

Personal Development Exercise

How to succeed when taking an 8:30 pre-calculus class:

1. Take advantage of office hours and extended office hours. Office hours serve as an opportunity to clarify misunderstanding of the material. Attending office hours, normal or extended has helped me greatly in not only reviewing material before a midterm, but getting a firm grasp of difficult concepts through the aid of the instructor and peers which I wouldn't have been able to otherwise.
2. Make friends with at least one person. I went into the quarter with the mindset of not missing a single class. However, situations tend to arise at inconvenient times and classes are missed. Having a friend in the class allowed me to get the notes from them that I missed in class and not miss out on the information discussed in the lecture entirely.
3. Participate in the lectures. Some people may not like to speak up in class because they are afraid of being wrong in front of the class. But what needs to be understood is that learning occurs when mistakes are made. It is obviously preferred to make more mistakes when they don't count for points and learn from it, than to make the mistakes on a quiz, test, midterm, or final. If someone isn't willing to make mistakes then they won't ever learn because they always think they're right, or they'll always be unsure and end up guessing.

Personal/Study Mistakes:

1. Relying on others. There are many group quizzes during the class. Don't mistake someone else's understanding as personal understanding. It is easy to have a false sense of security when someone else helps you on a quiz or an assignment. That same person won't be with you when you take the midterm or solo quizzes. Ultimately it is up to the individual to make sure they understand the material.
2. Waiting to start the homework. This quarter I fell behind on homework because I gave myself the excuse that part of a section wasn't covered in class yet. However that is not a valid reason to not attempt the next section. I didn't start the homework for a section until a few days have passed after the corresponding lecture. What ended up happening was the information was no longer fresh in my mind because the time between the lecture and doing the homework was too far apart. As a result I had to relearn material on my own, and ended up spending more time on each section.

12/11/12

When taking an early 8:30am precalculus class, I advise students to get enough sleep before they come to class. This is because the material in precalculus is hard, so in order to keep up with the lecture they need to be on their fresh mind and well focused and getting enough sleep is important to stay awake in the class.

Recommendations

1, My first recommendation for students who are taking precalculus class to increase their chances of success is to do their home work as soon as the lecture is done on that chapter. this is because if they forgot how to do the problems they have to go over the material all over again and that that will take their time .so doing their home work on time would help them to save time and help them to master the problems .

2 , My second recommendation for students who are taking precalculus class to increase their chances of success is to do the review packets .this will help them to get familiarized their self with how the test is going to be and what kind of questions should they expect to be asked.

3, My third recommendation for students who are taking precalculus class to increase their chances of success is to go over their test and see what they did wrong on the test and do similar problems .this will help them not to make the same mistakes again.

Mistake

1, The mistakes I made this quarter that hurt me is that miss juggling problems and assuming they are easy without doing the problems. This affected me I dint know the different ways how they could be asked and solved.

2, The other mistake I made this quarter is when I do home work and review packets I took my time to solve them .so because I didn't learn how to solve them fast I had hard time finishing my exam on time .

Personal development

I have some advices on succeeding in 8:30 precalculus class. You must enjoy your class every day. Come to 8:30 precalculus class is very different, you should prepare everything before class. You must wake up earlier to take class 8:30, and come to class on time. Three other recommendations you should do to success in math 43 class, first, you must do the homework every day, study for quizzes or mid test, and come to office hours. In my opinion, these three key to success in math class. Student should do the homework every day to practice what they got in class, and make sure they understand all question. Homework helps every student to understand their thought about the lecture, and it really helpful to continue to the next chapter. Most of the homework question will become question on the quiz or test, so it would help you to get better score in test. Study everyday will help you to understand the lecture, not only some part or some question. When you study every day, you will automatically understand every part of the lecture. Study every day will help you to solve every question in the book or in the test. Third, you must come to office hours to ask question or lecture that you do not understand. In office hours, you can ask everything about lecture and home works, it means it will help you to get better score in test.

I made some mistakes that really hurt my chance of succeeding. First, when I learned every chapter in math 43, I try to understand every step and every part of it, but my bad habit is when I do not understand something, I did not try to solve it. I just continue learn something and skip the part that I did not understand. However in the end of the quarter, there are too many things that I skip in the beginning and make me confuse. The second mistake I made is I did not practice every day, and it make me slow when I do the test or quizzes.



