



The AAC Review

Volume 2, Issue 3 Summer 2009

Some changes in the works for fall pre-courses

In the spring of 2007, the AAC piloted two pre-courses to help students recall knowledge and prepare for classes they were taking that semester. Pre-courses are mini review sessions for students enrolled in a particular course, and are offered free just before the start of each semester.

The concept of studying *before* classes start has taken off with Lawrence Tech students, and this fall will mark the sixth semester of pre-courses offered by the AAC.

This fall, the pre-course structure will change from 4 days of intensive classroom time to 3 days, with more emphasis on reviewing the prerequisite knowledge students should have in place before stepping into the classroom on the first day of class.

Pre-course leaders are advanced undergrad or graduate students or professional educators who spend about 40 hours preparing to teach the course. Most pre-course leaders are also AAC tutors.

Fall pre-courses will run from Thursday, August 20—Saturday August 22,

with sessions in the afternoons and evenings in the Sciences building. Depending on enrollment, target courses for this fall might include:

- Math Analysis 1 & 2
- Calculus 1 & 2
- Structures 1 & 2
- English Fundamentals
- English Composition
- Mechanics of Materials
- Circuits 1
- Intermediate Algebra
- Pre-calculus
- University Chemistry 1
- College Physics 1

Please encourage your students to consider participating in a pre-course. Students who attend all three days of pre-courses are eligible to move into student housing three days early!

For more information about pre-courses, check the AAC website or contact us at aac@ltu.edu.

AAC Summer Hours:

Monday—Thursday

9 am—5 pm

Friday

9 am—2 pm

AAC Location:

Taubman Student Services
Building, Room C201
(next to the Help Desk)

Contact Info:

248-204-4120

aac@ltu.edu

<http://ltu.edu/aac/>

Summer Staff:

Nicole Huntsperger, Coordinator
Haley Smith, Front Desk
Greg Sikora, Front Desk
Valerie Tetro, Front Desk
Christine Sass, Tutor
Abhishek Singh, Tutor
Drushan Mavalankar, Tutor
Qassem Alabbas, Tutor
Shasta Gibbs, Tutor
Anthony Ruffini, Tutor
Karthik Sridharan, Tutor
Ryan Munevar, Tutor
Ben Wheeler, Tutor

Online Tutor Appointments: Students can guarantee tutor time!

The new application of our online Tutor Management System (TMS) for making tutoring appointments in the AAC is now available! Students can view the tutor schedule and make appointments at <http://aac.ltu.edu>, which can be accessed from the AAC webpage or from the home page of BlackBoard. Appointments are available every day.

**Summer tutoring
continues
through Friday,
July 17, 2009**



AAC Student Staff Lead Open Forum on Testing Policy Changes

The AAC staff recently undertook a reassessment of our testing services, prompted by concerns raised by AAC staff, LTU faculty, and students over the security, fairness, and efficiency of test proctoring procedures followed at the AAC.

In April, AAC staff held an Open Forum for Lawrence Tech faculty and staff to hear about the proposed new system of test proctoring. The five AAC student staff assistants organized and led the forum. Twelve faculty and staff members attended the forum and provided valuable feedback, resulting in the redevelopment and implementation of our new testing service procedures.

The new procedures for test proctoring can be found at the AAC website under "Testing Services." We encourage all faculty and staff to become familiar with these procedures.



Student assistants, from left, Haley Smith, Shasta Gibbs, and Christine Sass at the AAC Open Forum on changes to the testing services provided at the AAC.

AAC Tutoring Philosophy

At the AAC, our mission is to educate, empower, and inspire students to become independent and successful lifelong learners. To this end we strive to provide equal educational opportunities to every student at Lawrence Tech by encouraging an inclusive, cooperative learning environment.

Peer tutors at the AAC are selected based on their academic achievement, integrity, creativity, and initiative. AAC tutors reflect the diversity of students on Lawrence Tech's campus and support the AAC mission through the great work that they do.

Our vision is to establish the AAC as a hub of academic activity at Lawrence Tech by working to increase our visibility and accessibility to the campus community. We seek to increase faculty, staff and student awareness of, and involvement with, the Center.

Have feedback, thoughts, or suggestions about how we can do what we do even better? Get in touch! aac@ltu.edu or 248-204-4123.

Writing Proficiency Exam Offered Throughout Fall Semester

COM 3000, the Writing Proficiency Examination, is a graduation requirement for all Lawrence Tech undergrads.

The WPE is a timed (150 minutes) writing exam during which students write an essay of at least three double-spaced pages (at least 750 words) in response to one of several writing prompts provided at the exam.

Students write the essay on computers provided for that purpose.

We recommend that students take the exam after they have earned 60 credit hours and before they have earned 80 credit hours. Banner will block registration for Junior/Senior Humanities electives for any student who hasn't completed the WPE requirement.

Workshops and writing practice with individual critiques

are available for students who wish to improve their writing skills. The schedule for fall semester will be posted on the AAC website.

WPE exams will be offered on the following fall semester Fridays:

- August 21
- September 18
- October 16
- October 30
- November 20
- December 11

If you teach students who are nearing completion of 60 credit hours, encourage them to contact Writing Programs Director Joyce Munro at 248-204-4125 or munro@ltu.edu.

