

Date: Fri, 10 Nov 2006, 12:39:10 EST
From: jahlquis@fsu.edu
To: jahlquis@fsu.edu
Subject: MET1010: Preparing for the final exam

A MET1010 student asked: How should we go about studying for the final exam? Are you going to give out a study sheet?

Answer: I am not going to prepare a summary sheet because I've found that students concentrate on that too much. Instead, I suggest that you:

- (1) Read the half-page chapter summaries at the end of each chapter. Also, page through the chapters and look at the figures.
- (2) Read the lecture notes at the course Web site,
<http://ahlquist.met.fsu.edu/courses/met1010/index.html>
- (3) Go through the review questions at the end of each chapter and the review questions posted at the course Web site. Say the answers out loud or, even better, write the answers. Just thinking about the answers is not enough.

One half of the final exam will consist of about 6 questions from each of the first five exams, either exactly the way they appeared on the earlier exams or in very similar form. The other half of the final exam will deal with the material we'll cover in the final weeks of the course.

As always, you are encouraged to come in for office hours or make an appointment if you have a conflict with my office hours. Students who come in to go through review questions with me say that it is very helpful in preparing for exams.

During office hours, you may also go through your old exams up through Friday, 1 December. That means that the last week of classes, you will not be able to see your old exams. When I did not have a cut off date, I would have literally 20-30 people coming in for office hours the last week, many of whom had never come in before, and it was impossible to handle the crowd. Up through Friday, 1 December, you may also retake old exams one or more times to help you prepare for the final exam.

Lastly, I will be available for questions and discussions on Monday and Tuesday afternoon of final exam week between 12:30 and 3:30 pm.

In general for office hours, come to my lab (308 Love Bldg by the main stairway) rather than to my office. If more than a couple people show up for office hours, we will move to 402 Love, which is a conference room.

One-third of the total points are still to be decided with the final exam. Most people perform consistently with their earlier scores. Some people make strong improvements, and a few people do worse. Once again, the final exam will be Wednesday, 13 December, 12:30 - 2:30 pm.

Jon Ahlquist