

## 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.

Tutoring services are provided free of charge to East Central College students and, as available, to interested community members. These services are available by appointment and to walk-ins on a first come, first served basis. Online tutoring in math and English is also available. Please call 636-584-6688 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Visit us on the web: <http://www.eastcentral.edu/learning-center>

## Academic Calendar

Saturday, Dec. 10

Testing and Learning  
Center open 8am-1pm

Monday, Dec. 12

Last Day of Classes

Tuesday-Friday, Dec. 13-16

Final Exams

Thursday-Friday, Dec. 22-January 2

Winter Break-College  
Closed

Monday, January 16

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Day-College Closed

Wednesday, January 18

Spring Semester Classes  
Begin



## TLC Finals Activities

Has the inevitability of finale exams got you down? *Festina Lente*. Make haste slowly, as the old Roman proverb has it, and come see your favorite tutors at The Learning Center for help and guidance with those last papers, equations, questions, and yes, worries. TLC's tutors are prepared to help you in many subjects, ranging from science and mathematics, to English and philosophy. In the event that not even our best efforts can entirely prepare and calm you, East Central College is offering a variety of ways to help you to relax and go into those exams with reasonable

confidence and calm.

Here is a schedule of events during Finals Week:

⇒ Monday and Tuesday, Finals Week Grab and Go Breakfast, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM served in DSSC and the BH Lobby.

⇒ Monday through Thursday, ECC Culinary Arts will provide a free beverage hydration station in The Learning Center.

⇒ Wednesday, 12/7, Massage-on-the-go Licensed Massage Therapists, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM in The Learning Center.

⇒ Thursday, 12/8 - Sheba the Comfort Dog - 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM in the BH Lobby.

Finally, as if food, massages, and a comfort dog were not enough, East Central has another surprise. Students who log into The Learning Center 3 or more times during the week of December 5-9<sup>th</sup> will be automatically entered into a prize drawing for a \$50 Target gift card. So come and see your favorite tutors who are here to help draw out the best in you and provide that extra push that might mean the difference between success and failure.

## Learning Center Algebra Reviews

$$\sqrt[3]{2xy^3}$$

Whether you are taking Pre, Intro, Intermediate, or College Algebra, The Learning Center has a final review session for you! Using the math department's final review guide, 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.

## Plan Now for Next Semester

This fall, The Learning Center began offering short workshops the first week of classes this semester to help students start off strong. We held sessions on Graphing Calculator Basics, Posting to Forums, and The Only Grammar Rule You'll Ever Need. Jared Frankenburg, a pre-calculus student, says the calculator workshop gave him a good working knowledge of how to use his calculator: "I realized the TI-83 isn't smarter than I am. Seeing other students learn how to use the calculator gave me confidence I could too."

We are happy to announce we will be hosting these workshops again for the Spring 2017 semester. We will have a different workshop every day at 11:30 am for the first week of classes. Bring lunch or have a snack. Hope to see you there!

## Tips for a Speedy Testing Center Check-in

As finals approach, the Testing Center will be getting busier and busier. Here are some tips to help you get your tests over faster:

- ⇒ Know your instructor's last name and the name of your class.
- ⇒ Have your school or government-issued ID in hand.
- ⇒ Let us know if you need accommodations for testing or use of special materials.
- ⇒ Take care. Finals is a stressful time—even for your instructors—so take time to care for yourself!

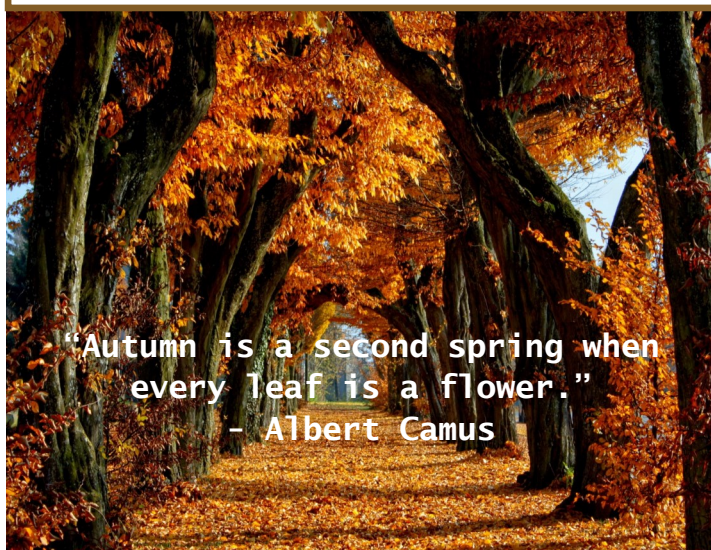
## Making a Family's Christmas Merry

This is the second year the ECC Classified Staff Association adopted a family through Loving Hearts. The family chosen this year is a single mother with three daughters ages 12, 10, and 6. The Learning Center is pleased to provide gifts for the 12 year-old girl.

