

Math 115: Precalculus, Fall 2010

Instructor: Maxx Cho

Course Website: <http://www.maxxcho.com/teaching>

WebAssign Instructions

All of your graded homework is done and submitted on WebAssign. Here is the information you need to get WebAssign to work for you.

Logging On

1. If you registered for the course later than the day before classes started you will not yet be enrolled in the course on WebAssign. If this is the case, please email me with your full name, your UID number (front of ID card) and your UMD email address. Wait until you get a response before going to the next step.
2. Go to <http://www.webassign.net/umd/login.html> and click on the Log In button. You will be redirected to a generic UMD page.
3. Log in with your generic UMD information (otherwise known as your Directory ID and password. This is the same as your umd.edu email username and password). This will then automatically send you back to WebAssign, all logged in.
4. You will need to purchase a WebAssign access code to submit homework through WebAssign. The access code costs \$15.95. Consider this a mandatory cost for taking this class (in addition to the cost of your textbook).

NOTE: Do NOT purchase/enter an access code until you're 100% certain that you will be taking this class. Until you are certain, simply choose "continue my trial period" to use WebAssign free for 2 weeks. If you drop this class or decide to switch sections, NO REFUND WILL BE PROVIDED for any access code purchases.

5. Under My Assignments you will see all the assignments visible to you at present. More become visible as the semester progresses. You can click on each assignment to bring it up and work on it.

Working on Homework

1. Each problem is submitted separately. Each problem may be submitted up to three times. You are graded on your latest submission. Each time you submit an answer, either a red X or a green check mark will indicate whether you are correct or not. After 3 submittals, you cannot change your answer. Obviously, if you get the green check before your 3rd submission, you have nothing more to do for that problem. (True or false questions can only be submitted twice).
2. Each student gets a slightly different version of each question, generally with different values. This means you can help each other with the problems but copying each other's work will give you wrong answers.
3. Many WebAssign questions are case-sensitive, so make sure that if the solution contains the letter x, for example, you don't give it "capital" X. Otherwise, it tells you that you are wrong!
4. There are two types of questions, symbolic and numerical. Symbolic questions are indicated by the link saying "symbolic formatting help" next to the question. If you don't see this then the question is numerical. Many of the symbolic questions have a little eye symbol next to the answer field so you can examine what you've typed in before submitting it. This is very useful for checking your formatting!
5. For symbolic answers, you can type square roots as: $\sqrt{2x+3}$. But for numerical answers, you must write: $2^{(1/2)}$ where the double asterisk ** stands for exponent.
6. Numerical questions demand a number for an answer, generally within 1% of the exact answer. The only non-numbers you can use in these are +, -, *, / and ^.
7. If the question asks for 2 answers, but there is only one or zero answers, then you must type N/A. If you leave it blank or type n/a (in lower case), then it will think you are wrong!