Personal Development Exercise

- A) Advice on how to succeed when taking an early 8:30 am precalculus class
You should go to bed early or stay up all night, so you won't be late for the class
- Take bus: remember the schedule (one minutes late can make you late for the class 20-30 minutes)
 - Drive a car: notice the time you are from home to school for the first week.
Ex: if you are in downtown San Jose and you take the freeway 280 to go to school. 6h45am will take you 20 -25 minutes, but 7h am will take you 40-45 (some time huge traffic will take even more than one hour)
- B) 3 other recommendations for what a student should do to increase their chances of success, and why each of them is helpful
- It would be great if you having a friend who studies the same period with you (8:30am): you guys will be the motivation for each others to go to school when you want to sleep more in the early mornings☺. Another reason, it will be wonderful if you two can drive in carpool lane.
 - It would be easier to review for exam and final if you have the review for every quiz. The review does not have any pattern; it is depended on the reviewer's study style. It may have the formula, definition and some notes on your book, notebook or solution manuals.
 - Almost questions on quizzes, exams and final are familiar with the homework problems, but you need to do the homework often so you can figure out the solution quickly. If you are busy, you should do the LEARN & TEST of the list homework every day and quizzes. The Practice you can do when you have enough time or review for exams.
 - Print out green sheet, tentative schedule, tentative homework list, so you will know what is going on. It will be great if you could take a glance overall the chapters you will study.
- C) 2 study or personal "mistakes" that you (or someone) you know made during this quarter that really hurt (their) chances of succeeding, and why specifically each one had a negative impact
- I did not read the book before the day I was absent, so I had no idea what the lesson was about. Therefore, I had a hard time to catch up the information for the next day.
If you have to be absent in the class, you should read the book. If you understand 70 to 80 percent, then you are fine. Otherwise, consider to choose which one is more important to you.
 - The first week and the week before final are really important. I made the mistake that I was nonchalant for the homework in these two weeks. Since I was unsure which classes I could be in, I had not doing homework for the first week. As a result, the three following weeks, I had to do a lot of homework not only for this class but also for other classes. The week before final was still considered "A STUDY WEEK", not "A Review Week" for final. As a result, I have stuck some questions on the final exams without any solutions.

As for the advice on how to succeed when taking an early 8:30am pre-calculus class, I think one important thing is to go to sleep early. Since the class starts very early, you'll have to get up early. Without enough sleep, you won't be able to learn almost anything from the class or take exams, so make sure you have enough sleep before you go to school.

In addition to that, there're also some other things that will help you succeed. First is to put all of your attention onto the class. Almost all the important parts will be given during the class, if you miss the class, you'll spend a lot of time trying to figure out what's going on. Second is to make sure you know understand the basic. Learning math is like building a high-rise building, without a good base, the building will collapse, so as your math. Third is to ask your classmates or teacher whenever you have a problem. By asking them, you'll better know what part of knowledge you're missing. Even you know the answer, you should still ask them and you may find a better way to solve the problem.

During this quarter, I also made some mistakes that would hurt my grade. For example, sometimes I would misunderstand the problems which made me lose some points. It's very important to understand everything when you study math, if you misunderstand just a little, the answer could be completely wrong. In addition to that, I often made arithmetic mistakes which I've been trying to avoid all the time. Sometimes you think everything should be right and the truth is you do understand everything and know how to solve the problem, but if you make arithmetic mistake, you'll most like losing lots of points and you won't even know that.

Personal Development Exercise

Recommendations/Advice

1. Set multiple alarm clocks

8:30 am isn't an incredibly early time to have class, but because I walk to school and it takes me about 30 minutes to get from my house to De Anza, waking up on time is incredibly crucial, which is why I like to set multiple alarm clocks. Having multiple alarm clocks only increases the likelihood that I will wake up, so I see no harm in having more than one alarm clock. In addition, I have found that setting the alarm clock on my phone to ring at intervals of 15 minutes also helps because that makes my phone hard to ignore, and I wake up more easily.

2. Make friends in class

I think that I have been fortunate to have been able to take the class with my friend because we were able to help each other when the other was confused or had questions. In addition, it meant that we could spend our partner quizzes focused on the problems and solving them rather than on overcoming any awkwardness that we might have had with someone we didn't know in the class.

3. Pay attention and take notes

I think that it is really important to be paying attention while taking notes because if not, then the notes will not make sense, nor will there be comprehension of the material or notes. That's why it is best to sleep early so that you have energy to pay attention as well as to have/make friends in class so you can get reliable notes from them.

4. Do the homework

I have found that doing the homework really helps in the learning the material because it allows for the application and the practice of the material that was taught in class. It also helps to do homework because some quiz and midterm problems come from the homework – either the complete question or some derivation or it.

Mistakes

1. Did not start studying until the last minute

I made the mistake of not studying until the very last minute for the third midterm, which I definitely regret. I tried to cram all the material in the night before and I think that it just made me confused as I took the midterm. I remembered seeing the problems but I couldn't remember how to solve it so I feel like I spent most of the time trying to remember my notes as opposed to trying to solve the problem.

2. Did not read the textbook before class

Even though it was recommended, I usually did not read the textbook for the lesson that would be covered the next day. I think that was detrimental to my learning the material because I would be trying to learn everything on the blackboard but I would also be extremely confused, so I had to put in more time and effort to read the textbook and understand the material when I got home and then connect it back to what was taught earlier that day.

Advice on how to succeed in a 8:30 class

- Plan out your schedule so you don't need to stay up too late the night before and can stay awake in class and also if there is something due in class that day set up a reminder for yourself because when rushing for school its easy to leave something behind.
- Take notes during class because they help you stay focused and are very useful for review.

