

MEET THE FCC CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

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The Fresno City College Cross Country team consists of seven runners, each with their own interests and passions, brought together by their love of running. The team only has 5 meets and 2 championship runs throughout the fall 2025 season, but they are always practicing bright and early, whether it be at Woodward park or at Ratcliffe Stadium.



Itzel Gonzalez - Interior Design Major

"I run for the cross country team here at FCC because I love the coaches and teammates, meeting new people is really fun. Through running I make a lot of good connections that I wouldn't get elsewhere, and I feel like meeting new people brings out another me that I didn't know was in me," Gonzalez said.



Julissa Thahane - Human Biology Major
"I run for the team because I wanted to try something new instead of just school, home and work. I like meeting new people and the people here are pretty fun, and it's cool to travel to different places," Thahane said.



Aiden Levato - English Major
"I like running for cross country because I just like competing. Whenever I cross the finish line, I can see the work I've put in paying off," Levato said.



Juan Herrera - Automotive Collision Repair Technology Major
"I ran because back in third grade I had seen my sister run a race and I decided to try it out myself. When I did I found that I had joy in running, and it's been a hobby ever since," Herrera said.



(LEFT TO RIGHT) RYAN ANDERSON, EMBERLY GONZALEZ, ITZEL GONZALEZ AND JULISSA THAHANE POSE FOR A PICTURE BEHIND ENGRAVED STONES DEDICATED TO CROSS COUNTRY AT WOODWARD PARK ON AUG. 29. PHOTO BY LOGAN PAYNE.



(LEFT TO RIGHT) ITZEL GONZALES, JULISSA THAHANE, EMBERLY GONZALEZ AND RYAN ANDERSON RUN UP A HILL IN WOODWARD PARK DURING CROSS COUNTRY PRACTICE ON THE MORNING OF AUG. 29. PHOTO BY LOGAN PAYNE.

MEET THE FCC MENS SOCCER TEAM

Juan Garcia | Reporter
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The Fresno City College men's soccer season is about to begin. With 19 games ahead of them, the earliest being against Skyline on Sept. 5, they have a long season ahead of them. The Rams have been working hard and seem to have high hopes for the season. Here are a few of the members from the team to express their voice on the season.

Santana Mercado - Kinesiology Major
Position: Striker/Left Winger

"The season I think is going to go very well for us. The team looks really, really solid, y'know, it's the beginning of the season. We had one scrimmage so far, everyone played, everyone looked really good, there wasn't much drop off. Going forward, going into the season, I think we're going to have a little bit of struggles early on. But I think once we kind of figure it all out, build our chemistry, build our team, I think it's the seasons and go really, really well for us," Mercado said.



SANTANA MERCADO JOGS WITH THE SOCCER TEAM DURING PRACTICE AUG 27. PHOTO BY JUAN GARCIA.



Adriel Rocha - Business
Position: Left back
"Fun fact about me is I just moved here to Fresno this last year, so yeah, I'm new to the Valley," Rocha said.

ADRIEL ROCHA KICKS A SOCCER BALL DURING PRACTICE AUG 27. PHOTO BY JUAN GARCIA.



CHRISTIAN ORTIZ HOLDS A SOCCER BALL DURING PRACTICE AUG 27. PHOTO BY JUAN GARCIA.

Christian Ortiz - Pre-Allied Health Major
Position: Goal keeper

"So, starting off, we already played a couple preseason games. It was a good test for us out in Tahoe, and I think our team was structured very well. I think we have a couple things to work on. Little things like chemistry, which is typical for, you know, for a new team, coming together. So I think once we ironed those things out, we're going to be a really good team and have a lot of success during the season," Ortiz said.



Bernardo Novello - Business Major
Position: Defender/Center
"We're going to do well this season, I hope everything goes good. See you Rams," Novello said.

BERNARDO NOVELLO KICKS A SOCCER BALL AND JOGS WITH THE TEAM DURING PRACTICE AUG 27. PHOTO BY JUAN GARCIA.

STUDENT ATHLETE VOICES

"What's the hardest part about being a student athlete?"
Compiled by Audrey Laney



Elaia Torres
Girls Volleyball

"I would say not being at home all the time because this week, I go to school in the morning and then I go straight to practice right after, and I get home at 7 p.m. to have dinner. So, I don't get to spend time with my family as much as I want to. We leave for a tournament on Thursday and I won't be back until Sunday. It is really hard, especially when you never get to see your family and pets," Torres said.



Eric Floyd
Track & Field

"What is hard is communicating with your team, because everyone has problems with each other somewhat here and there. At the end of the day, you have to get through and leave that stuff in the past because y'all are teammates no matter what and still have to compete against other teams together, motivate each other, push each other the hardest to see each other succeed," Floyd said.



Hudson Swaim
Boys Basketball

"I think that being a student athlete, you really have to commit yourself to it on and off the court. So, discipline, good habits, and making sure you're taking care of your body by sleeping well is really important, but also, making sure that you're staying accountable to your teammates. Our word this year that we are really trying to focus on is accountability. You can't do team sports by yourself, basketball especially. You have to lean on your guys, lean on your coaches and each other," Swaim said.