

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE



START HERE.
GO ANYWHERE!

SECOND FLOOR IRVIN HALL

December 2012

Volume 3, Issue 2

Fall Semester Events; Finals Preparation

By Andrea Keller



On behalf of Student Support Services, we would like to wish everyone happy holidays! We hope you are able to spend time with loved ones and friends and take a moment to be thankful for life's blessings.

This has been a busy semester for SSS and we are happy to be serving 95 students. Our participants have attended numerous educational workshops, social events, advising sessions, etc. in addition to

accomplishing many achievements in theater, music, athletics, academics and more.

One of the semester highlights was our fall social at the Klinefelter Farm where students enjoyed a chuck wagon meal, hayrack ride with the farm history narration, bingo and freshly prepared apple cider. Many thanks to Wendell Ganstrom and Doc Arnett for sharing their talents with us!

We are currently planning a holiday gifting workshop and etiquette din-

ner, both of which will be held on December 5th. We look forward to getting our students together one last time this semester for an afternoon/evening of fun, fellowship and food!

Stay focused and finish the semester strong! Spend plenty of time in Irvin Hall and the library and prepare yourself well for finals. As always, come by anytime if you need some encouragement, tutoring assistance or general advice. Have a happy holiday and we'll see you in January!

Trouble Writing Papers, Write Them Aloud

By Randa Arnett



Writing can be very hard work and requires a significant investment of time and mental focus. It is also usually a solitary activity, accomplished sans conversation. It is not surprising then, that after we have thought, and written, and rethought and rewritten several times, the paper seems to morph as we read until it appears to say just what we intended. We may no longer notice the omitted word or the confusing word order. Unfortunately, the instructor will not be wearing your "this is perfect" lenses when he or she reads the paper for the first time. The forehead wrinkles, the head gives a little jerk, and out comes

the red pen to jot responses such as, "this is confusing" and "you lost me here," or "I don't see a conclusion." Later, when you read the paper and follow the red comment arrows, you are surprised to see that, indeed, there are words missing and sentences unfinished....just as the grade at the top of the paper indicates.

What to do? Break the silence! Crank up the volume! Make your paper talk to you. Make it tell you where those mistakes are hiding. Read the paper aloud. You can read it aloud yourself, but it is even more effective to have someone else read it aloud to you. Ask your roommate or friend or a willing passerby to read the paper to you and request that they read word

for word, exactly as it is written. Immediately you will see the frown and hear the pause as the reader hits the first snag. Make a note of that place, and encourage your friend (or hostage) to continue reading...out loud. By the time they reach the concluding paragraph, (if in fact you did include one), you will have a very accurate idea of what the paper really says. The writer's job is to make the reader's job as easy as possible. The reader should not have to supply missing words, fill in missing ideas, or make assumptions about what the writer means. So, write, write, write that paper, but before you call it finished, be sure you listen to your paper as well.

Fall 2012 Finals Schedule

Monday, December 10:

8:00 MWF Classes & Daily
10:00 MWF Classes
12:00 MWF Classes
2:00 MWF Classes

Tuesday, December 11:

8:00 TR Classes
11:00 TR Classes
2:00 TR Classes

Wednesday, December 12:

9:00 MWF Classes
11:00 MWF Classes & Daily
1:00 MWF Classes

Thursday, December 13:

9:30 TR Classes
12:30 TR Classes

Friday, December 14:

Alternate final day if necessary

Highland Community College reserves the right to revise these dates.

Library Hours For Finals

Dec 3 - 6 (Mon-Thurs):

7:30 am - 10pm

Dec 7 (Fri):

7:30 am - 4pm

Dec 8 (Sat):

10am - 4pm

Dec 9 (Sun):

3:30pm - 11pm

Dec. 10-12 (Mon-Wed):

7:30 am - 11pm

Dec 13-14 (Thurs-Fri):

7:30 am - 4pm

Hours during break will be (Mon-Fri):

7:30am - 4pm

Tutor Hours During Finals

Sun:

5pm - 8pm

Mon-Thurs:

8am - 8pm

Friday:

8am - 4pm



Tips For Reading, Retaining Information While Studying

By Audrey Caudle



Do you ever have trouble sitting down to read a textbook and actually remembering or learning from what you are reading? I thought I'd

share a technique with you which might be helpful if you give it a try!

SQRW is a strategy for study when using textbooks. There is an easy rhyme to help you remember these steps:

Survey, Question, Read and Write. That will make your notes just right! (Education.com)

Survey - In this step, you basically gather general information; go skim over the text you are required to read. Skim the title

and the introduction paragraphs or sections, read headings, bolded words, and check out the pictures and graphs. Lastly, read the conclusion or summary to gain more general information.

Question - Form some questions about what you just surveyed. Remember who, what, when, why, where, and how you learned in grade school? Forming these questions in your mind and on paper will give you a purpose while reading and help you to stay focused on your reading.

Read - In the next step read the text to find the answers to your questions from the previous step. Be sure to stay focused and flexible

in this stage to ensure you gather as much information as possible.