3 recommendations

- When studying for a test or quiz use the notes taken in class because they have examples on how the teacher what the problems to be solved and there are points given not just for the final answer but for the work done.
- Use the extended office hours that the teacher has before the midterms because that is the last chance to get any questions answered and it serves as a great review because the other students bring up questions you might have forgotten to go over.
- There are a lot of formulas that you learn in class and don't try to memorize them all instead try to understand the concept behind them which is explained in class because most of the formulas look very similar and it is very easy to mix them up during a test.

2 study mistakes

- Using your notes or text book when working on review problems and this is not a very smart idea because it might seem like you understand the problem by slicing the problem by using the given steps in the book but you won't have the book with you on the test so do the practice problems on your own so see what you need to work on.
- Don't take it easy at the beginning of class because the material is very tough and the pace is really fast which makes it very hard to catch up before a test. It doesn't help to cram the material the day before because it needs time to sink in.

To the future students of Math 43:

I wish you all good luck on taking a morning math class! Having class at 8:30am can have its disadvantages but there are a few ways to make sure you succeed in the class. First off, always have a good night's rest! This way you'll be on time to class and won't miss out on any important information at the beginning of lecture. There are always announcements at the beginning of class and it's good to stay updated so you know how to prepare. Next, always do your homework on time so you can ask questions the next day. Homework questions almost always appear on the quizzes so make sure you practice! Professor Lo is a very fair grader when it comes to tests/quizzes so even if you don't know how to do a problem, just try your best and attempt to get partial credit. Lastly, always do your own reading in the textbook because sometimes the professor doesn't cover all the material in class. Stay ahead of the class and don't fall behind!

Mistakes I made over the course:

One of the major mistakes I made while taking this course was not taking advantage of the tutoring sessions that the professor had provided for us. Even though I had the time to go I chose not to because I felt like I could learn the material on my own without any help. When it became the night before a quiz or test I found myself confused on certain problems that I didn't know how to solve. I was never good at asking questions so this was a main issue for me.

Another mistake I made was that I didn't focus in class. Although I showed up to class on time nearly every day, I found myself distracted and unable to pay attention to the material being taught. If I didn't pay attention one day that caused me to be very confused the next day because I didn't understand what was going on. I pretty much had to learn everything in the class on my own through the textbook.

The main point to all my mistakes is that I didn't fully understand the material on the day of the quizzes or tests. Stay on top of all your work and ask questions when you need to! Good luck to you all next quarter.

Advice:

- When taking an early 08:30am precalculus class, prepare yourself physically and mentally. Prepare yourself physically and mentally by giving your body enough sleep (preferably eight hours of sleep prior to class) and a well-balanced breakfast. Sleep has been proven to help your brain sort out all the information so it can be easily accessed (remembered). Never skip on breakfast because it will fuel the body and mind. Fueling the body and mind will allow you to be active in class and be able to retain the information in your brain. Doing this will make going to class bearable and allows you to be mentally present.

Recommendations:

1. Sit in the front row or as close as possible to the board. Sitting as close as possible to the board allows you to focus more on what is being taught. If you sit further from the board, for example the back of the room, the teacher's communication to you is not as strong as sitting in the front row of seats. As you sit further away from the board, you have wider vision of the room, which allows you to see more, but that is the downfall. When you have more vision in the room you can get distracted easily and tend to trail off and not listen to the lesson. Sitting close to the front of the room restriction your vision and allows you to focus on what is being taught. Try and strive to sit close to the front.
2. Get to know your fellow classmates. Getting to know other people in your class can help you stay connected as well as help each other do great in the class. There are benefits to knowing people in your class. One is that you can stay updated if you did not attend class. Another is if you do not understand a particular lesson, you can ask someone else who understands and get them to teach it to you to a level that you can understand.
3. Disregard using the calculator as much as possible. Doing this hones your arithmetic skills. If you become too reliant on your calculator to do simple calculations, you are cheating yourself and you would not be confident in your own skills. In life you will not be near a calculator most of the times. Though a calculator can immensely save you time, it does not make you a better mathematician.
4. **ASK QUESTIONS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.** You have the ability to question, use it to your advantage. Questioning what is being taught helps you get a better understanding on the material. You can also be a hero for those who are afraid to hear their own voice in class.

Personal Mistakes:

1. If you do not keep up with the homework and reading, it will backfire. Do not let your hubris get the better of you. Just because you are confident in your skills, does not guarantee you a high score. You can actually score higher if you put studying and doing homework in your regime. Just because you can recall material from lectures does not mean you will score well. Practice comes close to perfect (nothing is perfect in my opinion).
2. Not taking advantage of the professor's office time. The office time the professor sets up is for you. Office time is meant for you to come after class if you did not understand anything the professor has taught. Do not be afraid to come. If you are, build up the courage because this is your grade. It is your responsibility to understand the material and for your benefit.

