



The Betty East Tutoring Center at Victoria College

Johnson Hall, Room 106
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Victoria, TX 77901
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www.victoriacollege.edu/tutoringcenter

STATEMENT of PURPOSE: The Victoria College Tutoring Centers are committed to offering enhanced tutorial services in multiple subject areas by hiring and training well-qualified professional and peer tutors, using CRLA Certification standards. The Tutoring Centers maintain a caring, supportive, and encouraging academic presence to the VC community by offering free one-on-one and group tutoring, semester-end reviews, and study skills workshops. These services are combined with well-equipped and comfortable Centers that provide an atmosphere conducive to the learning process through the availability of computers, printers, and copiers, supplemental materials, and coffee/snacks.

Peer tutors are students of VC who meet institutional requirements for tutoring, including GPA level and instructor recommendation. **Professional tutors** are former students or degreed individuals who meet criteria for VC employment. All tutors must work toward CRLA Certification during the semesters they tutor.

Tutoring Session Guidelines

In keeping with this mission, Center tutors will work with students to solve difficult problems or to help them understand difficult concepts, assuming students have made an attempt to do so on their own, prior to visiting the Center. Tutors do not give answers or do homework or graded assignments for students. Tutors are not able to offer last-minute help for students who have not read their texts, kept current with the course material, or have not put forth a genuine effort of their own.

I. Students who use the Centers should prepare by:

1. Going to class, listening attentively, taking notes, and asking questions to clarify misunderstandings; a student who misses a class will be responsible for getting notes or reviewing the material before coming in
2. Reviewing notes, practicing problems, and reading the textbook
3. Attempting problems on their own before seeking help
4. Preparing several specific questions regarding their course material
5. Knowing what they want help with and what they want to accomplish
6. Making a genuine effort to do the work prior to coming to the Center
7. Bringing pencil/pen, paper, textbook, notebook, current assignment, and any necessary notes or previous work to the lab

II. Students who use the Centers should expect tutors to:

1. Listen attentively and carefully
2. Help them identify difficulties they are having and develop strategies for addressing them
3. Help them identify and use the strengths students have to master difficult material
4. Help them work toward a genuine ability to solve problems and arrive at correct answers on their own
5. Give them time to work independently during the session
6. Help them learn successful study strategies
7. Decline to do work for unprepared students and ask that they review specific material before returning.

III. Students who use the Centers should know that:

1. Another tutor may have to take over if the current tutor's shift is over or a tutor needs assistance
2. Some tutors may need to move to another student, but this does not mean that tutors are refusing to help
3. Tutors may rotate among several students when the lab is busy
4. Students may be asked to join a group working on similar material
5. Tutors do not have all the answers, as many are also students; instructors can be consulted during their office hours
6. Only enrolled VC students may use the Center, except for dedicated non-student tutoring times. Non-students must be working on entrance exam requirements in preparation for admittance the next semester

IV. Appropriate behavior for using the Centers includes:

1. Coming to the center ready to work
2. Participating actively in the tutoring session by listening attentively, responding and doing practice sets, and reflecting and asking specific questions to enhance understanding
3. Having patience for the tutoring process
4. Treating all tutors and other students with respect and civility
5. Not distracting or disturbing others
6. Not talking or texting on cell phones in the Centers

Questions or comments?

Please direct questions and comments to Donna Rodriguez, Tutor Coordinator, at 572-6473 or Caitlin Swisher, Assistant Tutor Coordinator, at 582-2428 or TutorHelp@victoriacollege.edu