

The Learning Center

When classes are in session, our Fall and Spring hours are:

Monday - Thursday:
7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Friday:

7:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Contact us: 636-584-6688

Academic Calendar

Tuesday, Mar. 17

Mid Semester Grades Due

Monday-Friday, Mar. 23 - 27

Spring Break

Thursday-Saturday, Mar. 26 - 27

Music Festival

Friday, April 3

Good Friday-College Closed

Friday, May 8

Last Official Class Day

Monday, May 11

Last Day to Drop with
"W" (by noon)

Monday-Thursday, May 11-14

Day and Evening Finals

Saturday, May 16

Commencement

Monday, May 25

Memorial Day-College Closed

Writing Workshop

Thursday, February 12 2:30 p.m.

Friday, February 13 11:00 a.m.

Monday, February 16 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 17 11:00 a.m.

Softball Schedule

(Home Games Only. All Games Begin at 2 p.m. Unless Otherwise Noted)

Sunday, Mar. 1 - Missouri Valley
1:00 p.m.

Monday, Mar. 2 - Lewis & Clark

Monday, Mar. 9 - Culver Stockton

Thursday, Mar. 12 - Moraine Valley

Friday, Mar. 13 - Lindenwood-
Belleville

Thursday, Mar. 19 - Three Rivers

Friday, Mar. 20 - Cottley

Tuesday, Mar. 24 - Joliet

Thursday, Mar. 26 - St. Charles

Tuesday, Mar. 31 - Jefferson

Viewing and Discussing Social Justice Issues

As part of its film and lecture series, East Central College is presenting two free events this semester. On Thursday, February 26th at 7 p.m., *12 Years a Slave* will be shown at the John E. Anglin Performing Arts Center. Following the film, ECC faculty will lead a discussion about slave narratives and portrayals of African Americans in film. On Thursday, March 19th at 7 p.m., the documentary *Anne Braden: Southern Patriot* will be shown in HS100. A panel discussion about "Being a White Ally" will follow.

The first two installments of the series, both held in January, were widely attended by faculty, staff, students, and members of the community.



Turning Over a New Leaf

This semester, we are changing the name of The Learning Center newsletter from *The Eyes* to *The New Leaf*. Like the changing of leaves in the spring, our new title represents a change. As students become scholars, we too are branching out by trying something new and making a fresh start.

Learning Center Scholarship Valentine's Day Bake Sale

Get sweet on someone at East Central! The annual Valentine's Day Bake Sale is Thursday, February 12 in the lobby outside of The Learning Center. Stop by the table and pick up a sweet treat. Or you can show your appreciation for a friend, colleague, faculty, or staff member by placing an order to be delivered anywhere on campus. Each item will include a message card for that personalized touch. Available items include cupcakes, popcorn, fruit kabobs, brownies, and cookies. All proceeds benefit The Learning Center Scholarship.



**KEEP
CALM
AND
LOG OFF
YOUR P.C.**

Check Your Progress for Midterms

Midterms are coming! For many students, this is a scary thought at best and a frightening thought at worst. The best approach to midterms is to consider them to be the first half of the final exam. You'll only be studying for half of a test. That's not so bad.

There are some general things that you can do to get ready. Here's a check list to follow for this half-exam:

#1 Take Care of Yourself

Eat healthy.

Sleep 8 hours/day (no more).

Exercise, a good excuse for a break.

#2 Don't Cram

Skim over the textbook, notes, old tests, quizzes, and the syllabus to pick out what is important and what you found difficult.

Do the study guide. Don't have one? Make your own.

Listen to what the professor thinks is important / interesting; that may be a hint.

Make an appointment at The Learning Center for help.

#3 Practice, Practice, Practice

Practice concepts that were difficult for you in the past.

Work with a study group.

Study in a quiet environment.