Advice

Good advice would be to set multiple alarms and make sure everything you need for the upcoming day is all ready and packed away in your backpack. Having to wake up that early and attend class on time can really leave little time for you to take your time and arrange everything together. Plan ahead, get everything done so all you have to do is wake up and get dressed.

Recommendations

- Do your homework everyday, even if it's only a few problems and you're trying to squeeze them in as practice.
 - Why? It's better to retain as much knowledge as possible from lecture than go a few days without doing your homework and then later when studying, you've totally forgot all the little techniques and methods that you've been taught during lecture.
- Read the textbook.
 - Reading helps present to you a selective amount of material, examples, and definitions that aren't otherwise discussed during lectures. It also allows for you to familiarize yourself with some of the different kinds of formulas since lectures only present selected kinds.
- Set aside an hour every day just for this class
 - This will help you succeed whether you know it or not. This will relive a lot of stress when there's a coming up midterm/quiz.
- Wake up at least an hour before class starts.
 - If you're not a morning person, prepare by setting multiple alarms and even asking someone in your family household to wake you up if you aren't up by a certain time. Traffic is intense in the morning and it's always early than late.
- Review everything that's given on Bert's website.
 - Everything that he uploads is all for the better of your success in his class. He only wants you to be prepared not underprepared so whenever he emails you saying he has posted something on his website, immediately check it out and if possible print it out. Most likely it will be helpful towards future exams.

Mistakes

- I did not really use the tutorial center much.
 - Tutorial centers were specifically created to aid us with any questions and or misconception or confusion with the material. I in return would always struggle in preparing for quizzes/tests.
- Waiting till the last minute to preparing and cramming for tests/quizzes.
 - That was extremely horrible strategy since this class wasn't the class that you could just easily cram for since there's a lot of material that we're expected to cover and review for. I ended doing horribly on all my midterms/quizzes.
- Trying to cram the homework in within the last few days before a midterm/quiz.

- This really affected me because it didn't give me breathing space in case I had any questions and or confusions. I would always then be unsure of certain material when taking the midterm/quiz.
- Not going to assigned tutoring sessions with designated tutors.
 - This really affected me because it was an easy way of obtaining the help that I needed. This really prevented me from reaching the potential that I had.
- Showing up late multiple times.
 - Believe it or not this affected me because I would be trying to settle in and by the time I have all my school supplies out I missed a big portion of the announcements and beginning lecture info. This really held me back because I'd be confused and wondering what is was that I missed in the beginning, and then I'd be behind because I'm trying to catch up with the notes and I then don't have the time to process what is that I'm writing down.

When taking an early precalc class:

- The cliché "get to bed early" is true because it allows you to be more awake in the morning so that you can be attentive when you are in class and not dozing off.
- Try to eat something as well because it gives energy and also kind of gives your body physical movement to wake up faster.
- Do the homework before and do not say that you will wake up early to do it because it is not going to happen.
- Same thing as above but for studying for quizzes and tests.
- Leave home on time because of traffic.

Three other recommendations:

- Meet someone in the class and actually keep contact with them because this will not only help you in partner quizzes but also for questions and study purposes.
- Go over the quiz after you have graded it and actually look for the mistakes. This generally helps because it shows in what spots you are weaker.
- Do not rely on calculators for homework because on most quizzes and tests, they will not be available. Helps to speed up time spent on each problem.

2 study mistakes:

- Do the homework nightly because if not, you will get behind and all too soon, there will be a test or quiz and you will have to cram study which is not efficient at all. Also, it creates a lot of unneeded stress which does not help either. And if you do get too behind, create a schedule to try and sort it out.
- Ask for help! If you feel like you are not getting a desirable grade, do not be lazy or shy to go and ask for help. It takes a little more dedication but it will improve your scores as well as your understanding of the subject. Also, ask who you feel more comfortable with whether that be a friend in class, the instructor, or a tutor.

In order to ensure success in an 8:30 precalculus class, students need to be on time to class and always be ready and prepared for class. If you are late to class frequently not only are you missing several announcements that announced in the beginning of the class but also you are missing out on most of the lesson for that day. Make sure to get plenty of rest the nights before so you can wake up on time and not be late to class. Also, students need to devote 100% attention in class in order to succeed. A lot of the time when you are not paying attention or are fooling around, not only will you get kicked out of the class and miss the lesson for that day, but you are also distracting other students from learning. Students need to have a sharp focus in order to really grasp the material that's being taught in lecture. Another important tip to succeed in class would be to always do the homework problems that are assigned from each chapter. Do not slack off and not do the homework problems since homework is not mandatory to be turned in. By doing so, you will not have much practice on what was taught in lecture so therefore, doing homework ensures that you are grasping the material that's being taught in lecture and if not, you can always ask the professor any questions regarding the homework. One of the study mistakes that I've committed while taking this class was not making time to go to tutoring. In many ways, tutoring helps you understand and clear any questions you have about what was taught in lecture or any homework questions. Tutoring will allow you to go further and beyond in order to really understand the lessons. Not being able to go to tutoring hurt my chances of succeeding in this class because most of the time I had questions about my quizzes and homework problems which I tried to figure out on my own mostly instead of seeking help of a tutor. Another study mistake that I've committed in this class that really hurt the chances of success was not asking homework questions in class whenever students had the chance to write their questions on the board. Personally, I like to figure things out on my own regardless of how tough it is to solve something, but in this case, help from someone else, mainly the professor could have had cleared any doubts and issues I had with certain homework problems. Therefore, I encourage students to not be shy or hesitant while seeking professor's or a tutor's help in homework, quiz problems and etc. because sometimes you need a second hand to guide you through something that you are struggling with.

