All Hail the Name Change

People say many things when they tour Instructional Support Services. They admire our wide-open space; they appreciate the large windows and magnificent views; they adore our tutors and the environment we create. However, many people giggle every time they hear the word ISS, which, to our chagrin, is synonymous with in-school suspension.

From a scientific standpoint, suspended animation is pretty cool, but living, breathing students being trapped in the here and now without the ability to move forward is not the ideal we’re going for. It became clear to us that a name change was in everyone’s best interest, so all of the ISS departments on all of our campuses put our heads together on the renaming process.

We wanted a name that would better reflect who we are and what we do. We voted among ourselves and then we put the vote to the students, faculty, and staff. Because our mission is to enhance the learning process, which for the most part is accomplished through one-to-one tutoring, we feel that our new name says it all. Welcome to the Learning & Tutoring Center.

NTW is an opportunity for the students, faculty, and staff to let the tutors know how much they’re appreciated. Please don’t miss this wonderful opportunity. Everyone is invited to participate.

Fine Print: Photos of this event will be posted to our website. If you are a fugitive on America’s Most Wanted, you might want to stay clear of the flash, especially if there’s a reward for your capture.
What we Talk about when we Talk about Tutoring

I hear it from professors and staff members alike: “I sure wish we had these resources when I was in school.” The fact is many students are unaware of what we offer here in LTC.

Within our three concentrations—math, reading, and writing—we offer one-to-one assistance with nine areas of study, which include reading, writing, Spanish, math, chemistry, biology, physics, accounting, and computer science.

You might wonder how we can afford such a sweet set up. The answer is simple: you! Your tuition makes it possible for us to offer the high-quality service to which many have grown accustomed.

With all of this help available, you should never suffer through feelings of hopelessness. Instead, save those feelings for April 15th.

Pick up a brochure in LTC or visit us online, and plan to take advantage of these great resources we strive to make available.

Meet Elaine

Elaine Latham holds a B.A. in mathematics and began her career as a computer systems engineer for IBM. Family transfers and small children caused her to put that career on hold.

In 1984, Elaine began tutoring math, which she says provided a work environment that allowed her the flexibility of scheduling hours around family commitments.

Then in September 1992, Elaine began working in the Math Lab on the Dunwoody Campus. Her goal as a math tutor is to help students open doors that might otherwise not be available.

She also feels that one of the most important aspects of tutoring math is helping to build a student’s self-confidence, as well as assisting him or her in the learning process of math.

Elaine has not only shared her talents here in LTC, but she also tutored math for Disability Services on Dunwoody campus for ten years. Furthermore, she has mentored students for several years and takes that responsibility very seriously.

“I always go to work in the math lab feeling that I’m glad to be there.”

LTC is a Cell Phone-Free Zone!

You should hear the excuses we get when we ask people not to talk on their cell phones in the labs:

1. I need to check on my dog; she’s having puppies.
2. I was just ordering my lunch.
3. Wasn’t me!
4. I’m not talking on it; I’m just listening to the other person.
5. What the @#$%, man! You’re not my dad!
6. I was checking my horoscope.
7. It’s not like I called them; they called me.
8. How the hell am I supposed to communicate?
9. It’s new, and I don’t know how to turn it off.
10. I’m not dialing; I’m just touching it.

It’s your money!

Elaine Latham
LTC Math Tutor for Fourteen Years

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Meet Gelia

“Cherish your gifts by sharing them.” Not only is this Gelia’s motto, but it is also the motivation behind her seventeen years of tutoring in the Writing Center.

Gelia Dolcimoscolo came to the Dunwoody Campus in September 1988. She says she loves the diversity of people and languages as well as the freedom of creative expression. Though her goal is to assist students, she says she is always aware of the lessons that she learns from the myriad of students with whom she comes in contact.

Along with tutoring, Gelia also mentors students who need more than just a pat on the back and a wink of good luck. Mentoring is “essential to their success,” she says.

Gelia has facilitated the Writers’ Circle, a creative writing group sponsored by the LTC Writing Center, for more than seventeen years.

We salute Gelia for all that she does here in the Writing Center. We hope and believe that Gelia will continue to cherish her gifts.

This Just In: Writing Center Announces Ix-nay on the Ix-fay!

A Center spokesperson has announced that tutors will not be fixing, rewriting, or otherwise adjusting student papers. However, all efforts will be made to expose grammatical and organizational flaws and to give instruction on improvement methods.

Some tutors may, with the student’s permission, mark the student’s paper to help him or her better understand the necessary changes.

Though the Writing Center prefers word-processed papers and handwritten papers that are legible, tutors will continue to assist with papers that are stained with sweat and tears.

*Literal Translation: Nix on the Fix

*Loose Translation: We ain’t fixin’ no papers.

Events

The following events are offered most semesters. Please check our website for updates.

- ESL Conversation Groups
- How to Analyze Poetry
- Practice Regents’ Essay (ongoing)
- Practice COMPASS
- Writers’ Circle every 1st & 3rd Friday
- Reading Workshops
- Math Workshops
- Group tutoring is available; contact LTC for more information 770-274-5240
- Grammar Workshops
- How to Write a Research Paper
- How to Write an Essay
Here in the Learning & Tutoring Center (LTC) we enable students to achieve their educational, personal and career goals by helping them acquire the learning skills and confidence needed to become successful, independent, lifelong learners.

Our vision is to become a comprehensive learning center that maintains a positive atmosphere throughout the Campus through collaboration with students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Visit the Learning & Tutoring Center today, and become a perpetuator of the vision.

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**Tips from Rapstone-Ringstone**

**Writing Tip**
The conclusion of an essay is meant to restate the main points and tie up loose ends. To introduce new material in the conclusion would be like bringing out an appetizer once everyone has eaten and is getting up from the table, so fight the temptation, man; don’t do it.

**Math Tip**
It might seem trivial, but when calculating math problems, always check your work. It has happened to all of us: we’ve turned in assignments or exams only to discover the difference between an A and B or C and D was faulty calculations. Save yourself the frustration: double check.

**Reading Tip**
The main idea of a piece of writing can often be found in the thesis statement and the topic sentences of each subsequent paragraph. Don’t make the mistake of assuming that the main idea is simply whatever part of the article the reader finds most interesting.