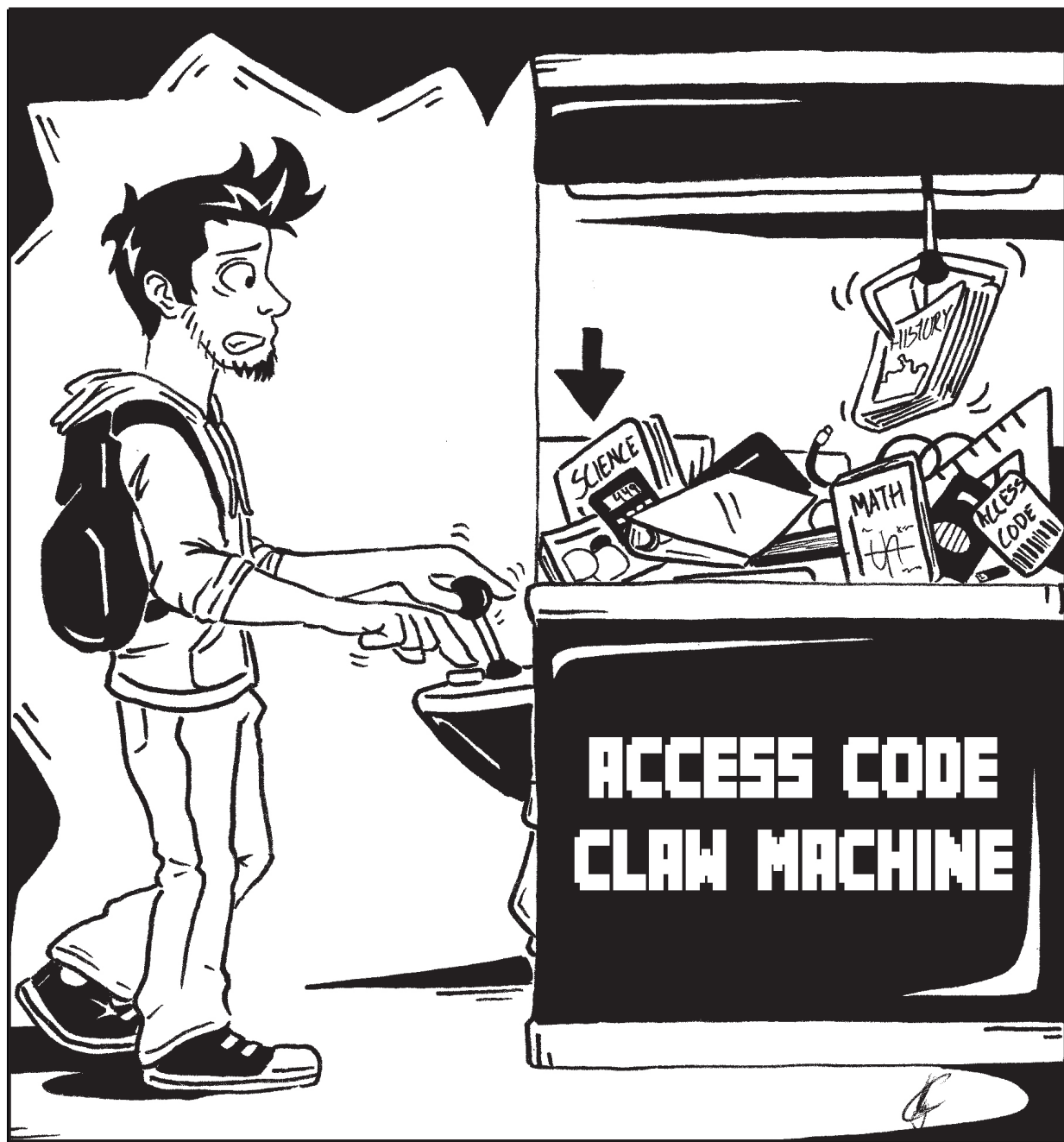


EDITORIAL

Access codes bumfiddling students



CARLOS MARQUEZ/TM

“Bueno, bonito, y barato” as financially struggling students say.

We have the right to a good education at a cheap or reasonably low-cost. Our online course offerings have continued to grow, however so have our fees.

No one is arguing the practicality and the benefits that come with learning in the comfort of your own home. The current trend in education is to increase tuition costs and go toward online classes.

Online courses are more:

- Time efficient.
- Allows 24/7 access.
- Flexible so online classes gear toward the variety of student's schedules.

Students get to logon at their convenience to keep up with the due dates and course requirements.