Math 43 MTWRF 8:30

Mr. Lo

Personal Development Exercise

- (a) Advice on how to succeed when taking early 8:30am precalculus class
- Because it is early class, students better to sleep early. Otherwise, you can't make attention at morning class.
- (b) 3 other recommendations for what a student should do to increase their chances of success, and why each one is helpful
- Students should do their homework every day. Professor Lo doesn't correct homework, so students maybe do homework letter. However, if you don't do homework, you don't understand next material.
 - Students should attend tutoring class because it will very helpful to bring you score up at quiz or test.
 - Students should make friends in the class because class is going very fast, so you can ask your friends when you got problems.
- (c) 2 study or personal "mistakes" that you (or someone you know) made during this quarter that really hurt your (their) chances of succeeding, and why specifically each one had a negative impact.
- I made a mistake at Midterm 3. I forgot the teacher put solution about midterm 3, and I didn't study. However, many problem relate with the solution which Professor Lo put on his website. If you study and understand the problem on solution sheet, you can do better on test.
 - Another mistake is when I had a good score on last quiz or test, I felt like next quiz will be easy too, so I wasn't studying very hard for next one. Because of this mistake, I lost many points. Therefore, students should keep study and don't forget to keep doing homework or review all chapter before quizzes or tests.

1. Homework is very important so make sure you do homework. Most of quizz questions are from Homework.
2. You should find a partner. You and your partner can do homework and compare to each other to find and fix the mistake. It is a good way to learn because you will know where your problem is and how to fix it.
3. Turn in all your works on time.
4. Read the books before the lecture so you can know where you do not understand and focus on it or ask the questions about it.
5. Do the best you can on the quizz, do not leave it blank eventhough you are not sure it is right answer. Because you can got some points for some part of it and it is better than 0.
6. Attendance is also important. If you missed one class, make sure to read the book and do homeworks to catch up or you will be behind.

[A] Advice on how to succeed when taking an early 08:30am pre-calculus class

- No matter how many times we tell ourselves that we need to sleep early, we never do so. For this class, it is not even a suggestion when students are asked to sleep early the night before. Math is a course that requires a mind to be extremely attentive and if you come to class to sleep, you are not using your time or money wisely.
- We all know that between 07:00 am to 09:00 am is a bad time for driving due to morning traffic. So in order to make it to class on time, you need to manage your time and arrive to school on time. That means you have to wake up earlier and give yourself about an hour to get to school, unless you live down the street, then good for you. Having to wake up early is not that bad if you followed advice one.

[B] Three other recommendations for what a student should do to increase their chances of success, and why each one is helpful

- Homework is not mandatory in this class, but it is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!** Honestly, how can you apply what you learn in class without practicing problems? After a small break after classes, hit the books. Do ten problems today and ten more tomorrow. You are guaranteed to understand the concept better than those who do not do the homework. **BONUS:** You can ask Professor Lo and other students if you are stuck on a homework question. **EXTRA BONUS!** Professor Lo does use some homework questions on tests and quizzes. So if you did them, then you are good to go!
- Read the lessons beforehand! Reminder! This class is at 08:30am in the morning. Most likely when class starts, you will be given a lot of information to take in. However if you read the lesson a day or two before, it would be considered a refresh for yourself.
- Make friends in the class. Take the chance to talk to others and form study groups. If you don't understand a topic, don't just assume that no one else gets it. Maybe another can help you, vice versa.
- **ATTEND OFFICE HOURS.** Professors offer office hours because they want their students to succeed. If you are stuck on a problem, drop by during office hours and get help.

[C] Two student or personal mistakes that you made during this quarter that really hurt your chances of succeeding, and why specifically each one had a negative impact.

- I had a job in the beginning of the quarter that required me to work 6-7 hours a day for 7 days a week. In that two week period, I lost so much time to do homework for my classes. I think that if I managed my time wisely then I would have gotten more work

done for math. Such as studying and doing homework. This tip applies to all courses.

- My second personal mistake was glancing over work before quizzes and exams. I would “master” a topic and I won’t touch up on it until the night before the exam and end up confusing myself on the quiz and receiving a low score on exams. TIP: CONSTANTLY STUDY YOUR MATERIAL, EVEN IF YOU UNDERSTAND IT.

A) When taking an early pre calculus I recommend finding a partner in class who can tell you what sections were covered that day in class. In case you don't make it to class in time especially if you live far away or are not used to taking early classes.

