvas Screenshot

Faculty's Role in CPL

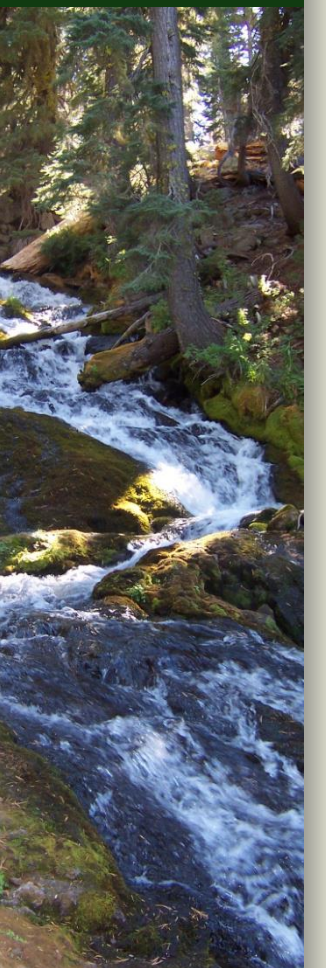
Instructors may consider awarding course credit for three different types of Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) - Military Experience, Industry Recognized Credentials, and Portfolio/Skills Demonstration.

#1 Military Experience

Question to ask yourself:	If a student has specific training in a particular discipline, is there a course in which we can award credit?
Example:	Could a welding course taken in the military equate to WELD 70 Beginning Welding?

Military Experience - Step by Step Guide

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Shasta College & CPL

Online Instructor Training Developed – Canvas Screenshot

Military Experience - Step by Step

Military Experience

Review courses listed on a Joint Services Transcript (JST) and evaluate for course credit.

Step #1: Learn about the JST: Joint-Services-Transcript-Brochure.pdf

Step #2: Review this video on how to look up courses:

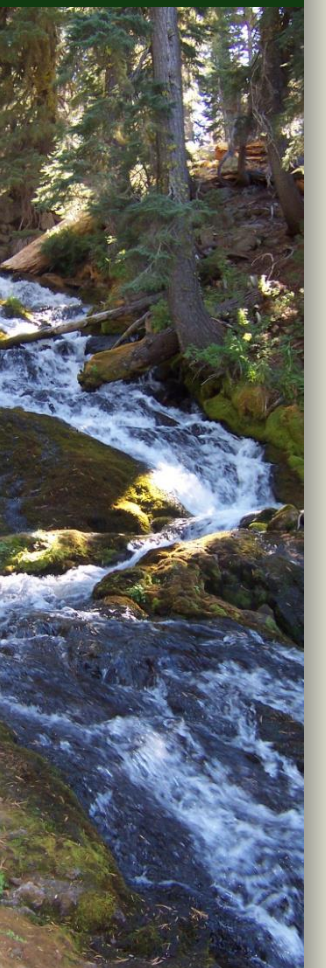
Click here to watch on YouTube

A quick step by step guide on looking up a specific course: How to Look Up a Specific Military Course.pdf

A quick step by step guide on how to look up courses specific to your discipline: How to Look Up Military Courses Within Discipline.pdf

Step #3: Look up courses and evaluate for course for course credit. Complete the CPL - Course Credit Review & Recommendation Form.docx

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Shasta College & CPL

Online Instructor Training Developed – Canvas Screenshot

Industry Recognized Credentials - Step by Step

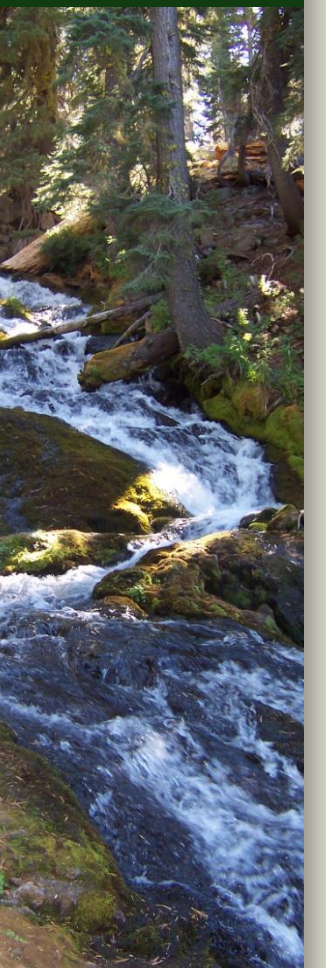
Industry Recognized Credentials

Step #1: Look up information for credentials related to your discipline. For a list of recommended Industry Recognized Credentials to consider for your sector, click below:

