

the New Leaf

Upcoming Events in the Learning Center

Math Final Review Sessions

During the week before finals, the Learning Center offers final review sessions for Pre-Algebra through College Algebra. The week of finals we offer Algebra, Pre-Calculus and Trig review sessions or other classes on request.

We encourage students to come in with questions from the review guide, problem areas, or just come and listen to questions other students raise. If the times that we offer review sessions do not work with your schedule, please visit the Learning Center and we can create a new session or an individual appointment.

PRE-ALGEBRA

Monday, May 8 at 12:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, May 9 at 8:00 a.m.
 Wednesday, May 10 at 9:00 a.m.
 Thursday, May 11 at 3:00 p.m.
 Friday, May 12 at 12:30 p.m.

INTRO ALGEBRA

Monday, May 8 at 11:00 a.m.
 Tuesday, May 9 at 12:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, May 10 at 4:30 p.m.
 Thursday, May 11 at 9:00 a.m.
 Friday, May 12 at 11:00 a.m.

INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA

Monday, May 8 at 1:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, May 9 at 3:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, May 10 at 10:30 a.m.
 Thursday, May 11 at 10:00 a.m.
 Friday, May 12 at 8:30 a.m.

COLLEGE ALGEBRA

Monday, May 8 at 3:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, May 9 at 11:30 a.m.
 Wednesday, May 10 at 10:00 a.m.
 Thursday, May 11 at 12:00 p.m.
 Friday, May 12 at 9:30 a.m.



Party Like It's Finals

Prepping for Finals Week

It's that time again... finals week. This is one of the most stressful weeks of the semester. We're never sure how it got here so quickly, but we have to face the fact that it's here.

Prepping for finals is sort of like a night out on the town. There are some things you just have to do beforehand if you want your night to run smoothly.

One thing would be to stay organized. Long before finals week, have everything planned out and in the place it needs to go. When you hit the town for a night out, you definitely don't want to forget to do something that needs to be done.

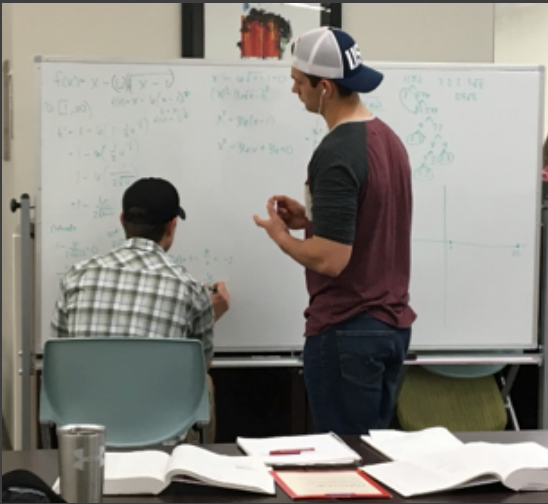
You should have a plan about where you are going and what you will need when you get there.

Another thing would be to get with some friends. When studying, you should talk with some classmates to get a better idea of what you need to get done. No one likes to go out all alone. Don't forget that your instructor is a great resource for help—so are the tutors in The Learning Center.

You should also eat a healthy dinner and breakfast on the days prior to the final. Everyone knows you need a good meal before you start doing anything. No one does anything efficiently on an empty belly.

The final tip, and the absolute most important, would be do not cram. Nobody likes to rush around to get ready for a party. You want to look and feel your best. The same thing goes for finals: start studying a week or so before the final. You'll have more time to figure out where to spend your energy.

Whether you are getting ready for a night on the town or finals week at ECC, having a plan, staying organized, and taking care of yourself will help you stay on top of things—and be ready to party.



Markers, Erasers and White boards, Oh My!

New Resources at the Learning Center

Have you ever wished there was a place to map out your thoughts about an essay you're writing? Wish there was a space where you could meet with your students and work through a difficult calculus problem without worrying if you'll disrupt a class meeting? Now there is.

During the 2016 fall semester, Kristin Milligan, the Associate Director of the Learning Center, and Alison Tucker, a full time Learning Center Specialist, wrote and were awarded a Foundation mini-grant for three large mobile white boards for the Learning Center. The white boards are for all ECC students, faculty, and staff members who wish to come to The Learning Center and take advantage of these resources.

A couple of housekeeping notes, though. If you're a student here, please sign in with the front desk or at one of the kiosks by the glass doors before joining in on the fun of white board use. If you're a faculty or staff member who wants to work with a student, stop by any time the Learning Center is open. If you need more markers, we have a variety of colors. Just ask the front desk staff for a couple, and they'll be more than happy to assist you. If you have any questions, feel free to stop by the Learning Center or give us a call.

Stay Sharp Over Summer Break

Make the Smart Choices!

