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Office of Instruction: The Monday Minute (November 2 Edition)



The Monday Minute (Week 11)

November 2, 2026

Welcome to Week 11!

Welcome to November and Week 11 of the fall semester! As we move further into the semester, November offers a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the many things we have to be grateful for, especially the friends, family, and colleagues who enrich our lives. I hope this month brings opportunities to spend time with those who matter most, appreciate the little moments, and recognize the positive impact we have on one another.

Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week | November 16 – November 20, 2026



November is an opportunity to raise awareness about hunger, homelessness, and basic needs insecurity among our students. Mt. SAC's Basic Needs Resources team has organized several activities during **Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (November 16–20)**, including the Student Equity Speaker Series and Basic Needs Allyship Training.

Hygiene Donation Drive | Now through November 20

The Office of Instruction is also participating in the campus-wide **Hygiene Donation Drive** **until November 20** with collection boxes located in **Building 414 (2nd Floor)**.

We welcome donations of the following items:

- **Shampoo & Conditioner (travel or full size)**
- **Body Wash or Bar Soap**
- **Lotion or Moisturizer**
- **Deodorant**
- **Razors & Shaving Cream**
- **Toothpaste & Toothbrushes**
- **Mouthwash & Floss**
- **Menstrual Hygiene Products**
- **Baby Diapers & Wipes**

Please contact Anthony Mesas in the Office of Instruction if you have any questions about the donation drop-off location or would like to arrange for your donated items to be picked up.

Student Equity Speaker Series Featuring Dr. Terence Lester

On Tuesday, **November 17, at 1:30 p.m., join us at the Multicultural Center (Building 410**) for a special presentation by Dr. Terence Lester, storyteller, public scholar, community activist, and founder of Love Beyond Walls. His work focuses on homelessness, dignity, belonging, and social justice. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the experiences of individuals facing homelessness and how we can strengthen our understanding and support of those experiencing basic needs insecurity.

Thank you for supporting these important efforts and helping create a campus community where our students feel valued, supported, and connected to the resources they need to succeed!

Your Voice Matters: Mt. SAC Employee Survey



Faculty voices are essential to implementing **Mt. SAC 2035.**

The Institutional Effectiveness Committee invites you to share your perspectives on campus welcomeness and belonging, awareness of student services, and campus safety. Your feedback will help guide planning and improvements.

This **anonymous survey takes 5–10 minutes** and is open through **Friday, December 4:** Take the Mt. SAC 2035 Employee Survey

Thank you to everyone who has already participated! Please reach out to Dr. Patty Quiñones if you have any questions.



Celebrating Mt. SAC's Inaugural State of the College Address

Congratulations to Dr. Martha Garcia on a wonderful inaugural State of the College Address! With more than 500 attendees, the event celebrated Mt. SAC's remarkable 80-year history, highlighted inspiring student stories, and recognized the many accomplishments of our college community.

It was especially exciting to see several instructional programs featured, including Athletics, Speech and Debate, the Wildland Fire Academy, and the School of Continuing Education's Licensed Vocational Nursing Program. Dr. Garcia also shared an exciting vision for the future, including new facilities and a $3 million federal grant to advance AI literacy across the college.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this milestone event and to the faculty, classified professionals, students, and administrators whose dedication continues to shape the Mt. SAC story!

Celebrating Our Award-Winning Journalism Students!

Congratulations to our Mt. SAC journalism students on their outstanding achievements at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges Regional Conference! Competing against 17 other Southern California community



colleges, our student-run publications, **SAC Media and Substance Magazine, earned eight awards**, including the prestigious **General Excellence Award for SAC Media**.

These accomplishments reflect the talent, creativity, and dedication of our student journalists. A special thank you to Professor Jessica Cardenas for her mentorship and commitment to our students. We are incredibly proud of these achievements and look forward to cheering them on at the statewide competition in Spring 2027!

Read more about their accomplishments here:
https://www.mtsac.edu/newsroom/news/posts/journalism_awards_oct26.html

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Important Dates and Reminders



- Veteran's Day (Campus Closed): **Wednesday, November 11, 2026**
- Thanksgiving Holiday**: November 26 and 27, 2026**
- Deadline to Request to Merge Canvas Shells for Winter 2027: **December 1, 2026**
- Last Day of the Fall 2026 Semester: **December 11, 2026**
- Grades Due (full-term classes): **Tuesday, December 15, 2026 (by 8 pm)**
- Winter 2027 Begins: **January 4, 2027**
- Deadline to Request to Merge Canvas Shells for Spring 2027: **February 1, 2027**
- **Winter 2027 Ends: February 11, 2027**
- February Holidays: **February 12 (Friday) and February 15 (Monday)**
- Spring 2027 Begins: **February 22, 207**
- Mt. SAC Faculty Center for Learning Technology website
- Mt. SAC Student Services Resources
- Canvas Student Support Hub (log in to access this resource)
- Mt. SAC 2026 - 2027 Academic Calendar
- Mt. SAC 2027 - 2028 Academic Calendar
- Fall 2026 Credit Course Section Cancellation Protocol
- Mt. SAC Calendar of Events
- The Monday Minute Feedback Survey



As We Settle into November...

We hope you find time to enjoy the fall season and all it brings. As always, the Office of Instruction and our Division Offices are here to support you throughout the semester.

Have a wonderful week!

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