

High-Flying Grades Thanks to New Quest College Writing Lab

Writing lab a template for success for undergraduate tutoring centers

ATLANTA, Georgia, March 1, 2014 (Quest College) – A 75 could be a passing grade—or it could be the percentage of students who have already improved their grades by visiting the Writing Lab at Quest College. Out of 300 students, 75% have received an increase of a grade or more on the papers corrected at the center. Not bad for a place that's only two months old.

Students love it. "I can't believe how well I'm doing in my English 98 class. I barely passed last semester, and now I have B's on my first two papers," states Chance Mars, a Quest student who visits the lab twice a week.

Professors are doubly pleased. Originally the ones required to offer aid if a student needed it, they are now receiving extra assistance from the Writing Lab. "It's nice to have some of the load taken off. I don't mind doing both, but I also don't mind leaving work half an hour early either," comments Rio George, an English 1101 professor.

The Writing Lab at Quest College is a new approach to learning. A collaborative process between professors, tutors, and students, it pinpoints student weaknesses and addresses them directly.

"If a student has a problem with grammar, we work on grammar. If it's vocabulary or paper format, we work on that. We like to find each problem and fix it. That way the sum of all parts adds up to excellence," states Carl Sanders, a tutor for the Writing Lab.

Even neighboring four year institutions have begun to take notice. Gina Ruzanski, head of Rusk University's Writing Studio, recently visited the Quest College Writing Lab to find the secret to its success.

"I wonder how they do it. We improve about 50% of students' grades. I would like to improve more," she states.

The Lab's appearance doesn't hurt either. The facility is well-lit. Grammar books, dictionaries, and anthologies line the walls. It is equipped with a computer lab and has a section dedicated to handouts on topics such as grammar, research and essay format.

In its first two months, it is hard to imagine how the Writing Lab at Quest College will fare in its first year, but if its current performance is any indication, it is set to have even more students humming to the tune of A and more colleges following suit.

For additional information on the Quest College Writing Lab, contact Marilyn Arthur at (404) 432-4322 or visit www.questcollege.edu/writinglab.

About the Writing Lab:

The Writing Lab is an extension of Quest College's Learning and Tutoring Center. Opened in January 2014, it focuses on improving student writing skills. Its objective is to "make better writers, not just better papers." It serves the students of Quest College.

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