

MATH TEST TAKING STRATEGIES

*The Office of Minority Affairs
Academic Advancement Services, Tutorial Program*



Studying For the Test

- Avoid studying at the last minute. Schedule time to study for the exam just as if you were scheduling an appointment.
- Review lecture notes, go over each section in your math book, and work through sample problems from each section to refresh your memory.
- Memorize the specific steps, formulas, and techniques you will need to master the material you learned in class.
- Get lots of sleep the night before the exam. If you are mentally sharp it will be easier to concentrate and organize your thoughts.

Taking the Test

- Sit where you will be comfortable and not easily distracted (away from doors, windows, etc).
- Look over the entire exam before you start. This will give you a sense of how long the exam is and how much time you can dedicate to each problem (Example: 20 problems, 60 minutes, you can dedicate 3 minutes to each problem).
- Work as quickly and continuously as possible. Do not spend too much time on any one problem.
- Mark and skip problems you may not know how to do and come back to them later. Don't miss out on points you could definitely earn on problems you know how to do by running out of time.
- If you are unsure of any step on a multiple step problem, complete the remaining steps and explain the one you skipped for the opportunity to gain partial credit.
- Use any remaining time to check your work, and complete the problems you skipped.

