

Exam correction - directions

Students who do not take the time to learn from their mistakes on exams typically repeat them on the final. Additionally, new material is often built upon old material, so you won't be able to progress until you go back and correct lingering misconceptions. With this in mind, the process described below is intended to give you a structured approach to correcting your exams and doing better in the future.

Preparation for exam corrections

- Print out the "Exam corrections - cover page".
 - Print out 1 copy of the "Exam correction – template" for each exam question that you got wrong.
 - Gather together your textbook, lecture notes and other resources.
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Completing the "Exam correction – template"

- Read over the question you are getting ready to correct.
- Answer questions 1-3 on the "Exam correction – template".
- Reread the textbook and lecture notes related to the topic.

Part I: Working a similar problem to the one you got wrong

- Find a similar type of problem to work on (that is, a problem that covers the same concepts). Similar problems can be found by looking in your textbook, homework, lecture notes, practice exams, worksheets... The problem should have the answer available so you can check to see that you get it right. If you can't find a similar type of problem, you should summarize the textbook and lecture notes that are related to the problem you got wrong.
- Write out the problem and all the work in the space provided on the "Exam correction – template" (question 4). At this point, it is okay to use your notes, textbook, or even a friend to help you; the idea here is to figure out what is going on with this type of problem.

Part II: Correcting the problem you got wrong

- Now you are on your own, so go ahead and close your books and notes.
 - Write out the question that you got wrong and all the work needed to answer it. Your job here is to prove to me that you really understand how to do the problem now, so be sure to include clarifying and explanatory notes. Write down enough information so that you'll understand how you figured out the problem if you came back and read over your work in a few weeks. For multiple choice questions you should also state why your original choice was incorrect.
 - Compare your answer to the posted answer key. If it is still not correct or if you needed any aids to answer the question, repeat Part I using a new, similar problem, and get help as needed. When you feel you are ready, then repeat Part II.
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Completing the "Exam correction – cover page"

- Go back and complete the "Exam correction - cover page". Take your time with questions A-E. This is not busy-work... it is crucial that you learn to reflect on your strengths and weaknesses if you want to be successful.
 - Staple the "Exam correction – cover page" to your completed "Exam correction – templates" and put it with your lecture notes so you'll have it available to turn in on the due date.
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