



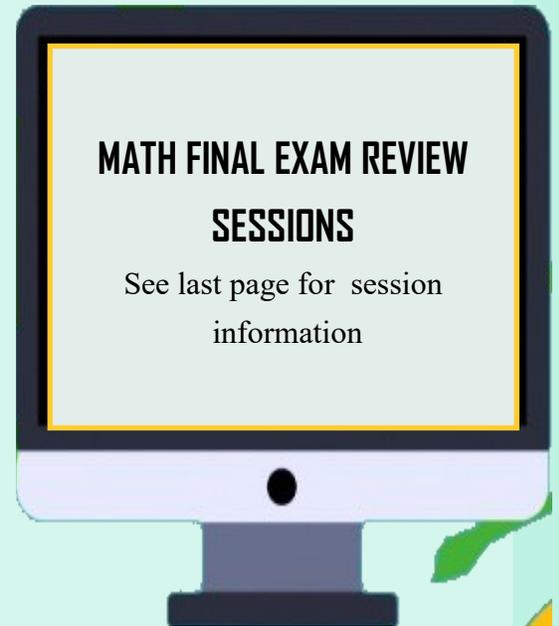
## Academic Support Center

### Strategies for Success During this Time of Disruption

#### Letter from the Director

*By Marianne Tecun*

**W**hat a day! It was just about 1 PM, Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> of March. The Dean was in the hallway giving direction that HCC would close at 2 PM and to take docs, files and whatever else was needed to work from home “for a while.” We had an hour to move students and tutors out of the department, take our needed work stuff, and leave. Quarantine had begun. The following two days were a flurry of strategizing and WebExing. Could the Tutoring Center support our students as it had before? How are we going to do this? And most importantly, will students be able to learn this way? These newsletter articles reveal how ASC student tutors and professional staff adapted and turned a face-to-face tutoring center into an active, online, tutoring center.



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**April 2020**

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# STEM TUTORING CENTER CORNER

## Tutoring Online During Time of Disruption

By Aliss Obeid, STEM Tutoring Coordinator

Over the last few weeks humans all over the world have been experiencing a complete change and disruption in their every-day lives as a result of COVID-19, a pandemic that has ravaged the globe. As the world continues to cope with these changes, the staff at the Academic Support Center has been scurrying to develop new structures and strategies that will continue to support our students' success during this tough and unprecedented time.

Here at the Tutoring Center, we rose to this occasion quickly and effectively. In less than a week, all tutoring services were shifted to online platforms where all STEM subject areas are included. Despite hiccups and challenges, we created an accessible forum to continue tutoring services. This transition brought on its own set of difficulties; however, with the determination, passion, and enthusiasm of our staff and tutors, we were able to make the shift possible. Despite the lack of materials, resources (books and devices), and in some cases internet connection, our staff enthusiastically tackled these shortcomings and worked together to produce sound solutions. In the midst of this, they had to learn how to telework and navigate new platforms such as WebEx and Microsoft Teams for video conferencing.

To schedule for an online tutoring session students log into Accudemia to make appointments. After that the tutors schedule the conference meeting via WebEx or MS Teams and contact the students with the session-related details.

Furthermore, E-tutoring continues to be a valuable tutoring service to our students. By logging in to [www.etutoringonline.org](http://www.etutoringonline.org), students can access a 24/7 support in many subject areas. They can live chat with a tutor or submit a question or a writing assignment and get feedback within 24 hours.

