

The peter principle



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Angela Wren ENG101-T/Th 11a. m. 10/26/2010 Exemplification Essay: The Peter Principle

The Peter Principle describes an observation that states that anything that works is often used in a more challenging application until it fails. This simply means that incompetence exists in every level of the workplace. Employees are promoted to higher positions because he or she has done well in the position that they currently hold. However, according to this principle, employees often reach their level of incompetence.

Meaning that without proper training, on every level, in which one is promoted, an employee becomes incompetent as to his or her duties. In every organization there are employees who have reached his or her level of incompetence. When asked if the Peter Principle exists at Lawson State Community College, one must ask if there appears to be incompetence in various departments within the institution.

After exploring numerous departments with classmates, we concluded that there are levels of incompetence at Lawson State in the following: the campus Bookstore, the office of Student Services, and the office of Financial Aid Services. First, before the first day of class, the campus Bookstore should have enough books available for the students who are enrolled. Someone should be responsible for knowing the quantity of books that are needed and being able to order those books before the fall semester begins.

Another problem with the bookstore is that it is inadequately staffed. There are long lines at the beginning of every semester, to purchase books or receive student ID??™s. The last thing is that books are too expensive. In an area where the majority of students are impoverished, they should not have

to pay one hundred plus dollars for books. There needs to be a program in place to offer books that are less expensive. Next, is the office of Student Services, a department within the institution that helps students with a variety of issues that he or she may encounter while attending Lawson State.

Some of the issues include: needing extra money for books, tutoring services, and activities on campus. One of the problems found within this department was that of location. The office is located in the basement of the Academic building. Its location should be visible because it serves the needs of students enrolled at Lawson State.

Another concern is that its procedures seem to be effortless. A student can do everything asked of him or her and still not be eligible to receive services from this department. In addition, no one informs you of what you need to do to become eligible. Also, when attempting to find information about campus activities, the necessary forms were not available. The department of Student Services is not a reliable source for students. Lastly, the Department of Financial Services is designed to assist students in obtaining monies to help defray the costs of attending college.

Students are required to submit an application, as well as, the necessary documents and/or paperwork so that their request for aid can be processed. Afterwards, students are to come by the office of Financial Services to be ??? verified.??? Students, then, wait in line for hours, only to find out that their application has not been processed. By this time, students are frustrated with the department. If an individual has met the necessary requirements, it should not take a month for one??™s paperwork to be processed.

Hence, the process of ??? verification??? can be omitted. Once you have been processed, you should receive an award letter stating that you have been approved for financial aid. However, at Lawson State Community College, if you are not persistent, your paperwork gets processed whenever they get to it.

Therefore, you may or may not receive an award letter. The Peter Principle exists within this department due to the lack of staff and unnecessary procedures. In conclusion, the Peter Principle exists, greatly, at Lawson State Community College.

There are levels of incompetence in the Campus Bookstore, the office of Student Services, and the office of Financial Aid Services. These problems tend to make these departments less efficient. In knowing this, these areas should be evaluated and/or reorganized so that programs or processes are put in place to improve these departments. Once there is improvement, these departments will be able to serve the students of Lawson State more efficiently.