Homework Assignments in MyMathLab
General Information

Before you start, you will need
- Course ID:
- Student Access Code:
- Valid Email address that you check regularly:

System Requirements
- Operating Systems: Windows 2000, Windows XP, and Windows Vista™ (Macs and Linux are not supported.)
- Browsers: Internet Explorer 6.0/7.0 (Netscape, Firefox, AOL, and other browsers not supported.)
- If you do not own a computer that meets these system requirements, you will need to do your homework in the PSME Center 4213.

Software Requirements
- ActiveX
- MathXL Player
- Media Plug-ins
  - QuickTime Player
  - Adobe Flash Player
  - Adobe Reader

Note: TestGen plug-in is not required in this course. You must have administrator rights on the computer you are using (that is, you must be free to download and install software.) The MyMathLab Installation Wizard will take you through the download process.

Getting Started
Visit http://mymathlab.com/getting_started.html for helpful information to get you up and running in a snap.

Take a Tour
Visit http://mymathlab.com/tours.html to get a taste of what it’s like to learn mathematics using MyMathLab, with their video tours and demos.

Getting Help
  - FAQs available 24 hours per day
  - Live Chat available Mon-Thurs 0800-2100, Fri 0800-2000, Sun 1700-2400 (EST)
  - Send a Question 24 hours per day
- Phone 1-800-677-6337 Mon-Fri, 0800-1800, Sun 1700-2400 (EST)

Navigating to Assignments in MyMathLab
1. Enter login information.
2. Select a button in the left margin (Do Homework, Take a Test)
3. Select the assignment desired. (A list of assignment exercise numbers appears.)
4. Select the first exercise number. (The exercise statement will appear in a new window.)
5. Enter the answer(s), following prompts to continue or try again.
6. Move on to the next exercise when ready.
Things to Look Out For

Consecutive Numbering of Exercises
When you enter a homework assignment, the problems are numbered consecutively, starting with the number 1. You need to do all of the listed problems. They correspond in a one-to-one fashion with the numbers I give you from the textbook. For example, if the assignment sheet says to do #15-103 odd, the online assignment will show exercises numbered 1 through 43.

“Help Me Solve This” Button
If you have difficulty with a particular problem, you can ask for help on this item. MyMathLab will give you a hint or describe how to complete the exercise. Depending on how much work you have or haven’t done on the exercise prior to asking for help, MyMathLab will route you back to the original problem or give you a similar problem.

“Ask My Instructor” Button
If the online hint via the “Help Me Solve This” button isn’t enough help, you can email me with a question by selecting the appropriate button inside of MyMathLab. This will open up an email window in which you can write a question to me. The email will have a link to the exact problem that you are asking the question about, complete with your answer, so I can evaluate your work, and send an email response to you.

Guessing vs. Finding Answers
MyMathLab is designed to prevent you from randomly or systematically guessing on multiple choice items. It won’t allow you to repeatedly choose another choice until you select the correct answer. You will be locked out after the second or third attempt and the problem will be counted as wrong.

Answer Specificity Requirements
For typed-in answers, MyMathLab expects a very specific format. It can detect when your answer is correct but in the wrong format. This counts as wrong until you put the answer in the correct format. This can be annoying, but it forces you to pay attention to details in ways that you likely haven’t in past mathematics classes. You cannot just randomly change the format of an answer repeatedly until you get it right. You will be locked out after the second or third attempt and the problem will be counted as wrong.

“Similar Problem” Button
MyMathLab is designed to facilitate lots of practice, so each problem can be replaced with a similar problem that focuses on the same underlying concepts but uses different numbers and/or variables and/or initial conditions. To get extra practice on an item type that is giving you difficulty, you can solve as many similar problems as you like. The most recent solution will be counted in your homework score unless you are in “Review” mode.

Re-Doing HW Items
To re-do a problem after it’s been counted as wrong and you’ve been locked out, select the button “Similar Problem”. MyMathLab will replace the original problem with a new problem that is essentially the same, but with different numbers. Solving this similar problem correctly will give you full credit on that item.

Getting Homework Graded
When you finish a work session, whether you completed the homework assignment or not, select the “Submit” button, so MyMathLab will retain the work you have done. You can go back and continue working on the assignment later, either to finish it or revise it.

Getting to 100%
I’ve set up the homework assignments to allow you to go back and re-do them until you earn 100% credit. You can do this even after the official due date, even up until the end of the semester. You will be locked out of all homework assignments at midnight at the end of day on Study Day.

Working Together on HW
MyMathLab actually gives each student his/her own version of each exercise. For example, problem 3 will be similar for John and Jane, but with different numbers. If John and Jane wish to work together on their homework, they will need to talk about the concepts and methods underlying their problems, not just the numerical answers. This will help you develop a deep and lasting understanding of the mathematics rather than a shallow and fleeting understanding of the mathematics.