We will also provide some household products to the mother who stated that, while trying to pay for everything on a single income can be challenging, at this time of year they are happy just to "have each other." TLC Staff are thankful for the Classified Staff Association and their commitment to community involvement!

## Writing Help Is A Click Away

As your final papers approach, don't forget to send a draft to your tutors in the Online Writing Center. A certified, professional tutor will read your paper and respond to your work with written comments. The OWC is available for submissions 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through Moodle. Papers are usually returned in less than 24 hours on weekdays. Papers submitted on weekends are returned as soon as possible on Monday.



"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower."  
- Albert Camus

## Annual TLC Holiday Fundraiser

The holidays bring busy times for most, but especially for The Learning Center as we gear up for several fundraising events for our scholarship fund. First, you may see departments on campus decorating their offices, doors, or suites in participation with our Holiday Decorating Contest. Before leaving for the semester, be sure to stroll around campus to see the creative staff we have at ECC.

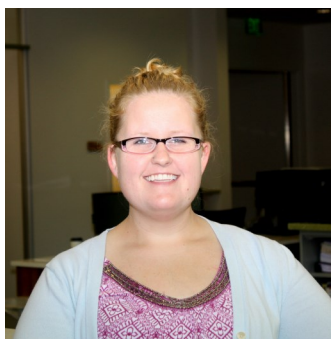
In addition to our annual Holiday Decorating Contest, we will be taking care of your gift-giving and wrapping needs



for the holidays. On November 30th, December 1st, 5th, and 6th, TLC staff will be in the lobby of Buescher Hall (outside The Learning Center) ready to wrap all the gifts you plan to give this season. We will have all the materials and elves prepared to wrap as many gifts as you can bring

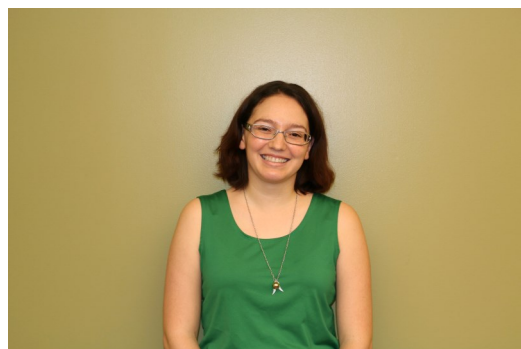
(for a fee). We will also have Christmas ornaments and crafts handmade by our Learning Center staff for sale. All proceeds fund The Learning Center Scholarship which is given to a deserving student who uses The Learning Center to succeed at East Central.

## Thrower Resigns; Replaced By Local



Kristin Milligan is The Learning Center's new Associate Director. She studied rhetoric and composition at Texas State and brought some of that southern style back with her, ya'll. As an advocate for social justice, Kristin values the feelings and beliefs of everyone. She loves having intelligent conversations, eating good food, and bathing her dog, Roxy. She says she doesn't use profanity, but she once said, "Dan it."

## New Testing Center Assistant



Lin Roberts joined The Learning Center team summer 2016 as the full-time Testing Center Assistant. A few credits short of a third Master's degree, Lin loves learning almost as much as she loves serial killers, but not as much as she loves Benedict Cumberbatch. Need a coupon? Need unqualified medical advice? Need a laugh? And most importantly, need to take a test in a secure testing environment? If so, Lin is your go-to staff member.

## New and Returning Student Tutors

This semester, new student tutors **Eden Henry** and **Makala Trail** have joined the TLC staff. Eden (pictured left) and Makala (pictured right) juggle school and work and play softball for ECC.

Eden likes tutoring writing and math, but she loves animals... and the sound of scissors cutting paper.



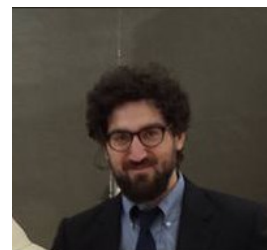
Makala isn't afraid to tell you what she thinks. Lucky for you, she mostly thinks about science—which she hopes to someday use to save lives.

**Eric Feldmann** returns for his fourth semester of tutoring. Stay tuned next semester to meet our newest student tutors: **Moriah Swoboda, Lauran Spier, and Jon Beuke** (not pictured).

## TLC Hires Two Part-time Writing Tutors



No, **Raphael Maurice** doesn't know how to use a Sai, but he does know how to write. He can help you form your thoughts into well-formed, expressive phrases your instructors will enjoy reading. A published poet and essayist, Raphael holds an MA in poetry from SIUE.



**Benjamin Kuzemka** hails from Chicago but lived in China and Kenya before moving to St. Louis. Ben's BA in English and MA in theology make him a versatile and engaging writing tutor. Ben spent three years as a Dominican friar, but that isn't the most interesting thing about him.