How to Prepare for The Learning Center

Math

Go to Class. A good tutoring session starts in class. Attend every class and take good notes. If you miss a class, go to your instructor's office hours to get caught up; tutors are not meant to teach you what you missed in class.

D.I.Y. If you run into trouble on a homework assignment, try other problems and get as much of the assignment done as you can. Making an attempt, even a mistaken attempt, reinforces your understanding of concepts and aids later recall.

Bring your Confusion. Before your appointment, think about whether the problems you don't understand have a concept in common with each other. Be prepared to discuss that concept with your tutor.

English

Proofread. Time with your tutor is valuable and your tutor isn't going to proofread your paper for you. Two good ways to eliminate typos, misspellings, and other mechanical errors is to read your paper out loud or have a friend read it with you.

Be Specific. Now that you've read your paper, arrive prepared with specific questions about how to improve your paper. For example, ask about transition sentences if you would like to improve the flow of your paper.

Change is Good. Use The Learning Center early and often. Ask for help with anything from picking a topic to improving a final draft, but be ready to make changes. Your tutor will always have suggestions.

No Matter What the Subject, Schedule an Appointment

The Learning Center offers free tutoring five days a week. The best way to make sure you can meet with a tutor is to schedule an appointment by calling (636)584-6688 or stopping by the main desk.

A Successful Student's Guide to Spring Break

Spring Break! Spring Break! A weeklong opportunity in the middle of the semester to unwind, relax, and completely forget that school exists, right? Not really. While it is important to relax during Spring Break, remember that in the end, there is still quite a bit of semester left. Here are some tips to help stay on top of things during the break:

Look Ahead- See what tests and assignments are due the week after Spring Break, especially towards the beginning of the week

Chunk Up Study Sessions- Rather than working for twelve hours straight on Sunday, set aside smaller amounts of time throughout the week.

Remember to Breathe- While it is important to keep on top of work, also keep in mind that we have a break for a reason, and to utilize it properly. Spend time with family and friends, catch a movie, or, weather permitting, take a trip to a local state park.

Be sure to have a safe and happy Spring Break! It starts March 23, so mark your calendars for some productive relaxation!

Finding Feldmann



Eric Feldmann, our newest student tutor, uses his diverse knowledge to assist students with English and math.

Eric has been active in ECC theater since he was in high school. When he is not studying or helping students, Eric enjoys debating and avoiding salad bars.

Introducing New Staff

Jamie Pickel is a part-time English Specialist. He graduated from Lindenwood University in December with a B.A. in English.

Windy Souder is a part-time English Specialist. She is wrapping up her B.S. in English at Missouri Baptist University.

Returning Student Tutors

Derek Lause returns to The Learning Center desk this semester. He is majoring in Computer Science at ECC. Derek spends his spare time honing his League of Legends skills.

Claire Smith is also back for another semester tutoring English and playing softball for ECC. Claire will transfer to Mizzou next fall to finish her B.S. in English Education.

On the Brink of Success

When Mary Brink ran into trouble in a class required for her AAS in Health Information Management, she didn't panic or hire a tutor. She came to The Learning Center. Over the course of the Fall 2014 semester, Mary logged over 300 hours in The Learning Center studying by herself and with a study group. She also attended over 50 sessions with a Learning Center tutor. With tutoring help and her strong work ethic, she was able to earn a satisfactory grade.

The Learning Center is an underutilized resource, according to Mary, who approaches her time as a student with the same consistency and hard work she would a job. Studying away from home helps Mary focus on her work and not chores or hobbies. "At home I may only be able to think about the laundry I need to do," she says, "but here I can concentrate on my school work."

The Learning Center Spring Break Schedule

Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

When Mary has trouble staying focused or understanding something, she knows she can always find a tutor. She says the tutors make her "think through" her work instead of giving her the answers. With a tutor as a guide, she has found new motivation to become a successful college student.

When Mary is not studying in The Learning Center, she is an avid quilter who enjoys reading and spending time with her pet Cockapoo.

