

STEM CORE

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Seats Available

We are still accepting STEM Core candidates for Winter 2017. This is the last open enrollment period for the 2016-2017 school year. Visit foothill.edu/stemcore or email mirandadonna@fhda.edu

Weekly Meetings

Foothill's STEM Core meets Tuesdays in Room 4218 in the STEM Center from 1-2PM. The first 30 minutes is reserved for team building activities, workshops, and guest speakers; the latter half is a 30 minute math review session led by our embedded tutor. *subject to change for winter

A Look Ahead

Dec. 2nd: SLAC Tour

Dec. 6th: Math Final Review

Dec. 8th: Math Final Review

Dec. 9th: STEM Showcase

Dec. 12-16: Finals Week

Dec. 19-Jan. 6: Holiday Recess

Jan. 9th: Winter Quarter Starts



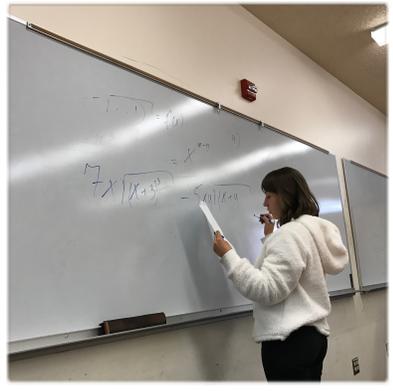
STEM Core students in the math workshop

Progress Report Phew! With midterm season ending right before Thanksgiving weekend, students were busy studying with back-to-back exams and projects. In the Math 105 course, STEM Core students continue to show their ability to grasp algebraic concepts in their exam scores. The statistics for the second exam demonstrate this success.

EXAM 02 Comparison Stats			
STEM Core Students		NON STEM Core Students	
mean	82	mean	69.8
median	83	median	72.25
high	90	high	90
low	67.5	low	33.5
pass rate	90	pass rate	50

Computer Science The introductory computer programming course is taught by adjunct faculty Pamela Price. The class section meets once a week for roughly two hours while the lab is conducted online via Canvas. Pamela teaches the students

Embedded Tutoring



Funded by the SVETP grant, Rebecca Eliscu is the embedded tutor for the STEM Core program. Like a few of our students, Rebecca began her math journey in MathMyWay (Algebra) and is currently finishing up the quarter in Math 1D, the last course in the calculus series. She owes her success in her calculus courses to STEM Core faculty, Zach Cembellin, whom she had for Calculus 1A - Calculus 1D.

Every Tuesday of this quarter, Rebecca leads the math workshop for not only our STEM Core students but for the entire section. She reviews material leading up to the quiz or exam, providing practice problems and step-by-step solutions.

Rebecca is applying for transfer next Fall with a declared major in Cognitive Science.

Inquiries

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how to develop a pseudocode in preparation for creating codes in Java. Though the course is challenging, overall the cohort performed well on the midterm with each student earning a passing grade!

CS Midterm Comparison Stats			
STEM Core students		Non STEM Core students	
mean	81	mean	87
median	83	median	90
high	95	high	98
low	70	low	63
pass rate	100	pass rate	95

Winter Quarter This winter STEM Core students will embark on an accelerated math course, combining two quarters of pre-calculus material (Precalculus I & II) in one quarter. The section will meet Monday - Friday from 8AM - 9:50PM. With the help of faculty recommendations, interest in STEM Core has increased to roughly 22 students. In addition to precalculus, the STEM Core student will either be registered in an introductory Engineering course (ENGR 10) or Object-Oriented Programming Methodologies in Java (C S 1A).



Student Spotlight Diego Garcia is in his first quarter at Foothill College and is in pursuit of an associate's degree for transfer in Engineering with a minor in Computer Science. He joined Foothill's pilot STEM Core cohort to meet other students with similar goals. "I like the environment. If I didn't join, I don't think I would be doing as well as I am now," Diego said. As he approaches the end of the first quarter, Diego is on track to pass his two STEM courses with flying colors. Outside of class, Diego is also a member of the Community Ambassadors Program (CAP), where he moderated a profound panel discussion on the undocumented student experience in community college.