Write - Here is where you write out the answers to your questions. The act of writing the questions and answers will help you to retain the information and will provide a good resource to return to later while reviewing and preparing for exams!

References:

<http://www.education.com/reference/article/SQRW-reading-taking-notes-textbooks/>

<http://www.how-to-study.com/study-skills/en/a-strategy-for-reading-textbooks.asp>



How to Avoid Stress Caused by Finals and the Holidays

By Kimberly Bechtold



The holiday season is the happiest time of the year.....or is it the most stressful time of the year? I know we all love counting down the

days to Christmas break but from now until then things can get hectic with studying for finals, last minute Christmas shopping, holiday parties

and family obligations. Here are a few tips to help make your holiday season a bit less stressful.

- Make a shopping list early. Write down names of everyone you need to buy for and a budget that you'd like to stick to.
- Shop online if you can. Save yourself from fighting the crowds!

- Learn how to say NO, don't overextend yourself.
- Try to stick to a healthy diet and exercise routine.
- Get an adequate amount of sleep
- Take time for yourself, read a book for fun, meditate, take a walk.

Student Support Services Contact Information

Andrea Keller, Director of Student Support Services: 785-442-6147, akeller@highlandcc.edu

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Kimberly Bechtold, Transfer Advisor: 785-442-6052, kbechtold@highlandcc.edu

Randa Arnett, English Specialist: 785-442-6151, rarnett@highlandcc.edu

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SSS Students Enjoy Fall Social Held at Klinefelter Farm



SSS members and staff watching Doc Arnett demonstrating making apple cider using his antique apple press.



SSS members Kiera Keegan, Kacy Krull, Miranda Virden, Alexis Watkins, and tutor Olivia Robinson preparing for the hayrack ride.



Doc Arnett showing Brady Myers, son of Audrey Caudle (the SSS Retention Coordinator), and Dallas Keller, husband of Andrea Keller (the SSS Program Director) how the apple press works.



SSS members and tutors playing board games after dinner and before the hayrack ride.



SSS members and staff watching Doc Arnett demonstrating making apple cider using his antique apple press.



Services Offered by Student Support Services

ADVISING/COUNSELING

SSS staff are dedicated to ensuring each participant reaches their educational and career goals. Participants will have:

Personal SSS Counselor
Personalized Education Action Plans
Regular Meetings Each Semester with SSS Counselor

Students will also benefit from advising/counseling in the following areas:

Academic
Financial
Personal
Career

ACADEMICS

Participants in the SSS program have a wide variety of academic tools at their disposal. These include:

Peer Tutors
English and Math Specialists
Developmental Instruction in English and Math

Study Groups
Study Skills Assistance

CAREER

SSS participants will enjoy having the benefit of several career exploration tools including:

Career Counseling with a SSS Counselor
Career & Life Planning Course
Professional Mentoring
Job Shadowing
Internship Opportunities

FINANCIAL AID ASSISTANCE

Financial Aid Tools include:
Financial Aid Assistance
Scholarship Search Assistance
Financial Literacy Workshops
Grant Aid

TRANSFER/ADMISSIONS ASSISTANCE

SSS employs a full time Transfer Advisor to assist participants when they are ready to make the step to the next level of educa-

tion.

Transfer Visit Days
Recruitment Days
College Resource Library
Transfer Workshops
Transfer Advising

PERSONAL GROWTH

SSS will give its participants the opportunity for:

Peer Mentoring
Leadership Training
Personal Counseling
Community Projects

SOCIAL EVENTS

SSS participants will also enjoy the benefit of attending a variety of activities each semester including:

Social Events
Cultural Activities
Community Learning Groups

Tutor and Study Group Information

Fall 2012 Study Groups

MONDAYS

US History I 6pm-7pm Tyler Tryon
College Physical Science 6pm-7pm: Emily Lee

Beginning Algebra 7pm-8pm: Kevin Sullivan

TUESDAYS

Nutrition 6pm-7pm Allison Dulac and Rebecca Hasenkamp

College Chemistry I 7pm-8pm Olivia Robinson

WEDNESDAYS

Spanish I 4pm-5pm Ashley Willey
College Algebra 6pm-7pm Diana Pratt

College Biology 7pm-8pm Erin Clary & Kayla Schneider

THURSDAYS

General Psychology 6pm-7pm Kevin Sullivan

Human Anatomy 6pm-7pm Chrissy Koepke & Jessica Hobbs

Intermediate Algebra 7pm-8pm Lisa Malchow

ACADEMIC SPECIALISTS

Specialists are instructors that can provide one-to-one instruction in the areas of Mathematics, Writing, and English.

STUDENT TUTORS

Students provide a free, walk-in peer tutoring center available 65 hours per week, days and evenings. Peer tutors are trained to assist in a variety of study strategies. Peer tutors also provide study groups for a selection of current classes each semester. The tutor office hours are Monday-Thursday 8am-8pm, Friday 8am-4pm, and Sunday 5pm-8pm.

Be sure to stop by Irvin Hall for your December events calendar!