B) Be sure to do all the homework and keep up with it because it will make reviewing for the exam a lot easier.

If a study group is opened for the class I recommend going often if it fits your schedule. Because during the week you may not have time to read ahead for the class and the tutors are really helpful.

Print and answer the study guides with enough time before the exam. If some questions are unclear you will have time to solve them with help and be prepared for the exam.

C) The biggest mistake I made this quarter was taking three hard classes together. I thought I would be able to manage my time but I was wrong and didn't study as much as wanted to for the class.

The second mistake I made was not always reading before class. This affected me because sometimes I didn't understand the lecture and fell behind or couldn't answer some homework problems.

[a] In order to succeed in taking a morning class you must set more than one alarm to help wake you up early in the morning or you can go to bed early.

[b] One way to increase your chances in passing this class is by doing the homework.

Doing the homework help you grasp the full concept of the lesson. Paying attention in class is fine but the homework helps make sure that you retain what you learned in class.

Second if you do not understand what was done in class go to the tutoring center and get help. There are people at the tutoring center willing to help all you have to do is ask. By

not asking for help on a concept that you do not understand than you will be setting yourself up to fail. Third meet with you quiz partner and go over the homework, by

studying together will more than double what you will learn than by studying by yourself,

because they will ask questions that you might not have thought of and then find out the

answer together, and you will ask question that they might know the answer to and they

can help explain how they got that answer.

[c] One, do not underestimate the first midterm. The first midterm is the most difficult

one so right from day one start studying, playtime is over this is college. If you do well

on the first midterm it will help you out if you do bad on the other two midterms. Two,

when doing group quizzes do not relay on your partner to do the entire quiz, you should

assume that they know less than you do. By assuming they know less than you do, it

might be true or it might not if it is than you should already be prepared if they know

more than you do even better.

Personal Development Exercise

If you are a student in De Anza College and is currently taking a pre-calculus class early in the morning such as 8:30am, then I have some tips for you in-order for you to pass with a good grade. First of all, always do the recommended homework that the instructor assigns. Doing this will enhance your chances in not only knowing the material but actually never forgetting on how to do it step by step. I made this mistake of not taking the homework seriously because we don't turn it in but do not copy my way because it hurt me when my partner and I did not have enough time to do a quiz and we ended up getting bad scores. Do memorize formulas with a group of people because it encourages yourself to work harder and not look stupid. You can even make some theme songs to memorize complex trig formulas because then you will never forget them. You should also start memorizing no later than 30 minutes after class so the material is still fresh in your mind. Also, remember when studying to do the math problems by hand all the way even if you know what to do. Its impossible to learn math by just reading because it's a hands on material that you are learning. If you don't do it by hand and just read on how to do it, then the studying will be a waste of time because you can't learn math like history and just read. A bad mistake I have made is always procrastinating and I urge you to not make that silly mistake especially in college. Don't wait till the last minute to study unless you want a bad grade. You will think you know the material but actually you won't when it comes time for the test. Another thing is do not be lazy, there is a difference between procrastinating and laziness. Don't be lazy when you are self grading your quiz. Go to the math tutorial center and be greedy and get some points back.

Personal Development Exercise

How to succeed when taking an early 830 AM class:

If you are willing to take a class as early as 830, you should be prepared to commute there efficiently. One of the ingredients for success in a math class is to attend each and every class. You should be willing to have a carpool plan with somebody or simply leave much earlier than usual. A good strategy is to take an even earlier class, such as 730, so that you'll be forced to attend your 830 math class. Even if you are late for your first class, at least you will be sure to make it to your math class.

Other tips on how to increase your chance of success:

- Practice makes perfect. Regardless of if homework is collected or not, you should do it anyways. If you set aside time to do math homework every night, you will train your mind to become more familiar with the material and in turn, perform better during tests.
- Read the material before lecture. If you blindly rely on your professor to teach you the material, it won't be efficient. If you read before lecture, your professor will be able to reinforce the material for you. Even if you don't understand the reading, you will be ready to ask any questions that you already have while your professor is lecturing.
- Be determined and don't give up. Don't be discouraged if you fail a quiz or test. Only because you fail a couple quizzes or a midterm doesn't mean you will definitely fail the class. Step back, reevaluate your study habits, and adjust accordingly. Make sure you are doing the reading and homework. If you are doing all of the above and are still not doing well, you should take extra precautions by attending tutoring sessions offered by the college or set an appointment for office hours with your professor.

Mistakes that are people usually come across:

- Don't overload on classes if you can't handle them. Studying for two midterms that are on the same day can be stressful and overwhelming. Take it easy or simply plan your classes so they aren't on the same day. More often than not, you will end up doing poorly on both of those midterms.
- Try to organize your notes and homework. Studying your notes when they're all over the place won't end well. Your thoughts will be jumbled and you'll blank out on the test. Keep them organized in order to be more efficient. Also, if your homework isn't collected by your professor, it's easy to be disorganized. You might think that no one is going to read it so it wouldn't matter if it's neatly written or on scratch paper, but you, yourself, may need to look over it in order to study for an upcoming midterm or final.