Agriculture, Water & Enviro Tech Sector Cert List.xlsx
Business - Accounting & HR Cert List.xlsx
Small Business and Global Trade Logistics Sector Cert Lists.xlsx
Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) Sector Cert List.xlsx
Retail, Hospitality & Tourism Sector Cert List.xlsx

Step #2: Compare the learning that took place to achieve the credential and evaluate for potential course credit. Complete the CPL - Course Credit Review & Recommendation Form.docx

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Shasta College & CPL

Online Instructor Training Developed – Canvas Screenshot

Portfolio/Skills Demonstration - Step by Step

Portfolio/Skills Demonstration

Students will have the opportunity to seek course credit through submitting a portfolio, and/or, when necessary, performing a skills demonstration. The prior knowledge they will need to demonstrate will be based on course objectives provided in the course outline.

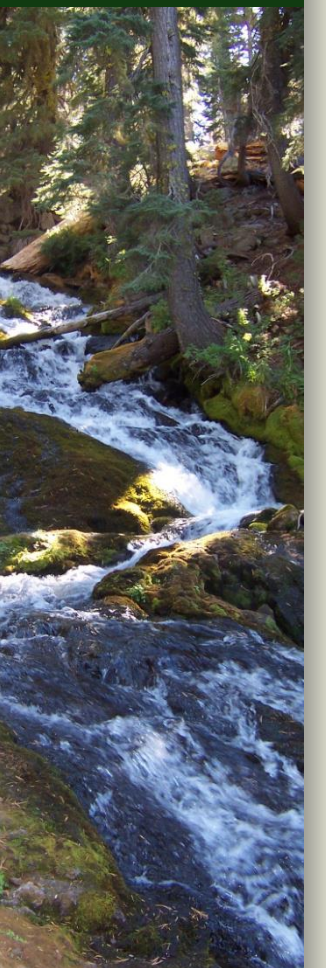
Step #1: Instructors may give guidance on how they would like each objective to be demonstrated. Examples: artifacts, exhibits, relevant documentation, an interview, hands-on skills demonstration, narrative, etc.

Step #2: Complete this guide for students: CPL - Portfolio Skills Demonstration Guide.docx
For each objective, please give instructions to the student as to how you'd like to see the prior knowledge demonstrated.

Step #3: Submit the completed guide to: Liz Kohn, lkohn@shastacollege.edu

Sample Credit for Prior Learning Portfolio Assessment Rubric: CPL RUBRIC.docx

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Shasta College & CPL

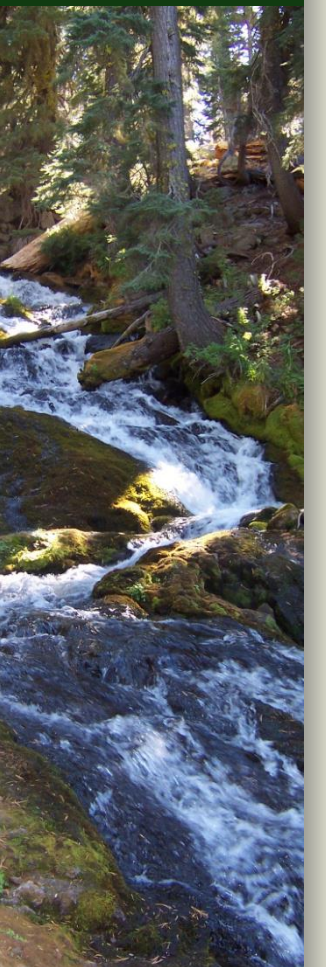
Current Progress

- **Updates to AP 4235**

Next Steps

- **More Faculty/Counselor Engagement!**
  - **Faculty led determination of courses that are relevant for CPL**
  - **Evaluation of courses by faculty**
  - **Communicate CPL program to students**

Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District



Questions?