

Math 111 End of Week 2 Newsletter

Supplemental Reading: Don't forget that you should be read the supplemental text. It would be a good idea to finish it by this weekend (there are many useful things here that reiterate what I am saying in lecture):

<http://www.math.washington.edu/~aloveles/Math111Fall2016/supplementAll.pdf>

UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

Friday (Today): Supplements 7: Marginal Revenue and Marginal Cost

Monday: Supplements 8: Max Profit and Cost Analysis

Tuesday: Activity 3: Clarification and Organization of Business Terms (Print off and bring):

<http://www.math.washington.edu/~aloveles/Math111Fall2016/Activity03.pdf>

Wednesday: Supplement 9: Average Cost, Average Variable Cost, and Summary of TR/TC Analysis

Thursday: Test Prep and homework questions

Friday: Section 1.1: Linear Equations and Inequalities

Activity 2 (from this last week) solutions are here for your review:

<http://www.math.washington.edu/~aloveles/Math111Fall2016/Activity02key.pdf>

HOMEWORK:

Closing Tuesday (by 11pm): Supplement 5

Closing Thursday (by 11pm): Supplement 6-7

Intro to Webassign: median score = 100%, median time = 18 minutes

Supplement 1-3: median score = 100%, median time = 115 minutes

Supplement 4: median score = 93%, median time = 101 minutes

SUMMARY OF WEEK 1 HOMEWORK STATS:

The vast majority (over 3 quarters) of the class did better than 95% on the homework this week

The vast majority of the class had their browsers open to the homework for 4 hours or less.

HW Notes:

Sup. 5: We talked about two of these problems in detail in lecture. Read carefully and make sure you understand functional notation well. (About half the class has already completed a substantial part of this homework)

Sup. 6-7: Watch the units. As we will discuss in class, MR and MC are always in dollars/item if you estimate using the slope of a tangent (even if TR and TC are in thousands, we still have MR and MC in dollars/item). We don't have to convert anything or move any decimal points. Students tend to overcomplicate this or doubt themselves.

NEW POSTINGS:

There are a lot of new postings. You can find them in the most recent announcement and on the right side of the course page. I also provide direct links below:

1) **A review of everything from Supplement 1-9** (all the graphical materials):

<http://www.math.washington.edu/~aloveles/Math111Fall2016/SupplementGraphsReview.pdf>

The review sheet above is a big one that I spent a lot of time creating. I gave out the first two pages in class, the last two pages review the main concepts of the business terms and graphs we will be discussing.

2) **A flowchart I created to help you organize how to handle graph problems:**

<http://www.math.washington.edu/~aloveles/Math111Fall2016/Math%20111%20Graphical%20Problem%20Flowchart.pdf>

3) **Brief Supp. 5 review:** <http://www.math.washington.edu/~aloveles/Math111Fall2016/Supplement5Review.pdf>

4) **Brief Supp. 6-7 review:** <http://www.math.washington.edu/~aloveles/Math111Fall2016/Supplement6-7Review.pdf>

5) **Summary of Business Terms** (this is from the supplemental text):

<http://www.math.washington.edu/~aloveles/Math111Fall2016/SummaryOfBusinessTerms%20-%20Page%2031%20of%20Supplemental%20Text.pdf>

OLD EXAM QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE:

The old exam archive is here: <http://www.math.washington.edu/~m111/Archives.html>

Here are some old exam questions from this archive that pertain to material we have done lately. Try these problems out now to get an idea of how you well you are understanding the material and to access if you are ready for the first exam (you will need to read Supp. 8 and Supp. 9 to do a few parts of these problems). Answers are in the exam archive.

Problem 1 from: <http://www.math.washington.edu/~m111/Midterm1/win13ExamInchifor.pdf>

Problem 2 from: <http://www.math.washington.edu/~m111/Midterm1/win14ExamIbekyel.pdf>

Problems 2 and 3 from: <http://www.math.washington.edu/~m111/Midterm1/sum13ExamItaggart.pdf>

Problems 2 and 3 from: <http://www.math.washington.edu/~m111/Midterm1/aut12ExamItaggart.pdf>

In addition, I compiled several old exam problems and solutions together here:

Four problems that have to do with total graphs (using a ruler), solutions included:

<http://www.math.washington.edu/~aloveles/Math111Fall2016/Four%20Overall%20Amount%20Graph%20Problems.pdf>

Four problems that have to do with incremental graphs (no ruler, just reading a graph), solutions included:

<http://www.math.washington.edu/~aloveles/Math111Fall2016/Four%20Incremental%20Graph%20Problems>

It would be wise to spend sometime this weekend getting a feel for what an exam might look like in this course. Check out the archive and the links above!

