

Dear First Time Student;

In this course you will come across an array of very meaningful topics that will help you to understand algebra in a new light. The course moves quickly so it is important to keep on top of the assignments and quizzes that are posted in order to have ample time to study for the exams. If you want to do well in the course, the study plan is your best bet. It will show you where your weaknesses are in each section and will provide you practice problems to improve in those areas.

Another valuable tip, is always check your work twice and don't rely solely on the solutions manual for help. I found that sometimes the answers in the back of the book were slightly different than the solution manual's answers. On tests, it is important that you check your work. You will be surprised how you can miss a negative sign or power in your equation. I would often overlook these things because I was in a rush when it came to showing my work.

If I had to approach this class again, I would take my time when reading the exam questions and triple check my work. I have learned that it is better to check your work than hastily hand it in. To excel in this course, what worked for me was to plan ahead, do the assignments on time and review for the exams. These sure-fire methods helped me to do well. I wouldn't change my study habits because they helped me in this course a lot. In order to stay organized, I would always do the assignments the week a head of time. After I completed a section or two, I would then do its complimentary online assignment. At the end of the chapter, I would take the online quiz. I approached every new chapter this way.

The best advice I can give you is, review, review, and review. When preparing for exams I feel it is best to go over the homework assignments and try to redo as many as possible. The constant repetition really puts the material into your head.