Dear Future Student,

Congratulations for deciding to take an 8:30AM class, and a math class no less. There are both advantages and disadvantages to taking a math class that early in the day. You finish earlier but probably are not as awake as you would be at 11:00AM. Taking this class, you are going to have to commit yourself to taking it and being on top of everything quicker because it is not a class where one can slack off and hope to pass. Make sure that you always come to class on time and that you actively take notes and participate in the lecture.

Some pointers that I would have on increasing your chances of succeeding would be mostly take notes of everything that is on the board during the lecture. The professor goes over specific definitions that you have to know and different types of problems with the solutions, and it's a good place to start when studying and doing your homework every night. You can't put off studying for once a week or the day before an exam because it piles on quickly and information will get lost in the way. Secondly, exam and quiz days are the ones where you should plan to be in class by 8:20AM, giving you those extra 10 minutes on the exam/quiz. Quizzes are only officially 30 minutes long but if you take longer to do certain problems or want to leave enough time to check your work at the end, it is helpful to have that extra time. Exams are more comprehensive and include more material than a quiz and again, it is helpful to be able to check your work at that point to make sure you did not make an error when you were rushing to finish. And lastly, create study groups with a few people in the class and agree to meet up on a regular basis to study; you understand the material when you are able to explain it to someone else. At the same time, having regular studying time will push you to stay on top of the homework and to always be prepared for class. With the constant practice, you will be spending less time the night before an exam or quiz studying and trying to cram everything by memorizing but rather it will become instinctual.

On the other hand, some mistakes that had interfered with really succeeding this past quarter in math included studying for quizzes and exams without taking much consideration of the information given in the textbook in the lessons before the homework. The information there includes definitions and ways to solve different problems that you see throughout the homework and the same problems that end up on the quizzes. Some of the quizzes include problems or information from the textbook in order to make sure that students are continuing to keep up with that aspect of the class. If you do not, you could end up missing a lot of points by trying to figure out the problems during the quizzes instead of before when you can also ask for clarification or assistance from the professor. The top of every quiz and on the front page of exams, there are directions written out and it is explicitly mentioned if calculators or any other tools can be used during them. If you happen to miss the information in class when the professor mentions it and then do not read the paper as well, you might end up using a calculator when you are not allowed. Using an unapproved calculator will cause every problem done up to that point to not be considered for points or to cancel the entire quiz out. While missing a quiz will not fail you for the quarter, it can harm you if you do poorly on an exam too and lose those possible points, especially if you would have earned all of them otherwise. Then that could determine the difference between earning the A you could have had or the B that you do get.

I wish you luck in enduring this early morning class and hope that you enjoy it as much as I did. Do not forget to attend class on time and to drink as much coffee as required to be awake and alert.

Personal Development Exercise

My advice on how to succeed in an early morning class requiring your full attention, such as math, is to not kid yourself on how much time and effort you need to devote to it. Not only should your homework be done the night before or two nights before if possible, an ample amount of sleep should always be part of your routine. Another vitally important factor is convincing yourself, whether true or not, that you WANT to be in class. If you show up every day despising where you are, you will be putting less thought into interpreting and learning the material being given to you. Proper schooling is a privilege, not a right.

Three recommendations I will give to you start with always, always, ALWAYS doing more problems on the homework than you think necessary. The teacher will assign you what they think will help bring you to the knowledge level you should be at, but you should be able to push yourself past that, and attempt to learn as much as you can about every subject.

You should also do your absolute best to miss no classes so as to absorb the utmost amount of information from the teacher that you can. While you may think the book can tell you all you need to know, the professors will often have ways to analyze material that books cannot inherently teach you. Sometimes the dry language of a book will not carry the analogies that a human being has to help you understand.

My third recommendation is to make it to office hours however you can! The professor has a wealth of material in his brain that you can ask to have translated into math for you to learn. To boost yourself ahead of the learning curve instead of simply staying up to date with it is the best possible method for success.

My biggest mistakes were not convening enough in the tutorial center with either classmates or the professor himself. If I were to explain my problems understanding the material more often, I would have had a more fluent breadth of knowledge to attack the problems on each quiz and test with.

My other mistake was simply not devoting enough time to the course. Even though I had my fair share of work to take care of outside of school, I was not able to convince myself to devote more time to learning the material at hand. I tried hard at the end, but it was a classic example of too little, too late.

On Fall 2012, I was taking Math 43 class on 8:30 am – 9:20 every Monday to Friday and I know somehow you'll also end up taking at least one morning class in college. At first, you'll find it tiring to wake up early in the morning especially to study Math which requires a lot of thinking. But as time passes by, this early class isn't that bad at all and you might get a high grade. The first thing on how to succeed this 8:30 precalculus class is TRY TO GET ENOUGH SLEEP THE NIGHT BEFORE. Don't ever exhaust yourself by studying until late at night or even doing something useless, such as playing games. If you have time to sleep early, use that opportunity, unless surely you need that time to do something important. The second thing that is required: EAT BREAKFAST. If you don't eat breakfast in the morning, you won't be concentrating enough to follow the lecture in the class because math class needs a lot of thinking and thinking needs energy from foods. Just a slice of bread and milk will do.