IMPORTANT COURSE COMMENTS

I have had about a dozen emails asking for extensions or extra submissions. I also have had five or six emails from students complaining that the homework was too challenging or that there was no help available. Let me answer these emails for everyone here:

1. Start your homework early!!! Especially if you find this material challenging, you need to be starting this homework as soon as it becomes visible! That gives you time to seek out help and ask questions.
2. There are no extensions for any reason whatsoever; I emphasized this on the first day of class. You should plan on getting the homework done at least two days before it closes, so that there is no chance that you won't complete it by the closing time. Also remember that I round up by 5%, so even if you missed one entire assignment, it still would be possible for you to get 100% on homework.
3. We will NOT give more submissions. The fact that you have 5 submissions is already too generous. Here is how you should do the homework.
 - (a) Read the question and attempt the problem.
 - (b) If the first submission is incorrect, reread and make sure you understand the graph and the question. Also make sure you were as accurate as possible (did you print off the large graph and draw lines and do things as accurately as you could).
 - (c) If your second submission is incorrect, then move on to other questions and ask someone about that problem later (a classmate, a tutor, me).
 - (d) **You should NEVER use more than 3 submissions.**

Remember on a test you only get ONE submission. So use the homework for practice and get the answer correct the first time (don't use submissions to check your work, practice checking your work yourself).

For those that thought the homework was too challenging, I think you should look at the homework stats to see that vast majority of the class comfortably completed the homework. The level is appropriate. You should expect about 4 hours of homework each week for this class (often it will be less). This is a college class and you will have to put some work in on your own. In order to do well in this class, you have to get past blaming me or the homework and find a constructive way to work and think so you can do well in the course.

Also remember, I am your ally. I am trying to help you do well in this course. Don't send me angry emails and don't work against me, we should be working together. The majority of the students I have worked with in the MSC and chatted with via email are respectful and we are on the same page, I'm just hoping we all can get on the same page.

A REMINDER ABOUT WHERE YOU CAN FIND HELP:

You should be completing as much of the homework as possible completely on your own!

During a test, you will NOT have a tutor sitting with you helping you. So you need to be doing the homework without a tutor helping you. There are some students in the MSC that are trying to get help on every part of every problem. You won't learn anything unless you are attempting and figuring out most of the homework on your own.

That being said, if you have very carefully thought about a problem and used two submissions, then it is time to get clarification from a tutor. Here is where you find help.

1. Quiz section. Most Thursdays you will have dedicated time for questions, and you can also ask questions on Tuesdays as time allows.
2. Math Study Center is in the Communications building B-006 (it is small classroom next door to the full calculus tutor center) and it is open
12:30- 4:30pm Mon, Tues, Thurs 1:00-4:30pm Wed
3. You can ask me in the morning, I am always from to the classroom around 9:05 about 25 minutes before my first lecture. **I am only on campus Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.**
4. I also have office hours from 1:30-2:30pm on Fridays. I will hold this in my office (Padelford C-339), unless it gets busy in which case we will move the Math Study Center.
5. You can ask me quick questions between classes.
6. You can use CLUE tutoring which is in Mary Gates Hall Commons from 7pm - midnight on Sundays-Thursdays.
7. You can form study groups with classmates. If the MSC is busy, you can make good use of it by forming a study group with classmates and finding what questions you have in common (then you can each ask about a different one and report back to the group).
8. Also check out the other postings on my course website (there are lots of homework hints there including answers to several homework questions).

That offers a great number of opportunities for you to get in-person help. These resources will be busiest in the first few weeks and the days that homework assignments are due.

STUDY TIP:

Again, print off several old midterms NOW!! The midterms mentioned above and others (all with answer/solutions) can be found in the exam archive here: <http://www.math.washington.edu/~m111/Archives.html>

When I was a graduate student I found that an effective use of my time was to:

1. Work through 4-6 exams one night **about a week and half before the exam.**
2. Then ask questions and clarify over that week. (This also makes you more prepared for review sessions and gives you time to consider the material and think about your questions).
3. Work through several more exams two nights before the midterm. In doing this you will expose yourself to a lot of problems and you will give your mind time to ask questions and think about what an exam might look like.

I hope you find these newsletters to be helpful.

See you in class.

Dr. Andy Loveless