Summer is coming, and our excuses for neglecting our intellects line up like ominous clouds on what might be a series of clear, bright days.

With a little work, we can use (and not abuse) the warmth of the season and the time leisure provides to maintain our curiosity and keep our scholarly skills sharp. From keeping up with our math in order to avoid falling into a frenzy of brushing up and worrying come next semester, to falling (deliberately) in love with literature and writing, summer is the time to decide what you will excel in, without the orders and deadlines of your professors.

In short, you are free. Use your freedom to surpass yourselves, to push yourselves to know more and to feel more, away from the scrutinizing eyes of your instructors.

Each day, as the temperature rises, try to study and read for yourselves, not with grades or praise or repercussions in mind. Don't wait for something to happen, but shape each day and week and month - to some degree - and learn to be alone and happy with books and texts that you choose.

Acing the Testing Center

Preparation Tips for Faster, Stress-free Service

With finals right around the corner, there is a good chance you'll be visiting The Testing Center. Though it can be a stressful time in the semester, we hope to make your visit as easy as possible. Here are three ways you can help us help you avoid the long lines and fast approaching exam end dates.

1. Have your ID out and ready for Testing Center staff. We accept many forms of photo identification: student ID, driver's license, work IDs, etc., but we cannot give you an exam without photo identification.
2. Know your instructor's name. All exams are filed by instructor name, and in order for us to promptly serve you, we need this information to quickly locate your exam.
3. Need a Scantron? Headphones or ear buds? Are you allowed notes or books? Need to borrow a calculator? Be prepared for what you need or are allowed to access during your exam, and have those items out and ready.

The Testing Center staff are here to make your finals as stress free as possible. We realize that your schedule may cause you to test at the last minute. If so, coming to The Testing Center prepared will lessen your wait time. Find out more at our website: <http://www.eastcentral.edu/learning-center/testing-center/>.

Falcon Perks

Benefits for Being a College Student

Being an ECC student has its perks. Along with a quality education at a fraction of the price other colleges charge, ECC students are eligible for some amazing deals.

- St. Louis Blues student discount tickets (\$26-\$49) can be purchased in-person with college student id or online with a student email account and the code STUDENT.
- Car insurance companies offer discounts for student drivers who get good grades. Contact your agent for details. If you don't have insurance, State Farm offers up to 25% off as long as you're a student under age 25. All-State has a similar good student discount.
- Cell phone carriers offer discounts to students with proof of enrollment. AT&T gives up to 17% off. Visit <https://www.att.com/shop/wireless/iru-check-for-discount.html> to check eligibility.
- FedEx offers 20% off shipping if you present a student ID.
- Amazon's Student Prime is \$49 per year and includes streaming TV, movies, and music along with 2-day Prime shipping and access to PrimePantry. StudentPrime starts with a free 6-month membership.
- The New York Times gives students online, all access subscriptions for \$1 per week.
- General Motors offers a number of student discounts. For more info visit: www.gmcollegediscout.com/ip-vpp/
- Spotify offers students a premium, commercial free account for \$4.99 a month.
- Straatmann Toyota in Washington offers a college/grad rebate for students who have or will graduate within the past or next 6 months (\$750).
- T's Trophies & More in Union offers 10% off everything but labor.
- Willow Creek Antiques in Union gives ECC students 10% off anything in the store.



Bake Sale a Sweet Success

Annual Bake Sale for Scholarship Fund

Our annual TLC Valentine's Day Bake Sale raised \$246.72 toward The Learning Center Scholarship fund. The bake sale gave TLC staff members a chance to show off their creativity and baking skills. Dozens of beautifully decorated cupcakes were sold in addition to bags of popcorn, chocolate covered strawberries, and fruit kabobs. Delivery services and personalized messages added a special touch that made each treat unique.

This year The Learning Center held three events—Christmas wrapping relief, a campus-wide Christmas decorating contest, and the Valentines bake sale—to raise funds for The Learning Center Scholarship fund. The scholarship is given each year to a deserving student who utilizes TLC services to succeed at ECC.



Swodoba Awarded TLC Scholarship

Chemistry and Math Tutor

Moriah Swodoba (pictured) is the recipient of this year's Learning Center Scholarship. Moriah works in The Learning Center as a chemistry and math tutor. She says that tutoring allows her exciting opportunities to show her peers where chemistry touches their everyday life and how chemistry can improve their quality of life.

Before she was a tutor, Moriah sought tutoring in multiple subjects, including math, writing, and chemistry. "Moriah's enthusiasm for chemistry makes her a joy to work with," says Kathy Wright, TLC math and science specialist.

Moriah plans to attend UMSL after her ECC education is complete. She hopes to finish her education with a Master's degree in biochemistry or biotechnology.

"The scholarship allows me to minimize my financial worries," Moriah says, "and maximize the time and energy I have to spend on my chemistry."