

How to Succeed in a Math Class

Go through the list and circle all of the things you currently do. Then go through and highlight all of the things that you could add in to your schedule. Begin practicing and slowly adding the highlighted items to your study schedule; try adding 2 at a time.

1. Attend every lecture. You can get behind very fast if you do not attend every class.
2. Consider learning math like you would learn a foreign language. If there are words you don't understand, review the lecture notes and/or the recommended textbooks. If needed, you can also look terms or concepts online.
3. Math builds on itself. Do NOT skip material you don't understand. Ask your teacher lots of questions until you understand the material.
4. The best way to learn math is to practice, practice, practice.
5. Do not procrastinate! Do homework early and have as much time as possible to do it. Try to do the homework the same day of the lecture.
6. Study at least three hours for every unit you are taking. It is recommended to study math 5-6 days each week in 1-2 hours blocks. 3 unit courses require at least 9 hours of studying each week.
7. Identify your study times and mark them on your calendar. Study times should be treated as appointments, not as being optional.
8. Keep up on your homework. Even if it is not collected. Practice, practice, practice.
9. Ask the professor for clarification immediately following lecture.
10. Make use of available resources including your professor's office hours! Your professor would love to see you in their office hours.
11. You will be tested as an individual. Despite the helpfulness of your friends or study group, in the end your grade will be based upon your individual performance. Be sure to "go solo" on a few exercises/homework to make sure you understand the material.
12. Review your notes as soon as possible after class to cement the information into your knowledge-base while the concepts are still fresh in your brain.
13. Be prepared for class: read over the section and attempt a few problems before class.
14. Take all practice exams with your book and notes closed. Time your practice exams.
15. Correct your exams and quizzes. Learn from your mistakes.
16. Find a study buddy and/or put together a weekly study group with peers from class.
17. Keep track of your grade progress in each class. If you aren't happy with your grade, go get help ASAP.