

STA2023W Frequently Asked Questions:

Do I need a computer at home for this course?

It is recommended that you have easy access to a computer, for the best results in this or any online course.

Do I need a text book for this course?

YES...You will have greater success if you have and read the course textbook.

Do I have to use the TI-83 (or TI-84) calculator for this course, or can I use the one I have?

The TI-83 (or TI-84) is the required calculator for the course.

Is there any reason that you will withdraw a student?

If a student falls below the 70% mark by midterm, I will withdraw that student.

Should I check my email every day?

Yes. You need to check and read your ANGEL email account daily.

How long do you take to reply to an email, Mr Bloxom?

I check my email about 4 times a day, because I have many classes, and no other discernable life. Officially, I ask for 24 hours, but usually, I'll respond within 4 to 6 hours, unless you are working in the middle of the night.

Can I complete the work faster than it is assigned?

You may complete this course as fast as you would like to. The record for this course is 6-weeks, but please do not sacrifice your grade for speed.

Do you collect homework in your class?

Your homework assignment is on the MyMathLab system. There is an assignment for every chapter covered. These assignments are worth 25-points each. There are also practice problems in your textbook. Exams are worth 50-points each.

What happens if I get a MyMathLab problem wrong?

Each MyMathLab problem allows you unlimited chances for a correct answer. Most will only allow you 2 or 3 chances, but then you may click on a SIMILAR PROBLEM and start again. If you keep at it, you can easily get 100% on the assignment problems!

Can I have more time after an assignment or exam is due?

No. All due dates are posted from day one. Never ask for an extension.

How do we take exams in our course?

There is an exam for each of the chapters we cover, and each exam is worth 100-points.

What happens if I miss a due date?

For an assignment, you get as much credit as you have completed.

What happens if I miss an exam?

Since there is no extension given for any exam, I will give you a zero for that particular exam grade.

Do you drop any low test grades?

I do not drop any grades. It never seemed to make sense to me to assign something that I would later drop.

When doing the MyMathLab assignment, do you average the grades together or do you take the highest score?

When you have completed all of the MyMathLab assignments and exams, you will have a percentage correct showing. I'll multiply this percentage by the total points that MyMathLab is worth. I DO NOT DROP ANY GRADES.

My computer froze/turned off/died during my exam! HELP!

Please do not wait until the due date to take an exam, and please do not attempt them during a thunderstorm. PLEASE e-mail me when this does happen, and I'll open the exam for you.

Why can't I see my grades in Angel?

You overall grade is kept in the MyMathLab program.

How do I take the final exam?

You need to schedule an appointment at one of our testing centers if you're in the Pensacola area. If you are from more than 50-75 miles away, then you will need to find a testing center near you, and have them contact me at gbloxom@pjc.edu

Is the final exam cumulative?

Yes. You are responsible for everything we've covered.

Do I get a formula sheet for the final exam?

Yes...with every formula we've used (the various charts are included as well). You may not, however, have any calculator reference help. Either learn how to use the calculator, or don't.

Can I use my textbook and notes for the final?

No. A formula sheet is provided to you. That is the only reference I allow for the final exam.

How long do I have to take my final exam?

The final exam time is 2 hours, from start to finish. The exam is on MyMathLab, but you need the password to access it. This is where the testing center comes in....

How do I make the best use of my calculator?

For every chapter, I've included calculator tutorials for every function the calculator does for our particular course. These include sound, so make sure that you have a speaker when you view them. They are located on the main page of the course.

Do I really need to do the homework from the textbook? It doesn't count for anything.

The textbook homework assignment is there for your practice. When you take the cumulative final examination, you will do your best, if you have practiced as many problems as possible. You should at least look at the textbook homework, and do as much as you feel you need to be successful.

Are you ever on campus, in case I need to come see you, Mr Bloxom?

I'm on campus Monday through Thursday, usually in the morning. I'm on the Pensacola Campus Mondays and Wednesdays, and the Warrington Campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

If you need to see me any other time, and we cannot communicate enough through email, then we can arrange to meet in my office at the PJC campus.

Can I call you on the phone, Mr Bloxom?

You can try calling me, but I'm not as good at checking telephone messages, as I am checking emails.

Do you keep regular office hours, Mr Bloxom?

I am in my office for students for 10 hours every week. These times are listed in my schedule. Come see me with questions...if you see me working, then I am just keeping busy while waiting for you.