

## Questions to Ask Before an Exam

1. How many questions will be on the exam?
2. What types of questions will be on the exam?
3. What material will be covered?
4. How much will the exam count toward the final grade?
5. Will the questions come primarily from the notes or the text?
6. Will partial credit be awarded for some answers?
7. How much time will we have for the exam?
8. Will there be any extra credit?
9. What materials (books, notes, calculators, and so on) will we be able to use?
10. What outside material (handouts, readings, and so on) will be included on the exams?

### Exam Preparation (in Mathematics)

- x Many professors allow students to look at sample tests from previous years – take advantage of this and use them to study.
- x Review as many sample problems as possible. Do not just read the problems; practice solving them. Anticipate variations that may appear.
- x Identify problems that are most characteristic of the techniques presented in the chapter. Record these on a study sheet, and summarize in your own words how you worked them out. Compare with someone from the class.
- x As you solve homework problems and review returned exams and quizzes, search for a pattern of error.
- x If you are having trouble with your course, get help immediately. Consult with your instructor and/or check with the Center for Academic

Interpret: clarify the meaning or paraphrase the information; comment upon, give examples, describe relationships, explain the meaning (describe & evaluate).

Justify: explain the purpose behind or reasons for a statement.

Outline: describe the main ideas or points.

Prove: use evidence and arguments to support assertion.

Relate: reveal connections between subjects or ideas, often by putting subject into a larger context.

State: explain precisely.

Summarize: give a condensed account without unnecessary details.

Trace: show the development, history, order, or progress of a subject or event (often by showing cause and effect).

### The Final Countdown

- x Take care of yourself. Sleep and eat well. Cold, flu, mono, etc. will knock down your GPA. Avoid aggravating people and situations.
- x Take care of your work. Set up a study group if not already working with one. Articulating your ideas to others will ensure you know yourself. Create practice tests. Do not assume multiple choice or true-false formats will not demand true mastery of the material.
- x Take your time, but keep an eye on it too. Dedicate time according to point value.