FAQ to Succeed in MA110A – FINITE MATHEMATICS

What math do I need to take to get into MA110A?

Students may take this course after successfully completing an introductory algebra course at Guam Community College (GCC) or another recognized institution (e.g. MA108 – Introduction to College Algebra or equivalent). Students may also place directly into this course on the GCC math placement exam or approval by department chair.

Who should take MA110A?

This course is taken by students of a wide variety of academic programs of study. This course meets Mathematics General Education Requirement for all Associate Degree Programs. This course also meets the mathematics requirement for some certificate programs, such as Surveying Technology, Pre-Nursing, & Computer-Aided Design and Drafting.

What will I learn in MA110A?

This is a continuation of the MA108 course. Topics include: Elementary Functions, Linear Equations, Polynomial Functions, Quadratic Functions, Exponential and Logarithmic Functions, Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities including Matrix Equations, Matrices and Determinants, and Mathematics of Finance. Near the end of the course, students will complete a comprehensive, departmental final exam.

Prerequisite: satisfactory completion of MA108, placement test, or approval of Department Chair.

What materials will I need for MA110A?

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Finite Mathematics for Business, Economics, Life Sciences and Social Sciences, Books a la Carte Plus MathXL with Pearson, 13/E, Barnett; Publisher: Pearson, isbn #9780321947468

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

A graphing calculator (the TI-83, TI-83 Plus, or TI-84 Plus) – real, smart phone app, or computer app.

What websites can I use to prepare for MA110A?

The Math Department at GCC recommends that you review the following prerequisite topics to prepare for MA110A:

1. Operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, & division) with integers and fractions
2. Simplifying algebraic expressions
3. Solving linear equations
4. Graphing linear equations
5. Domain & range of functions and evaluating functions
6. Operations (addition, subtraction, & multiplication) involving polynomials
7. Factoring polynomials
8. Solving quadratic equations

You can do this from home by selecting any of the aforementioned topics on the math-tutorial websites listed below; there you will find mini-lectures, worked problems, practice problems and helpful tips.

- Reducing Fractions: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/fraction.htm
- Multiplying and Dividing Fractions: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/fraction3.htm
- Adding and Subtracting Fractions: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/fraction4.htm
- Order of Operations: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/orderops.htm

- Order of Operations: http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/math/ALGEBRA/AOP2/indexAOP2.htm
- Simplifying Algebraic Expressions Involving Parentheses: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/simparen.htm
- Solving Linear Equations: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/solvelin.htm
- Solving Linear Equations: http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/math/ALGEBRA/AE2/indexAE2.htm
- Graphing Linear Functions: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/graphlin.htm
- Slope of a Line: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/slope.htm
- Interpreting Slope and Y-Intercept: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/slopyint.htm
- Slopes and Equations of Lines: http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/math/ALGEBRA/AC1/indexAC1.htm
- Definition of a Polynomial: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/polydefs.htm
- Operations with Polynomials: http://coolmath.com/algebra/Algebra1/index.html#Algebra_1:_Polynomials
- Adding & Subtracting Polynomials: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/polyadd.htm
- Adding & Subtracting Polynomials: http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/math/ALGEBRA/AV2/indexAV2.htm
- Multiplying Polynomials: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/polymult.htm
- Multiplying Polynomials: http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/math/ALGEBRA/AV3/indexAV3.htm
- Factoring: http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/math/ALGEBRA/AV6/indexAV6.htm
- Basic Factoring: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/simpfact.htm
- Factoring Polynomials: http://coolmath.com/algebra/Algebra1/index.html#Algebra_1:_Factoring_&_Dividing_Polynomials
- Solving Quadratic Equations: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/solvquad.htm
- Solving Quadratic Equations: http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/math/ALGEBRA/AE5/indexAE5.htm
- Functions: http://coolmath.com/algebra/Algebra1/index.html#Algebra_1:_Functions
- Functions: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/fcns.htm
- Functional Notation: http://www.purplemath.com/modules/fcnnot.htm
- Study Skills: http://www.studygs.net/

What if I have more questions?

Feel free to contact a member of the Math Department in person, by phone or via email. A list of department members can be found on the GCC Math and Science Department website at:

http://www.guamcc.edu/Runtime/faculty.aspx