While it may seem that online education is a favorable option, truth is the benefits do not offset the expensive price.

First question then becomes how much to pay for all these benefits? Although there are many benefits that come with online classes being cheap is not one of them.

Units for online classes cost exactly the same as standard classes; and sometimes come with an additional cost of having to buy an access-code for the online software needed for the class.

Pearson Public limited Com-

pany is one of the largest education company and the largest book publisher in the world, according to publishersweekly.com.

It is also the only software company the college uses for its online courses. Students can have access to the site for as little as \$85.50. What that translates to is paying \$85.50 to take test for one semester of the class. On a student's budget paying for one access code, or multiple access codes to take test is appalling.

Without the access-code, students cannot access the site to complete assignments and take quizzes, midterms and finals.

Second question then becomes are online classes effective? Discipline comes to play. Being an online student would only work if you have self-discipline.

Getting home from work and spending effort, and the energy you have left on your course requirements becomes a challenge.

Choosing to sit in front of the computer instead of going out and having a social life is an exercise in self-control.

Other perils of online classes include:

- Having minimal interaction with the class instructor.
- Learning retention is lower when there's no one to oversee that you are actually understanding the material.
- Instructors can't tell if the stu-

dents are following the lecture

It is also easier to cheat, it is an unnecessary temptation for the students who are struggling to pass their English, and math requirements.

More hybrid classes should be offered, with affordable alternatives to purchase the required access-code.

Although the college cannot dictate the price for the access codes, it can offer the use of free alternatives, let students come take the quizzes and turn in homework during professor office hours or through the use of free online options like gmail, docs or drive; or creating a fee-waiver to cover the cost of the access code for low-income students.

Hybrid courses combine the best that both an online class and a standard teaching class have to offer.

Students meet during a specific time in class and are then supplemented with online course requirements.

An on campus standard class gives students discipline to get work done and so would a hybrid class.

Students should interact with fellow classmates, and instructor along with their online material.

Traditional face-to-face classes enhance learning experience.

A good college education requires students to interact with more than a book or a computer.

- THE ENVELOPE -
LOVE & SEX

Dating the antichrist: nine circles of Hell

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We have all have been through hell with a date. So that you can watch out for fuckboys, I have compiled nine deal-breakers and red flags that tell you “all hope abandon, ye who enter here!”

Lack of self-awareness is damning. If a person flaunts designer clothing constantly, that person is a douchebag. If a person poses in pictures with expensive alcohol, that person is an alcoholic douchebag.

If it's a Tinder hook-up, the only rule is to follow the code of “*honest advertising*” as defined by the Better Business Bureau and don't catfish. If you are looking for something meaningful, buyer beware. Do your research. It is alarming if a person has **no references or reputation**.

If the person has **no direction** in life, that's a deal breaker. A friend dated a hobo for nine months; he was anti-choice, she was a 4.0 average student. What a mess!

If a person collects useless things like dolls or mugs, it might mean they are toxic, because the acquisition of such stupid things is a

sign of **greed**. If your Grindr crush mentions his Disneyland pass in his bio, he's a thottie!

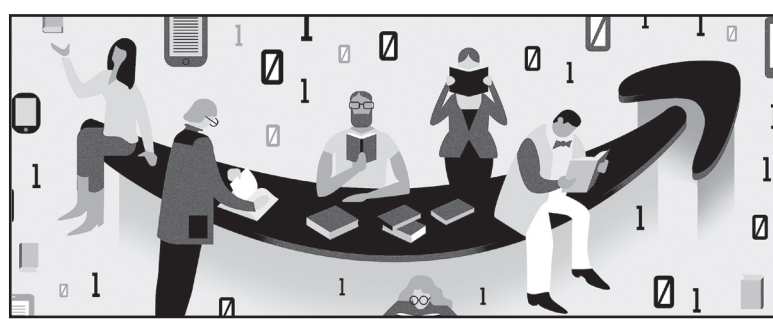
Having good communication skills is not just about speaking clearly. It is also about how you represent yourself. **Not having the ability to have a sincere conversation**. Don't make puns through a serious talk about 9/11.

A friend of mine attracted a man who acted as though he were from the last century. Her now former boyfriend bitch about the pro-choice movement; citing his feelings (ew) and his religion (yawn) as reasons for his desire to oppress people. Avoid people with **no values**.

If they say “I love you so much, I'll never hit you,” you're going to be walking out of that relationship black and blue. **Ugly habits** are easy to pick up on early in the affair.

