![j0332680[1]]() **How to Be Successful in Math**

1. **Change Your Attitude!** You may consider yourself “Math Challenged”. The most important factor to your success is **YOU**! You have to believe you can do it, and make a commitment to take advantage of all the math resources that Montgomery College has to offer. Making a commitment to do what it takes to pass your math class is the first step in being successful in math. Life is not fair! You may have to study twice as much to pass math as the person sitting next to you. Just do it ☺!
2. **Before you register for your math course**: What is the best format to take Math classes?

      3x per week

      Do not skip a long semester in between math courses

      Take MWF Classes- You can only take in so much information at once (3 hr courses ☹). Choose the MWF – three classes a week

      Support enhanced class-you are in lab with the same instructor right after class. You can work on homework and get help.

1. **Math Takes Time!-** many students who struggle in math underestimate the time it takes to complete their math homework (labs). If you have failed a developmental math course, you may need to cut back on school or work hours to spend the necessary study time to master your math course.
2. **My Math Lab-** the **“My Math Lab”** website contains many great student resources. You can access tutoring videos for each chapter section in your text. It helps to watch these videos before the class lecture over these sections. (These are the same videos that are in the library). Another section in **“My Math Lab”** helps you learn math concepts by giving you problems to solve, and then helping you when you get them wrong. Most people learn math best by “doing” and not by just listening to a lecture. Some people need more practice in order to learn the concepts.
3. **When do you do your math homework?-** The best time to do your math homework is immediately after class before you forget what you have just learned. Make it a habit to go to the ELC after your math class. You will have access to tutors that can help you if you get stumped. Students who review their materials immediately after class are less likely to forget what they learn and complete their homework in less time. Statistics show that we lose a large amount of what we learn after just a few hours.
4. **Math Outcome Labs** – it is extremely important to keep up with your Math Outcome Labs. Once you have covered the material in class, go to the lab and start completing your outcomes. One of the biggest mistakes math students make is procrastinating and not keeping up with their labs. **Do not wait until the labs are due to complete them!!**
5. **Your Math Instructor**- Your math instructor is a valuable resource. Do not hesitate to ask questions in class. Chances are the person next to you has the same question! Let your instructor know if you are having difficulties. Most instructors post their office hours in their syllabus as well as their e-mail and phone number.
6. **Math Videos** – The night before your math class, preview what you will be learning the next day by watching the math videos that follow your book. Math videos can be checked out from the library by going to the circulation desk and asking for the video for the chapter and section you are covering. For instance, tell them, “I’m in Math 0306 and I need the chapter 3.3 video.” (The math videos are also available on the “My Math Lab” website). By watching the video in advance, you will become familiar with the material before your math class and you will have a better understanding when the instructor is teaching.
7. **Math Tutoring-** If you find yourself getting “stuck” and frustrated when doing your math homework, you should consider doing it in the Extended Learning Center in Building C. Math tutoring is available to help you when you run into problems.

10. **Missing Math Classes -** Never miss math class! When you miss a math class,

it makes it impossible to be successful because each math class builds off the previous class. If you are absent, watch the math videos to cover the material you missed. The first day of class, exchange contact information with one of the other students to find out what was covered in class. If you are missing classes because of an illness or emergency, you need to talk to your instructor.

11. **Form Math Study Groups-** Some students benefit by forming study groups

outside of class. Study groups are helpful because they allow students to help and support each other while learning the material. When you aren’t sure about a particular problem, someone in your group can offer you assistance because they are familiar with what you are working on in class. Plan to meet with your math study group in the ELC right after each math class. You can get help from the tutors when you run into problems. Another option is to hook up with a study partner who is really motivated to pass his/her math class and wants someone to study with. You can help motivate and support each other.

12.     **How long should your study sessions be?-** Do not try and cram 3-4 hour study sessions because you have to play catch up. If you are tired, you will not retain the

material. Break math homework up into 30 - 40 minute sessions. Take a break- Get up, walk around, get something to eat, take a short nap, then go backto your math.

![j0389046[1]]()If you would like to meet with a counselor about your math class, please call for an appointment or drop by:

Barbara Eckenfels F240 (936) 273-7246

Juan Lebron F250 (936) 273-7280

*To make a great dream come true, the first requirement is a great capacity to dream; the second is* ***persistence****."*---Cesar Chavez