

Introduction

This study guide is designed specifically for mathematics students. It is authored by math faculty at the Community College of Baltimore County and incorporates their knowledge based on years of teaching experience at CCBC. The examples are taken from course topics in the CCBC's elementary algebra course (MATH 082 Introductory Algebra).

The purpose of the guide is to help students enrolled in MATH 082 to make the most of the learning experience. To assist you in achieving academic success, this guide provides a collection of techniques, ideas, and suggestions for improving your study skills. The chapters highlight the information that you should become familiar with as you progress through the semester. It is suggested that you spend the time now to acquaint yourself with all the material within this guide and then revisit the chapters on an as-needed basis.

The chapters that are included in this guide are listed below.

Chapter 1: High School, College: Is There a Difference?

Understanding Expectations and Prioritizing Your Time

Chapter 2: How Do I Read a Math Textbook?

Reading the Text

Chapter 3: How Do I Make the Most of Class Time?

Using Class Time Effectively

Chapter 4: How Do I Take and Use Notes?

Taking Notes in Class

Chapter 5: How Do I Make Homework Work for Me?

Doing Homework – The How and When

Chapter 6: Can Someone HELP Me?

Using the Available Resources

Chapter 7: Studying in Perspective

Preparing for Exams

Chapter 8: How Do I Do My Best on a Test?

Test Taking Strategies

Appendix: Learning Styles Inventory

References

When applicable the guide incorporates specific strategies for different learning styles. You will note that some sections offer suggestions specifically for visual learners, auditory learners, and kinesthetic (tactile) learners. Although most people have one particular learning style preference, you can benefit



from trying to incorporate different methods of learning the material to enhance understanding of the topics presented.

Throughout the guide there are specific strategies that address different learning styles. A Learning Style Inventory is included in the Appendix. You should take a few minutes now and complete the inventory to identify your particular learning style preference.

We hope this guide helps you in your learning process of the topics of MATH 082. We welcome your comments and suggestions for future guides. Please feel free to contact us.

We wish you academic success in not only MATH 082 but also all your future endeavors.

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