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Fresh from the JAR LRC Newsletter

Survival Skills for Tests, Quizzes or Finals

Outside the Box

*Hispanics (Latinos) Statistics

In 2002—37.4 million Latinos resided in the United States, representing 13.3% of the total U.S. population

Hispanics by origin (2002) - Central and South American 14.3%; Cuban 3.7%; Mexican 66.9%; Other Hispanic 6.5%; Puerto Rican 8.6%

Hispanics are more geographically concentrated than non-Hispanic whites: Midwest 7.7%; Northeast 13.3%; South 34.8%; West 44.2%

*The terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" are used interchangeably to reflect the new terminology in the standards issued by the Office of Management and Budget

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Demographic Supplement to the March 2002 Current Population Survey

Article by: Vanessa Bass,
Reference Librarian

If you're like the majority of college students, you've cringed at the stress brought on by tests, quizzes or final exams and are relieved when they're done. Have you ever walked out of class asking everyone else, "What answer did you put down for question number . . .?"

If you asked another classmate a question like this, then you're definitely in need of some academic assistance this semester. So, follow these tips to make finals week go as smoothly as possible.

Start early: A good rule to follow is to start studying at least one week in advance.

Know the type of test. Will the final be multiple choice, essay, true/false, or a combination? This is important to know because there are different ways to study

for different types of tests.

Study what you don't know: Concentrate on studying information you are less familiar with.

Budget your time: Make sure you give yourself enough time to take breaks while studying. This will recharge your energy.

Pick an appropriate place to study: The LRC is a great place to study. A good studying environment will allow you to better retain the information.

Study your way: Some people learn most efficiently by reading, some by listening, and some by writing. Just remember that repetition is the key!

Stay healthy: Be sure to get plenty of sleep and eat healthy during this stressful week.

For more information on studying tips for tests, quizzes, or finals, try these websites:

eCampusTours—

www.ecampustours.com

Final Exam Week—

www.simpson.edu/hawley/study/finals.html

Middle Tennessee State University— www.mtsu.edu/~studskl/teststrat.html

Success in Mathematics—

www.euler.slu.edu/Dept/SuccessinMath.html

The Semester—

www.thesemester.com

Tips for Studying for Midterms & Finals—

www.albertson.edu/saf/study/finals.html

Tips to Tame the Finals Beast—

www.honors.ucr.edu/finals.htm

University of Victoria—

www.coun.uvic.ca/learn/program/hndouts/histexam.html

York University—

www.yorku.ca/cdc/lsp/eponline/exam6.htm

Distance Education: the Alternative

Article by: Angela Vaughn,
Distance Education Staff Assistant

Would you really like to go back to school but can't seem to combine traditional classes with your work or life schedule?

Distance learning offers alternatives to traditional, on-campus classes.

Distance learning classes give students the opportunity to earn a degree, a diploma, or a certificate by fitting their classes into a busy lifestyle or unusual work schedule.

Distance learning classes are no easier than traditional classes, and they may not appeal to everyone. They require focus, hard work, and a lot of effort from the student. You still have deadlines to meet, and the classes are graded just like traditional classes.

But, for persons who really wish to pursue their educational goals, distance learning provides an opportunity to integrate your education with your busy life.

For more information on distance education at Piedmont Community College, please visit our website at:

www2.piedmontcc.edu/lrc/Distance_Learning/Default.htm

A True Inspiration

Student Interviewee: Rick Daniel, PCC Ambassador Representative

Interviewer: Vanessa Bass, Reference Librarian

VB: What has your present experience been like at PCC?

RD: My experience is one of fulfillment. I dared to dream, and the PCC institution has driven home the idea that the potential to achieve my dreams is alive and well. I've become confident in my ability to network among fellow students, faculty and constituents. I was concerned with re-entering school to be retrained at my age, but the staff and faculty here at PCC removed those concerns by welcoming me with open arms. PCC is doing a wonderful job with addressing the needs of the face of our community, challenging all to come, to reach to better ourselves, thus, bettering our community.

VB: Do you participate in extracurricular activities at PCC? If yes, would you encourage your classmates to do so?

RD: Yes, I participate in The Channel Book Club, 3M (Minority Male Mentors) Club, and Phi Beta Lambda.

VB: What do you intend to do when you graduate from PCC?

RD: Upon graduating from PCC, I have a vision to nurture into reality. That vision is for me to again to be a productive wage earner, to be a member of the work force once again, and to pick myself up from the disability roles.

VB: Who/what has motivated you the most in your life?

RD: It's hard to pin-point one individual who has motivated me the most in my life. Personally, my father lead the way by instilling morals and work

a huge difference to me. There have been many others, from Bishop T.D. Jakes to Walter Payton, both sharing a treasure chest of positive influence, yet my dad, James M. Daniel out shines them all.

VB: What words of advice can you bestow upon someone who is starting or completing a Program at PCC?

RD: When it comes to reaching for a better seat in the game of life, recognize that success is not for spectators; you must carry yourself as an aggressive (not passive) participant, and you'll have a much, much better chance at reaching your goals. Listen to your heart, and tune out any and all doubters. Never be afraid to seek clarity and ask questions; after all, knowing all the answers would wipe out institutions of higher learning such as PCC.

How Doth the Little Tree? Stephanie Stewart

How doth the little tree feel toward the spring?
It is happy and budding with splendors abundant.

How doth the little tree feel toward the squirrels, who are upon the little tree's buds?
It sways with contentment and joy, for the squirrels bring spring.

How doth the little tree feel toward the happy couple resting under it?
It lends and bends to shade the couple, for they feed the squirrels which bring the spring.

How doth the little, little tree?

Spring's Call to Nature Jeanne M. Hatten

Do you hear it?

The big tall trees sprouting forth new foliage
Hear it.

Do you hear it?

The tender green blades of grass stretching to the sun
Hear it.

Do you hear it?

The delicate opening blossoms of the wild flowers
Hear it.

Do you hear it?

The fuzzy creatures of the forest, awakening from a long winter nap
Hear it.

Hear it.

Do you hear it?

The lovely melody of the birds, thanking God for it
Hear it.

Do you hear it?

Spring answering nature's call.

Our Very Own Oprah Winfrey

Selena Thornton, President of the Student Government Association chatted with Vanessa Bass, Reference Librarian about her future plans and how PCC played a part in her journey.

VB: What do you hope to do in the future?

ST: Piedmont Community College has set the ground floor for my future endeavor to open a self esteem center for women that have been battered and abused, along with my cosmetic line. I also wish to continue my education until I earn my PhD.

VB: What words of advice can you bestow upon someone who is starting or completing a program at PCC?

ST: My advice to those starting or completing PCC is that no matter what trials you may face during your educational journey, Finish the race. You are equipped with everything that you need inside of you, and here at PCC you have the best cheering squad of people that not only believe you will finish the race but are willing to help you finish. Be encouraged! If I can do, it you can too. It has been an honor serving as your Student Government Association President for the 2005- 2006 academic year.

Gentle is the Breeze

Underneath a shading tree I sit; the cool breeze caresses my skin.
A feeling of serenity overcomes me; the breeze calms me.

The wind not only reaches me, but I gaze up to see the wind tickle the leaves.

A few leaves float to the grass cushioned floor; gentle is nature.

In the distance a dandelion stands.

The wind gently whisks the buds away, and they float away out of distance.

The breeze touches everything.