Strategies for Success



**Learn how to access online tutoring.  
Watch these STEM tutors show you how to do it.**



### Accessing Accudemia for Appointments

By Math Tutors

Sanya Brown

&

Arianna Clarke

<https://www.loom.com/share/20f09474e91a4cea9b36b1bc1a79ee27>



### Accessing HCC Emails, Teams & WebEx

By Robin Smith, Science Tutor

<https://www.loom.com/share/86d3c4df9f6244168d5d3a99c0c0b925>



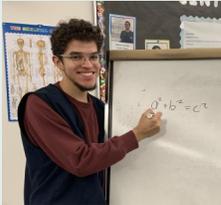
### Accessing Tutoring Sessions via Teams

By Jessica Krotki, Math Tutor

<https://www.loom.com/share/33a3fd9cace6457bb9b4aa1b6a0a6319>



# MEET THE ASC NEW STAFF AND TUTORS

<b>Introducing</b>					
	<b>Alianna Agovino</b>	<b>Melissa Baccala</b>	<b>Malcolm Brown</b>	<b>Andrea Cando</b>	<b>Arianna Clarke</b>
<b>ASC position</b>	Writing Tutor	Writing Tutor	Math Tutor	Accounting Tutor	Math Tutor
<b>Major/Degree</b>	Political Science	AA in Liberal Arts & Sciences BA in History & minor in English	Engineering	AA in Science of Accounting	General Studies
<b>Future Plans</b>	Transfer to a four year university	Relocate to NY. Pursuing a career in library sciences	Transfer to UCONN and get a BS degree in Environmental Engineering	Transfer to University of Bridgeport and peruse a BS in Accounting	Transfer to UCONN to study Electrical Engineering

<b>Introducing</b>				
	<b>Jodi Gotto</b>	<b>Thi Nguyen</b>	<b>Ana Ruiz</b>	<b>Worlbee Samson</b>
<b>ASC position</b>	CSA Tutor/ Receptionist	Math Tutor	Receptionist	Math Tutor
<b>Major/Degree</b>	General Studies	Accounting	Human Resources	Engineering Science
<b>Future Plans</b>	Transfer to a four year university to pursue a degree in Nursing	Transfer to a four year university to finish a BS degree in Accounting	Transfer to Sacred Heart University to obtain a BA and MA in Human Resources	Transfer to either UCONN, CCSU, or UNH for a BS in Civil Engineering

## WRITING CENTER CORNER

*Karyn Smith, Writing Center Coordinator*

### Reflections on the Transition to Online Tutoring

*By Rachell Williams and James Lott, Student Writing Tutors*

The Writing Center has been handling the switch to online tutoring with a positive attitude and outlook. Our goal is to assist students, in their writing journey, and to encourage independent thinking and writing. In our department, the tutor requests the student's work, via email, to which the former will provide feedback, once the materials are sent. With that said, if a student would like to make an appointment, they can set it up at [housatonic.accudemia.net](http://housatonic.accudemia.net).

Although our department is accustomed to in-person, one-on-one tutoring, I believe that we have risen to the challenge of online tutoring with vigor and strength, refusing to let the switch change our passion for helping students.

Although COVID-19 has closed our Campus, it has not hindered our ability to provide meaningful tutoring online. We believe in our ability to deliver useful information through the internet. If you are in need of help with anything to do with Language Arts, you can book an online tutoring appointment at: [housatonic.accudemia.net](http://housatonic.accudemia.net).

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### I Used to Hate Writing; Now I'm a Writing Tutor?

*By Allison Middlemass, Student Writing Tutor*

You may get a writing assignment and think to yourself "How can I do this! I don't even know how to start," Well you aren't alone; I've been exactly where you are. I used to hate writing and would dread any project where I had to write more than a sentence. My first class of English 101 at

*smart enough.*

I had gotten much more confident with my writing and actually enjoyed the writing process. Then one day my english professor said she needed more student writing tutors at the writing center and that I should apply. I was shocked; I knew I had gotten better at writing, but to be a tutor was a whole other level. That little voice in my head again popped up saying "You're not good enough". I pushed those fears aside and applied anyway. You never know unless you try. I got hired and my professor assured me that she wouldn't have hired me if she didn't think I could do a good job. I was nervous my first few tutoring appointments, but after a few I got the hang of it. I felt like I was really helping people. People would thank me for my help and that made me feel great inside. I would have never gotten to this point if I had given up on that first day of English 101. So the next time you get a writing assignment and are thinking "Oh No!", just start writing anything that comes to mind and get started. Moral of this story is if you push through your fears you will never know what opportunities will come of it. Maybe something you once hated will become something you love.

