

Dear future students,

I speak from experience when I say this is clearly not high school anymore. No one is here to hold your hand and beg you to do better like your high school teachers. Don't get me wrong, Mrs. Yosko is one, if not the only one, of the best teachers I have ever had. She gives you the tools to do great in this class. It is up to you to take those tools and make the best out of them. I am going to give you some tips on how to do great in this class. Listen to Mrs. Yosko from day one! When she says to print the notes, do not be scared to spend a few minutes at the computer and DO IT. At first I thought I would be fine by just listening to the lecture and watching her work the problems, and was I completely wrong. My initial strategy was to pay attention in class and then watch the lecture video later, but I always managed to get distracted easily and this obviously resulted in me not paying attention. Whereas if you had your notes printed it would be easier to follow along, minimizing the distraction. It also helps the time fly by. Make sure to go on online and watch the videos, because she is nice enough to record and post them for you on Blackboard. Watching the videos will help you pick up anything that you missed during class with the benefit of being able to pause or rewind. Mrs. Yosko's videos will catch you up on all the tips and tricks she has to offer on the material. Occasionally I would go hang out with my friends instead of watching these videos thinking, "I'll just watch it later." This is a bad idea because they will pile up... fast. Mrs. Yosko is very skilled at knocking out a section a day. All of that on top of web assigns, not to mention anything from your other classes, will continue to put you further behind in class. Some of the webassigns will be long. Pace yourself, work a little bit every day; that way you can get help on a question that may be giving you trouble before it is due. You'll be done before you know it, and they will prepare you for the weekly quizzes. Don't be afraid to visit Mrs. Yosko for further help; she will be more than happy to help you on anything you still need clarified. Apart from webassigns, studying plays an important role in your success. Give yourself time to study a little bit every day. I found short multiple sessions to be very effective for tests. Definitely do not try to cram everything in one night. I did that and made a lower grade than when I did not study at all. In conclusion when it seems that things are just not "clicking" remember that all the tools are laid out in front of you. Will you use them?

Sincerely,
HC