MT 136-52
Policies on Assignments

Daily Homework Assignments

Daily homework assignments give you the opportunity to practice applying the concepts and computational techniques discussed in the text and in class, and to demonstrate that you understand those concepts. The following guidelines apply to daily homework assignments:

1. Daily homework will be done using the WebAssign online homework system. Using WebAssign, you will get your assignment and its due date, and will enter your answers to homework questions. The system will keep track of your homework grade, which will be available to you at all times.

2. Before you can begin to do your homework, you must register with WebAssign. If you are new to WebAssign, follow the directions on the handout Using WebAssign, available on the course Blackboard site. If you have used WebAssign in a previous course, you already have a WebAssign account; to get ready for this semester, you must log in to WebAssign using your previous login information, and enter the class key jcu 4790 4417, to register yourself for this course.

3. You should check the WebAssign site every day to see if there is a new homework assignment for you. I will try to have new assignments posted by shortly after class on each day—but if you don’t see it right after class, check later in the day.

4. Start your homework on the day that it is assigned. Prompt attention to homework assures that you will have time to ask questions about concepts that you don’t completely understand, and still have time to go back to the homework before it is due. Moreover, you will receive a 20% bonus for each problem that is done correctly and submitted at least 24 hours ahead of the due time. Start your assignments early. You will learn more, and also get bonus points!

5. You will need to use pencil and paper, and you will probably want to refer to the text as you are doing homework. I suggest that you keep a separate notebook to use for your homework problems. As you do the problems, write your work in the notebook, labeling the problems by assignment number, and then submit your answers using WebAssign. This will make it much easier for you to review your work when studying for tests.

6. Use the “Read It,” “Watch It” and “Master It” buttons (when available) with problems that you are not sure how to do.

7. You may rework an incorrect problem up to a total of three submissions, if you did not answer it correctly the first time. There is no penalty for reworking a problem, as long as it is submitted by the due date. Certain problems, such as multiple-choice and T/F questions, will, of course, have a lower submission limit.

8. You may request an automatic extension on any assignment, if you are not able to complete the assignment by the scheduled due date and time. See Using WebAssign for instructions on how to request an extension. Extensions, which must be requested within 48 hours after the original due time, give you a 48-hour extension from the original due time. There is a 30% penalty on any problems submitted within the extended period.

9. If you have a protracted, serious illness that prevents you from doing your homework on time, please discuss it with me, rather than using WebAssign to request extensions.
Weekly Written Homework Assignments

Weekly written homework assignments give you the opportunity to practice and demonstrate your ability to communicate mathematical ideas. Since the focus of the daily homework is on solving problems rather than on communicating ideas, the weekly written assignments complement the daily assignments by requiring you to focus on the communication of mathematical ideas.

1. Written homework assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day specified. Please place your papers in your table’s folder as soon as you arrive in class.

2. You may not use class time to complete homework. Papers not in the folders at the beginning of class will have points deducted.

3. Late papers will generally not be accepted. You will be given your written assignments several days ahead of the due date, and you should plan your time accordingly. (Exceptions may be made in cases of extended, serious illness.)

4. I am more than happy to help you with homework problems, provided you seek help in a timely manner. However, I will generally not be available for help with homework on the morning that it is due.

5. You may work with other students on assignments—as long as all involved understand how each problem is solved. If you work in a group on a homework assignment, each person is responsible for independently writing up his/her own solutions. Instances of nearly identical work or nearly identical writing usually indicate that someone has copied another’s work, or that there was collaboration on the writing of the solutions. In these cases, no credit will be given to any of the parties. Repeated instances will be treated as plagiarism. (The penalty for plagiarism ranges from failure of the course to dismissal from the University.)

6. If you work with others on solving the problems in a written assignment, you should indicate who those others are. Please put your name at the upper right of your paper, followed by “Worked with” and the appropriate names.

7. Solutions to problems in written homework assignments should be complete. This means that you must include, for each problem, both a statement of the problem and all work leading to your answer.

8. On written homework assignments, you are expected to use your best mathematical exposition. In these assignments, the communication of your results is just as important as the correctness of those results. Please note that proper communication of mathematics often requires writing in complete sentences (utilizing appropriate mathematical expressions and equations, of course). See any of the worked examples in the book, as examples of appropriate use of English in mathematical writing.

9. Whenever an assignment requires more than one page of paper, please staple pages together. Do not attach papers by folding/tearing corners, etc.

10. Take pride in your work. The appearance of your work is a reflection on you, and will be taken into consideration in grading your work. For instance, excessive cross-outs or ragged edges on pages that are torn out of a spiral notebook are not acceptable.