Housatonic, when I got my syllabus, I almost cried in class. I thought "I can't do this, I'm not smart enough", but I pushed through. I continued to go to class. The first few weeks of classes were hard and frustrating; somehow I made it through. What the professor was teaching slowly made more and more sense. Writing started to feel less daunting and I was getting good feedback. I developed my own way to make writing more fun. I would write with the tv on in the background so if I ever got frustrated or bored with writing I could just take a break and watch some tv. My favorite show to write to was *Judge Judy*. I managed to pass the class with a B+ and went on to get A in English 102. Turns out I was



## CAP CORNER

*Andrew Pelletier, CAP Coordinator*

### CAP Moving Online

*By Andrew Pelletier, CAP Coordinator*

Since the college closed, CAP has moved all of our tutoring and advising services online. Thanks to the dedicated staff at CAP, students can get assistance including live tutoring and advising. CAP tutors have met with students on MS Teams and Webex, which allows for tutors to assist in real time, viewing student work, answering questions, and providing feedback. CAP will continue to offer this help into the summer, so students are able to get help registering for next semester. CAP, as always, is here to help, not just with tutoring and classwork, but also to help with any questions students have. Any student in an intensive course (English 092i, English 094i, and Math 095i) can contact CAP anytime. To get help from CAP please email [apelletier@housatonic.edu](mailto:apelletier@housatonic.edu) or leave a message at 203-332-8585. If students want to make an appointment, it can be done easily at [Housatonic.accudemia.net](http://Housatonic.accudemia.net).



Strategies for Success

### *Welcome the New ASC Clerk Typist Jiyan Bedawi*



My name is Jiyan Bedawi and I work as a Clerk Typist in the Academic Support Center. I received my associate degree from HCC in 2009 and in Computer Science Application. I worked as a CSA tutor in the Tutoring Center for almost 10 years. I sincerely enjoyed working and helping students, helping them succeed in their studies is the best feeling, and now I am very happy to be working full time in the same department. I am always here and happy to help.

# FUN STUFF

By Aliss Obeid

<https://www.sudokukingdom.com/>

## Do You Know that

1. If you wanted to burn 1 calorie by clicking on a mouse, you would need to click a mouse button 10 million times.
2. If you make ice cubes with tap water, they will be white; if you use boiled water, they will be transparent.
3. It takes such little electricity to charge your phone that if you calculated the yearly cost of it, it would be less than \$1.
4. Animals avoid power lines because they are scared of ultraviolet flashes invisible to the human eye.
5. The 3 most sold products in human history are the iPhone, Harry Potter books and the Rubik's Cube.
6. A cockroach can live a few weeks without its head, before eventually dying of hunger.
7. Besides the 5 senses, you also have *proprioception*, awareness of the position of your body parts.
8. Starfish are not fish (they're sea urchins) and killer whales are not whales (they're dolphins).
9. Speaking of dolphins, they can actually call each other by name.
10. The word 'set' has the most number of definitions (464) in the English language.

<https://theheartysoul.com>

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		3	5				
1	7						9
				9			7
6	9		4				3
		4	3		8		9
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2				3			
	4	1					

2020 is a unique Leap Year.  
It has 29 days in February,  
300 days in March,  
and 5 years in April.

<https://meme>

I'm not sure  
how many  
cookies it takes  
to be happy, but  
so far it's not  
twenty seven.

