

Peer Tutoring Newsletter

Spring, 2004

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Peer Tutoring Program office hours are 10 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, in C. A. Johnson 223. Contact Mary O'Neill, Academic Support Coordinator, at x4374 or moneill to set up an appointment to discuss your tutoring needs and to fill out a tutor request card.

The **Quantitative Literacy Center**, in C. A. Johnson 224 is open for drop-in tutoring 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday, and 7-9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. Look for flyers with the current schedule.

Math Jokes and Riddles

What did the 0 say to the 8?
---Nice Belt!

What mathematical item did the little mermaid wear?
---An alge-bra
(Professor Knop's Real Analysis Class)

Question: "How many seconds are there in a year?"
Answer: "Twelve, January second, February second, March second, ..."

ENGINEER, MATHEMATICIAN & PHYSICIST--"FIRE IN THE ROOM" A physicist, engineer, and mathematician were sleeping in a hotel room when a fire broke out in one corner of the room. Only the engineer woke up. He saw the fire, grabbed a bucket of water, threw it, and the fire went out, then he filled up the bucket again and threw that bucketful on the ashes as a safety factor, and he went back to sleep. A little later, another fire broke out in a different corner of the room and only the physicist woke up. He went over, measured the intensity of the fire, saw what material was burning and went over and carefully measured out exactly $\frac{2}{3}$ of a bucket of water and poured it on, putting out the fire perfectly; the physicist went back to sleep. A little later another fire broke out in a different corner of the room. Only the mathematician woke up. He went over looked at the fire, he saw that there was a bucket and he noticed that it had no holes in it; he turned on the faucet and saw that there was water available. He, thus, concluded that there was a solution to the fire problem and he went back to sleep.

(<http://www.sonoma.edu/Math/faculty/falbo/jokes.html>)

"Think Tank" on Quantitative Literacy

What is Quantitative Literacy, and why is it important?

Find out at the Quantitative Literacy "Think Tank" at noon on Friday, April 23, in KJ 221. Director of the Quantitative Literacy Center, Mary O'Neill, Prof. of Mathematics, Tim Kelly, Prof. of Economics, Jeff Pliskin, and Peer Tutor Bea Dias '04 will lead a discussion of Quantitative Literacy and the Quantitative Literacy Requirement at Hamilton College.



Study Skills 101: Efficient Study Tips for Math/Physics

Too often you hear students say: "It's Math/Physics--I don't need to study, I either know it or I don't." Wrong! There are ways that you can significantly raise your knowledge and therefore your grade in these subjects.

- 1) Organize in chronological order: all notes, homework, previous exams.
- 2) Briefly review text - paying special attention to and taking notes on important definitions, formulae, and theorems.
- 3) Review Homework- Try to complete (without looking at HW) at least one problem from each section of each HW.
- 4) Go to office hours and review sessions to get the specifics of the exam so you can optimize your time.
- 5) Don't cram; the earlier you start even looking over the material the more time you will have to learn.
- 6) Make sure to get a good night's sleep and eat the day before the exam.
- 7) Clear your mind just before the exam: get some fresh air, take a walk around.

Matt Danziger '06, Q-Lit. Center Tutor