

The Learning Center

When classes are in session, our Spring and Summer 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. 15

Mid Semester Grades Due

Friday, Mar. 25

Good Friday-College Closed

Monday-Friday, Mar. 28 – April 1

Spring Break

Thursday-Saturday, Mar. 31-Apr. 2

Music Festival

Friday, May 6

Last Official Class Day

Monday, May 9

Last Day to Drop with “W” (by noon)

Tuesday-Friday, May 10-13

Day and Evening Finals

Saturday, May 14

Commencement

Friday-Monday, May 27-30

Memorial Day-College Closed

Softball Schedule

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

Monday, Mar. 14 – Culver Stockton JV

Wednesday, Mar. 16 – Moraine Valley

Friday, Mar. 18 – Cottey College

Tuesday, Mar. 22 – Mineral Area

Monday, Mar. 28 – Southwestern Illinois

Tuesday, Mar. 29 – Jefferson

Wednesday, Mar. 30 – Lewis & Clark

Better Writing with One Click

The Learning Center began an exciting new service last semester that allows students to receive writing help from any computer with an internet connection, any time. Students use Moodle to submit papers which are reviewed by a Learning Center Writing Specialist. The Specialist then returns the commented paper via Moodle. Papers are usually returned to the student within twenty-four hours!

“This is a great service for our busy students, many of whom juggle full-time work, school, relationships, and family responsibilities,” said Tim Derifield, the Online Writing Center coordinator. “These time-constrained students are able to get writing help while on the go.”

Dulce Hernandez-Rojas has used the OWC this semester and found it a great help: “I had other homework to do and got tutoring help while other things were going on. Tutors provided links to information that helped me with my grammar.”

Students can begin using the Online Writing Center by logging in to Moodle and looking for the “ECC Online Writing Center” link on the left-hand side of the page or by visiting the OWC webpage at <http://www.eastcentral.edu/learning-center/online-writing-center>. For those students who are more comfortable meeting face to face, The Learning Center still of-

fers traditional tutoring available by appointment or walk-in.

Stop by The Learning Center or submit a paper to the OWC today, and see for yourself the difference a writing tutor can make!

TLC Spring Break Hours

March 28-April 1

7:30-4:30 M-Th

Closed Fri

Review Sessions Underway

Whether you are taking Pre, Intro, Intermediate, or College Algebra, The Learning Center has a midterm review session for you! Using the math department’s midterm review, our experienced math tutors will walk you through the concepts you need to succeed in an easy-going and friendly atmosphere with other students. A schedule of available study sessions is on our website at <http://www.eastcentral.edu/learning-center>.

If you can’t make it to a scheduled session, don’t worry! Our tutors are always available by appointment. Stop by TLC front desk or call 636-584-6688 to make an appointment.



Ready for Registration

Summer and fall registration for current ECC students begins on March 14, 2016. Before registering, here are some things you should do:

- ⇒ **Complete your FAFSA.** You can’t get financial aid without it.
- ⇒ **Meet with your advisor.** They are your best resource for information about what classes you do and don’t need.
- ⇒ **Get approved for web registration.** While you are meeting with your advisor, see if they will pre-approve you to register for classes online.
- ⇒ **Make sure you know your user name and password for eCentral.** If you don’t, stop by The Learning Center front desk and ask to have your password reset.

Testing Center Offers New Service

PEARSON

VUE - Authorized
Test Center

Last summer, East Central College joined the Pearson Vue network to become an authorized Pearson Vue exam location. The agreement between Pearson and ECC allows the Testing Center to proctor hundreds of industry-standard tests and certifications including Cisco, CompTIA, and the Missouri Gateway Entrance Assessment.

“This new service illustrates our commitment to the mission of ECC by providing professional certification and personal enrichment opportunities to students and community members alike,” said Jon Thrower, the Associate Director of The Learning Center.

Pearson Vue tests are computer based, allowing one center to give many different exams at the same time as well as provide easy and quick retrieval of scores.

In addition to the new suite of Pearson Vue exams, the Testing Center continues to offer CLEP, Accuplacer, proctored distance-education exams, and exams for East Central College classes by instructor request. To see if Pearson Vue offers an exam that meets your needs, check their website: pearsonvue.com.

Six Tips for Success in Online Courses

Whether you are trying to improve a grade in a current class or looking forward to an online course next semester, now is a good time to make sure you are on the right track. Figuring out online classes can be tricky, so here are some tips to help you reach your academic goals:

Learn your instructor’s communication policy.

Most teachers outline this in their syllabi. Some teachers will get back to you within 48 hours, others may vary.

Have a back-up plan for what you will do if you don’t have access to your computer or internet. If you wait until you have problems, you might miss important assignments.

Read all directions carefully. Email your instructor if anything is unclear before the assignment is due. Communicate before you are frustrated and angry.

Schedule “class time” for yourself every week. Alt-

hough you won’t be driving to class, it’s best to schedule blocks of time each week for your classwork. It is easy to put off online coursework. Don’t fall into that trap.

Open a Word document to write. For essay questions, forum posts, and papers, do not compose in the text boxes provided. Check for errors. Then, copy and paste your answer in the text box provided.

Success in online courses requires planning and communication. Best wishes for a rewarding online experience!

"Life stands before me like an eternal spring with new and brilliant clothes."

– Carl Friedrich Gauss

Valentine's Bake Sale Exceeds Expectations

Every year, The Learning Center has a Valentine's bake sale to benefit its scholarship fund. This year's bake sale was a resounding success. Denise Walker, who organized the sale, explained: "This year the bake sale succeeded well beyond expectations with a total earned of \$315.98."



the fruit kabobs sold out soon after. Many students enjoyed the bake sale and stopped in to buy a friend an unexpected Valentine's Day treat. Faculty and staff also made many purchases and enjoyed the convenient, campus-wide delivery service.

There were many reasons why this year's bake sale earned more than in years past. First, The Learning Center staff went above and beyond the call of duty, donating much time and money to ensure that there were enough delicious

treats. Walker also noted that the offerings this year were more diverse. She said, "The addition of fresh fruit, including chocolate covered strawberries and fruit kabobs, went over well." The chocolate strawberries were sold out within two hours of opening, and

The proceeds from the bake sale go to a scholarship that is given by The Learning Center to a student who frequently uses Learning Center services including tutoring, college success mentoring, and computer facilities. The scholarship will be awarded later this spring.



Need an all-around MVT (Most Valuable Tutor)? Well, **Eric Feldmann** is your guy! Calculus? Check. English? Check. Question about computers? Checkmate. Any question you need answered, Eric is the tutor for you!



Can't comprehend chemistry? **Sydney Phelps** might be the catalyst for a better grade. She tutors chemistry and math. A music lover, Sydney also loves listening to the sound of nature.



Carol Gossett is the new smiling face students see when they arrive at the Testing Center. She is a friendly, calming presence for students.

Cheryl Temme joins us as The Learning Center clerk after her recent retirement from Boeing. At home, she focuses her energy on her true passion—being the best grandma of all time.

