

## MATH 108 (Pocatello) – Announcements for Fall 2009

### 1. Certifications:

ISU has modified the certifications for 28 of the 33 lessons listed in the Syllabus.

If you do the certifications at any lab on campus you are sure to be doing the revised ones, so you are set.

If you do them at home, it depends on whether you have constant internet access, dial-up, or neither.

-- If you have constant internet and entered the Course ID "ISUIMA", then you are doing the revised certifs.

-- If you have dial-up and entered the Course ID "ISUIMA", then initially you need to establish an internet connection and then open the Hawkes software for a minute so the revised certifications can be sent to your computer. From then on you do not need to have an internet connection while you work in the software, but after completing a certification you should close the Hawkes software, establish an internet connection, and then briefly re-open the Hawkes software so the certification code can be sent to your Progress Report.

-- If you have no internet connection, you will not be doing the revised certifications at that computer.

You can verify which certifications you are doing by getting to the Hawkes software Table of Contents page and clicking on Help (in the upper left), then About.

---- If it reads Certifications: ISU Math108 Fall 2009 Certifs, then you are doing the revised certifications.

---- If it reads Certifications: HLS Default, then for 21 of the lessons the certifications are acceptable for earning the replacement bonus but may involve more work than the revised ones. **AND**, the following **7** revised certifications are **different** enough that they **MUST** be done on a computer that is receiving the **revised** certifications (as on campus): **Ch4R, 1.8a, 6.2, 7.2, 7.3, 7.5, 8.1**

**2. Test Preparation:** After completing work in the individual lessons for a unit, then read the summary for that unit in the Course Objectives Discussion and do all of the Typical questions there. Once comfortable with everything in the Course Objectives Discussion, then do the practice quiz (without notes or help to simulate real test conditions). Get help with those problems you missed on the practice test so that you do understand them. Then you are truly ready to do your best on the real test!

**3. Grading Questions:** Always review your test right after you submit it. You can also review it later with your instructor in the classroom. Some acceptable answers on tests may be marked as "Unsimplified", but look to see if you still got full credit in the "Report" window at the bottom right of the question when you review it.

**4. Caution for Chapter 4:** The Ch4R certification in the Unit 3 list on the Syllabus is actually "Chapter 4 Review" in the software. You **MUST** do the Practice and Certify for Ch4R on a system with the revised certifications, such as on campus, so that you do the revised lesson that includes factoring problems from sections 4.4 and 4.5 (but not from the rest of Chapter 4). Refer to the Instruct for any of the individual lessons of 4.4abcd and 4.5ab if you need to, but only do the certifications for 4.4b, Ch4R, and 4.6.

**5. Caution for 6.2:** The Instruct portion of lesson 6.2 does **NOT** present the relationship between radicals (6.1) and rational exponents (6.2), which you need to know. So, you need to study the TEXT pages 413 and 415 through the top half of 418 carefully, especially Examples 3 and 5. Do that before working on 6.2 in the software. Also, you **MUST** do the Practice and Certify for 6.2 on a system with the revised certifications.

**6. Caution for 7.2/7.5:** When solving quadratic equations, you will sometimes see solutions with the imaginary unit "i" for situations involving the square root of a negative number. Ignore these, since anytime we encounter such solutions we will simply say that there are "no real solutions" or "two nonreal solutions". So, you **MUST** do the Practice and Certify for 7.2 and 7.5 on a system with the revised certifications.

**7. Caution for 8.1:** In 8.1, you must be able to find x-intercepts (zeros) of a parabola and be able to complete the square to change from standard form to vertex form. This is not fully covered in the Instruct portion of 8.1 in the software. So, you need to study the TEXT Example 2 pages 523-525 first, and then you **MUST** do the Practice and Certify for 8.1 on a system with the revised certifications.