Preparing for Success-
Community College Transfer Students

College of Science
College of Engineering
Destination is Graduation-Not Admissions

• Admission currently based on GPA
  – Most science and engineering majors 2.60-3.60
  – Meteorology 2.0
  – Chemical, Materials, Industrial Engr 2.0
  – Industrial Tech and Aviation 2.0

• Future admission criteria could change due to Impaction and Supplemental Criteria

• Success based on preparation
Admission does not equal Success

• It is possible to get admitted with high overall GPA but low Major Prep GPA
• It is not possible to succeed in this way
• Transfers who enter without their Major Prep completed face many years of school and may lose their spot in STEM majors due to slow progress to degree
Destination is Graduation-

• Take as many major-specific lower division requirements as possible: Science
  – Math
  – Chemistry
  – Physics
  – Biology
  – Computer Science

• Take the four basic skills GE courses; other than those, take the lower division major courses first and fill in schedule with other GEs

• Even though only 70 units are transferrable more than 70 units can often count towards the degree content requirements
Engineering Transfers

• Take as many lower division requirements as possible
  – Complete Calc sequence, Phys sequence, Chem sequence, Engr core courses (as needed for major)

• **More important to complete the STEM courses** than GE
  – STEM courses are in the pre-req stream
  – Most GE courses are not in the pre-req stream

• More than 70 units can often count towards the degree content requirements

• Oral Comm, Engl 1A, Math are required for admission to Engr

• Critical Thinking **not required** for admission to Engr Major

• Admission is based on all_college_GPA, not on prep courses

• Success is based on prep courses
Be Realistic

• Students that have not taken any major preparation courses have a longer time to degree and a lower success rate in STEM fields than better prepared students.

• Consider taking more preparation courses at Community College before transferring to better prepare for STEM major.
Have a Plan

• Need a graduation plan
  – What is your academic path to graduation?

• Need an extracurricular plan
  – What activities, clubs, internships, work-experiences will enhance your education and prepare you for your next step after graduation
    – Job
    – Graduate school
    – Professional school

• Need a financial plan
  – How will you pay for your education?
Success

• SJSU is different than Community College
  Different processes and deadlines
• Students need to be prepared to work hard
• Students need to be self-motivated
• Time management is often challenging
• Work-life balance
  – 12 units is equivalent to a 36 hours of work/week
  – Take fewer units first semester so can adjust
Success at SJSU

• Students should get help early
• Form Study groups
• Join Student Clubs
• Explore intern and research opportunities
• Make an effort to meet faculty
  – Go to office hours
• Take advantage of resources
  – Advising centers, tutoring, workshops