Introduction

This semester a portion of your homework will be completed through an online homework system called WeBWorK. This homework system was developed by University of Rochester mathematics professors, endorsed by the Mathematical Association of America (MAA), and is currently used by hundreds of institutions across the world. WeBWorK assigns you an individualized problem set, meaning you do not have the same set as another student in the course; however, they are similar in type and complexity. Your answers will be evaluated as soon as you submit them, and unless otherwise noted, you have unlimited attempts to answer problems correctly. Unlike written homework, you have the opportunity (and are highly encouraged) to retry each problem until your solution is fully correct. This gives you immediate feedback, improves the overall effectiveness of homework as a learning tool, and leaves little excuse for you not to complete your homework. Also, you do not have to complete each entire homework assignment in one session, i.e. you can come back to the set at another time within the due date. There will still be written homework problems to complete each week, due separately from the WeBWorK assignments.

WeBWorK runs on any popular basic internet browser, e.g. Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Safari, or Google Chrome, so you do not have to download any additional programs on a computer connected to the internet. WeBWorK assignments’ due dates are posted on the website. Please start your assignments early in case you have questions on the material or need technical assistance. WeBWorK has an option to print a hard copy of any assignment, if you want to complete it away from a computer. Be aware you should give yourself plenty of time to submit your answers and correct any mistakes before the homework is due.

Logging into WeBWorK

Your first assignment on WeBWorK is to log into the system, set up a new password, and complete the “Orientation.” Its problems demonstrate some typical questions and basic ways to submit answers.

2. Proceed to log into WeBWorK using your login name and password. Your login name is the same as your Puget Sound email login, and the initial password is your student ID number.
3. Click on “Password/Email” in the left menu bar to change your password to something more confidential.
4. Select “Homework Sets” in the left menu bar, and then click on the problem set entitled “Orientation.” Follow the instructions on screen, and complete the assignment.

Remember to log out after you have completed your session. The “Log Out” button is in the upper right corner of the webpage. This is especially important when you use a public computer.