Screw 'em if they **can't take a joke**. If they don't like your pointers on speaking Yiddish (you achieve the accent by pretending that there's a penny in the back of your throat) that's a deal breaker.

There is a saying all artists cheat, it's just fool get caught. Don't date **artists**.



COURTESY OF MTC

E-Books ruin reading, but save students from premature osteoarthritis

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I've always been the type of reader that preferred physical books than e-books.

There has always been something special about the “classic” reading experience of carrying around a newly released book, turning the page and being able to see how far I've read.

However once I started college, I began to appreciate e-books a lot more, especially when it came to English classes. When there was a required reading and my copy wouldn't come in time, e-books saved the day.

Additionally, I didn't have to lug around a 500+ page classic novel just to finish it, because I could easily download a copy onto my phone or e-reader.

If a Cerritos College student for instance takes 12 units a semester, that can equate to three or four classes worth of textbooks. In that time, students will probably be required to purchase at least one or two books per class and that can definitely add up.

Digital textbooks generally tend to be cheaper than physical copies (depending on edition) as

well and have a number of other benefits.

If a book is required right away for an assignment, etc., students don't have to worry about delays because it takes little time to purchase and download.

When one needs to locate a specific word or phrase it is a very easy click on the search bar on a digital copy and find it. This saves the time of flipping through pages of a print textbook.

Additionally if one needs to see a word or phrase much clearer, there are easier ways to change or customize the font size/type and even screen brightness. One can also easily highlight and bookmark pages or passages for later viewing.

One can have hundreds more books on an e-reader for required or pastime reading and not have to worry about having to carry a number of physical books at once.

Libraries too have made it so much easier to have faster access to more books through online catalogs and digital downloads.

I find myself reaching for digital books or some other form of electronic reading like audiobooks. While it may not be the “classic” reading experience, it sure does have its benefits.

Night life survival guide: repelling creepy men

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“Date, it will be fun,” they said. Until you are with a creep and your inner self wants to scream, “SOS!”

There are various measures women can take to protect themselves from creepy dates and escape from an uncomfortable situation.

The Iberian Rooster which is a restaurant in St. Petersburg's, Florida, has a poster in the women's restroom that went viral after a woman shared it on social media.

It reads the following, “Is your Tinder or Plenty of Fish date not who they said they were on their profile? Do you feel unsafe, or even just a little bit weird? We're here to help. Just go to the bar and order an angel shot.”

This is how it works:
Neat- Your bartender will escort you to your vehicle.

With ice- Your bartender will call an uber or lyft for you.

With lime- Your bartender will call the police.

The poster ends stating, “We'll handle things discreetly, and without a lot of fuss (we've been there, and we want you to know that

you're in good hands)”

This sounds like a very great concept so far.

The restaurant owner, Russell Andrade, told the Tampa Bay Times “We didn't put the sign up for any attention. That sort of goes against the point”

“The goal for this place was to be a safe place where people can go on a romantic date” Andrade stated.

I think if there were anyway to keep the codes a secret between just women to avoid making your date aware you want to escape, it would be a life saver.

As for now there are other practical things women can do to avoid being in a dangerous or uncomfortable situation.

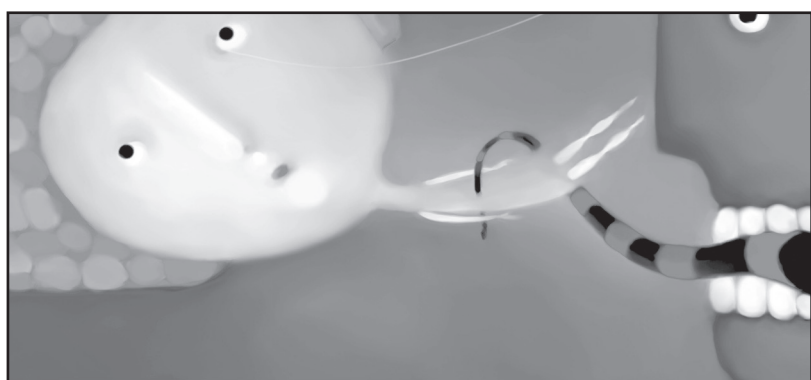
Keep friends and family aware of where you will be going and constantly keep them updated.

Show a picture to a friend or relative of what your date looks like, as well as the car plates.

Fake you have an emergency and leave.

Tell a relative or friend to go pick you up.

Double date and walk in groups, this will avoid creepy, dangerous men harming you in any way (P.S. pepper spray comes in handy).



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