<https://awwwmemes.com>

Sir Walter Scott

Q T D X J R R U T N T O R T J O U F I L T T R J U Z

O T D C T P F I E O O T J R P J R R M U H J U Z

Z T D F M U V , E U R T D D Q T X J N T F J E H X F

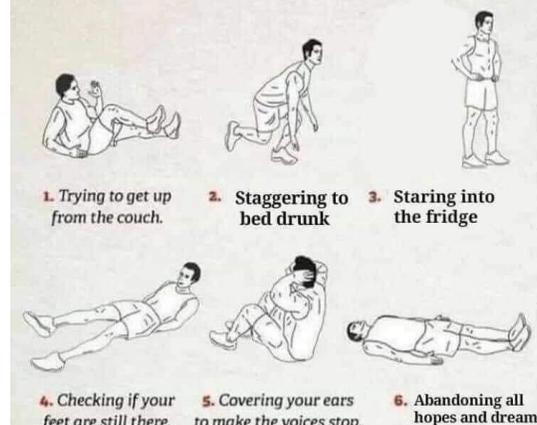
I E O D T R N T D F I P I U D M Z T O T N T O V F X M U H

J D K I I U D X M U T , P I K C J O T Z Q M F X F X T

Q W E R T Y U I O P  
A S D F G H J K L  
Z X C V B N M \_

<https://api.razzlepuzzles.com/cryptogram>

## 6 easy exercises while in quarantine



<https://www.shutupandtakemymoney.com>

# ASC SPRING 2020 TUTORS

## STEM TUTORING CENTER

### ACCOUNTING

Robyn Dilg  
Andrea Cando

### COMPUTER SCIENCE

Jodi Gotto

### ESL

Robyn Dilg  
Gigi Yanez-Hamberger

### FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Gigi Yanez-Hamberger

### MATH

Arianna Clarke  
Jessica Krotki  
Kevin Fontan  
Malcom Brown  
Sanya Brown  
Tajan Marshall  
Thi Nguyen  
Worlbee Samson

### FACULTY

Marina Phillips  
David Platt

### SCIENCES

Arian Pagan  
Robin Smith

### FACULTY

Janet Yarrow  
Rachel Cain  
Sandra Barnes

## Strategies for Success

## WRITING CENTER

### ENGLISH & WACC

Alianna Agovino  
Allison Middlemass  
Betzabeth Castro  
Cynthia Boynton  
James Lott  
Melissa Baccala  
Rachell Williams  
Sheryl Montes

### FACULTY

Rebecca Adam  
Eleanor Bloom  
Terry Kozek  
Karyn Smith

## CAP CENTER

### ENGLISH

Kofi Adomako-Ayisi  
Rometa Miller  
Andrew Pelletier

### MATH

Hyoja Tully  
Kevin Redmond  
Morgan Guimond  
Nokware Knight




# ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

## TUTORING

## Academic Support Center

203-332-5019, Lafayette Hall, Room L152

The mission of the Academic Support Center (ASC) is to provide a full service testing and tutoring experience that cultivates student success. By fostering a supportive environment, the ASC strives to inspire students at every level of preparedness to advance, to excel, and to reach their fullest potential.

## Departments

Center for Academic Progress (CAP)

STEM Tutoring Center

Writing Center

### Academic Support Center Staff:

Aliss Obeid, *STEM Tutoring Coordinator*

Andrew Pelletier, *CAP Coordinator*

Jiyan Bedawi, *Clerk Typist*

Karyn Smith, *Writing Center Coordinator*

Marianne Tecun, *Director*

203-332-5992

203-332-8516

203-332-5019

203-332-5133

203-332-5139

AObeid@housatonic.edu

APelletier@housatonic.edu

JBedawi@housatonic.edu

KSmith@housatonic.edu

MTecun@housatonic.edu

### MATH FINAL EXAM REVIEW SESSIONS

To reserve your seat in a WebEX live Final Exam Review Session, email [jbedawi@hcc.commmnet.edu](mailto:jbedawi@hcc.commmnet.edu) with your name and the session you want to attend. She will get you all the log in information you will need.

Course	Day and Time	Tutor
Math 137	Tuesday 10-12 PM May 5th	Malcolm/ Sanya /Ariana
Math 137	Wednesday 2-4PM May 6th	Tajan/ Thi
Math 167	Monday 12-2 PM May 4th	Jessica
Math 172	Wednesday 4-6 PM May 6th	Tajan/ Thi/ Kevin