A Tutor’s Role as a Model

Your Attitude Makes the Difference

- Be positive! You can help reverse a negative attitude.
- Empathize with the student; meet and accept where he/she is at.
- Recognize the student’s efforts and positive changes made to improve their study habits.
- Build a professional relationship based on trust and respect not on an attitude of condescension.
- Make the student feel successful, worthwhile and self-confident.

A student, who leaves a tutoring session feeling supported with a sense of progress, will likely return. The gift of a great tutor is creating an awareness of greatness in others.

An Effective Tool – Praise

- Praise is one of the most influential tools used by a tutor. Praise tells the student that they are headed in the right direction and encourages them to continue. Use praise with the small successes as well as the larger successes. Confidence and self-esteem increases from genuine praise received.

Praise will guide and motivate students toward successful independent learning.

A Tutor is a Model of Successful Study Habits

- Learning good study skills will enable the student to use those skills in all of their learning situations.
- Give tips on good study techniques when weaknesses are apparent.
- Regularly reference the student’s course syllabus for information.
- As needed, offer suggestions about organization of their course material and effective study habits.
- Ask questions like: “How do you study for this subject now?”
- Have your students answer a Learning Styles Inventory (in the Resource Cabinet) and review effective study strategies for their learning styles.
- Review the student’s graded assignments and tests with them. Look for patterns which would give clues about misunderstandings.
You have the opportunity to positively influence another student’s academic career just by sharing what you know about being a successful student. Many of the skills to you are second nature. Be an example of what works for you. The students will copy those skills especially if they mirror what you are saying. The study skills you model can be the most valuable tools that you give to your students!

Resources Available in the College Skills Center:
Math Study Center Instructors
Textbooks and Student Solution Manuals at front desk
Additional Worksheets for each section of Math 025 and 108 at front desk
Math 015, 025, 108 Final Reviews in Resource Cabinet
Various worksheets and handouts for many subjects in the Resource Cabinet
Internet access on the College Skills Center computers
Free printing for the students during tutoring sessions
Copies of handouts, syllabi, worksheets etc.
Math 015 Website with worksheets and practice tests

Tutor’s Creed:
By Rachel Molsee (Biology tutor)

I believe when I first meet you I will meet you with a smile.
I believe I will respect you by looking you in the eye
I believe I will listen to more then just what you say
How you speak, how you stand, what you display.

I believe our success is not determined by your grades.
I believe the easy path often persuades
I believe you are gifted and uniquely made
Let us use those gifts in this life’s crusade

I believe there are many tools to obtain
I believe we can utilize them for your gain
I believe often you will feel a bit insane
But hang in there learning is a prize you can claim

I believe in you but my belief is not enough
You must desire to peruse no matter how tough
I believe in you but my belief is not enough
You must stand strong when others say enough
I believe in you but my belief is not enough
Do you believe?
Do you believe in you?