Getting Ready for Your Final Exam

Planning

You should begin getting ready the first day of class! But for now...

- If you will be taking your test through DSPS, schedule it now!
- Final exams are scheduled for 2.5 hours. If you have 1.5X time for your test, that will mean 3 hrs and 45 minutes. If you have 2.0X, that will mean 5 hours! Consider asking your instructor about taking the test in two parts over two days. However, you will only be given a page at a time.





Strategies

- Review the Test Savvy Study Techniques for Math handout
- ➤ Use the strengths of your learning style.
- Practice relaxation techniques now!!
- Prepare a general "mind map" of each chapter. When all are done, go back and fill in details.
- Stand at the marker boards in 17-7 and solve problems from your review sheet.

This week

- ✓ Copy your instructor's review page and re-take it. Select a problem from the middle of each section (if they are divided by type) and make your own test.
- ✓ Vocabulary is important! Make sure you know the difference between a ratio and a proportion, what the solution is to a system of equations, how the exponential form differs from the logarithmic form, and the differences between the Gauss-Jordan and Cramer methods for matrices.



✓ Use Course Compass (My Math Lab) to take chapter tests

Next week

- ✓ Plan your brain dump: you should be able to retain about 5 items to "dump" onto your test when you receive it. See ideas from the Test Prep: "Brain Dump" handout.
- ✓ Don't over-study. Plan your time in 20 minute chunks, with 5-10 minute breaks.

During the test

▶ If you "blank-out" on a problem, try the following:



- If you recognize it as a specific type, write a note, "mixture" or "inequality" or "percentage" and move on to another problem. Having given your mind a focus, it will work on it while you're on other problems.
 - Can be simplified or factored? Those steps often begin a problem.
 - If there are fractions and an equal sign, use the "clearing" method to make it look more familiar.