Those two things need to be supported by 3 other things. Firstly, make notes from the lecture. All of the lecture or at least 97% of the lecture each day need to be written down. Don't just memorize it and not writing anything because it won't work. You might forget it anytime. If you find his lecture is too fast, you can always ask permission to take a picture of it. Also don't forget to read your textbook (especially when you're falling behind from the lecture in class). Not all the material in the books will be covered in class. You need to read it by yourself because it might be on your tests. If you don't understand the material, just ask the professor. Do it one on one with him in his office hours because it will make you easier to get explanations until you're clearly understand. The last thing you sure must do is DO YOUR HOMEWORK but try to do it without any help. Trust me, it helps a lot. Most of the quizzes are based on our homework. So, if you do your homework, score A is on your hand for sure. You need to find a partner because you will be asked to work with a partner in some of the quizzes. Make sure your partner is suitable for you and is easy for you to work with.

Always be thorough in the class which deals with numbers. I made a lot of small mistakes back then. Don't ever rush yourself. If you see other people already finish their test before the time, don't panic. If there's still time, and you also finish your work, check it again from the very beginning to the last one. Count it all again because it's so common to make arithmetic mistakes. So, make sure you already check your work a couple of time before you collect it. One last advice, you might want to memorize the basic formulas, especially trigonometry. I tend to forget the basics and it made me annoyed because I would get almost perfect on every exam I did but it turned out not because I forgot the formulas. Try to memorize them with index cards. Re-read your notes from your previous Math classes so you'll always remember them on top of your head.

Advice on how to succeed when taking an 8:30AM Pre-Calculus class

1. Make sure you have reliable transportation and/or carpool buddies.
 - If they don't feel as much as an urgency to get to class on time either find new friends to ride to school with or make enough time in the morning to get to class on time on your own.
2. Make sure you aren't scheduled to work late shifts
 - Getting home late from work often leads to a decline in energy and motivation to get work done. It also leads to late night study sessions and very little sleep. You do the math... Late nights = sloppy work. No sleep = no energy to focus the next morning.
3. Don't take it thinking that just because you could do 8:30 classes in high school, you can do it in college. It is totally different.
4. If you rely on coffee, get coffee! Have breakfast if you get the chance too, you don't want to find yourself focusing on what you'll be eating after class and missing out on the information being discussed.
5. If you're not a morning person but are taking Math 43 as your transferable math course (which cannot be done pass/no pass) avoid the 8:30 class as much as possible.

3 other recommendations for what a student should do to increase their chances of success, and why each one is helpful

1. Sit in front of the class
 - I would say this is helpful especially for students that get distracted easily. Sitting in front of the class means the professor can see every move you make. Knowing you are the first student his eyes can see will force you to resist texting or daydreaming, and actually pay attention to what he's writing on the board and take notes. Really, sitting in front adds pressure, which makes for more productivity.
2. Don't take the class with a friend; rather form friendships with the strangers that surround your seat.
 - Taking classes with someone you already know could lead to less productivity. You come into the class with the idea that you'll get to socialize with your friend, rather than learn with them. I got to know a few people I wouldn't have known otherwise through this class and it wasn't because we had a million things to talk about; it was because we all found each other in the tutorial center trying to understand the same concepts. I think it helps a lot when your first common ground with someone is the subject you're trying to succeed in. This way, you also form a study group!
3. Go to the help sessions.
 - Office hours are a great way to get one or two questions answered or to defend your quiz answers for a better score, but really the help you get is limited (at no fault to the instructor). If there is a group tutor made available for your section, go! It's a great way to meet people that need the same help you do and can be used as a secondary class. You got the fundamentals in class, now you can practice with a tutor that knows the subject well and can get further into why each concept works and how.

2 study or personal "mistakes" that you (or someone you know) made during this quarter that really hurt your (their) chances of succeeding, and why specifically each one had a negative impact.

1. The first mistake I made was not taking the course serious enough from the get-go. The start of every quarter is usually spent thinking, "it's the first week of the quarter, I'll do work next week". This hurt my chances of succeeding because this became my state of mind the rest of the quarter. I didn't seem to do work after every quiz or midterm, because I gave myself breaks I believed I deserve. In reality, there isn't any time to rest, especially if you already struggle with math. As hard as it may seem, you really have to start as soon as you can and keep going until the class is over with.

2. Another mistake I made was losing hope. As cliché as it sounds, after every bad score was given back to me I slowly cared less and less. I could have easily used these scores as motivation to do better next time or get the problems right on the midterms or final, but I didn't. I used it as a reason to believe I wasn't going to do well anyway and that state of mind was soon reflected in the amount of work I did and the amount of effort I put into the class. I stopped trying toward the middle of the quarter, and now I'm paying for it with this final.

Vy Mai