

NON-CREDIT AND CREDIT ALIGNMENT: A STUDENT STORY



ALEXIS
PRIMO

Age:
34

City of Residence:

San Diego, CA

**Institution and
Program of Study:**

San Diego College
of Continuing
Education (SDCCE);
*Child Development and
Business Administration*



What are your plans for your future?

I plan to complete my majors in Black Studies, Psychology and Social Work then transfer to SDSU to major in Africana Studies and minor in Child Development and Counseling and then enroll in the CBB Master's Program.

Why did you enroll in a non-credit program?

I enrolled at SDCCE to get me back into the groove of studying and being a student. Ten years was a long break from taking formal classes; I knew starting off with certificates I enjoyed doing would definitely help. In addition, I was able to have my two children participate with me. I was able to gently prepare them for their preschool and kindergarten settings while being with them. I truly appreciated that opportunity! Now that they are at school, they were able to transition with more comfort.

What prompted you to transition to a credit program?

I began my major in Black Studies in 2011. In 2013, I started a family and needed a break from school to focus on that. I opened my First Steps Childcare in 2015 and was very successful until COVID. Although I attempted returning to Mesa College during that time, I was unable to stay committed because the classes seemed difficult to incorporate into my schedule. But, this time, having the opportunity to attend SDCCE first, definitely prepared me to be a better student, especially while being a parent.

What recommendations do you have to faculty and staff who are working to improve the student experience across non-credit and credit?

My recommendation for faculty and staff would be to continue assisting our diverse adult learners—particularly student parents and students of color—with culturally inclusive material. I feel this is important because our identity and sense of self is linked to our overall educational journey and success.