Keys to Success in Pocatello

1. Complete steps 1-4 of *Getting Started in Pocatello* immediately.

2. Set up your quiz and exam schedule sooner rather than later. Once you have completed step 4 of *Getting Started* and the coordinator has verified your information, you can schedule your quizzes and exams. For details about how to do that, see *Schedule Quizzes/Exams* within *Testing*. If you schedule your quizzes and exams early, then you will get the testing session times that you want. If you wait until a deadline is near, you might find that the testing session you want is full. You could end up missing a quiz or exam for which there will be punitive consequences. **Scheduling is your responsibility**, so schedule well ahead of the deadlines. You can always reschedule later if necessary.

3. Develop a reasonable schedule for studying the course material, and then follow it. Time management is often a challenge for students in this course, but planned, regular study may be the difference between passing and failing. Talk to your instructor if you need advice about how to study math and how much time you should spend studying it.

4. Work with the HLS courseware on a regular basis—at least four times a week. Take time to go through the Learn and Practice modes of each lesson before attempting to Certify. The key to learning mathematics is to practice and to practice a lot.

5. Use your instructor’s office hours or the tutoring hours at the Math Center every week. Get help as soon as you are aware that there is something you do not fully understand.

6. Take time to discuss the course material with your instructor and fellow students, and ask questions during class. Also consider forming or being a part of a study group.

7. As final preparation for a quiz or exam, review the discussions of the relevant course objectives in *Course Objectives Discussion*, and then take the appropriate practice quiz or exam. See *Practice Quizzes/Exams* within *Testing* for details. Make certain that you understand how to access the ISU-designed practice quizzes and exams as they will prepare you for the actual quizzes and exams. The practice versions are not identical to the versions you will take in the Testing Center, but they are of the same style, level of difficulty, and length, and they test the same objectives. Note that you must score 30% or higher on one of your attempts at the ISU-designed practice quiz or exam to qualify for the actual quiz or exam. The preparation mentioned here will help you in the following ways:
   a. It encapsulates and draws attention to the particular objectives being tested.
   b. It reveals emphasis and style. Quizzes and exams are ISU-designed, and the emphasis on certain topics within quizzes and exams is not identical to what is emphasized in the HLS courseware.
   c. Practice quizzes and exams provide experience on how to enter answers. Quizzes and exams count significantly toward the course grade. Ergo, it is important that quiz and exam answers be entered in a form that the software recognizes as correct.

8. **Work hard.** It is not likely that you will succeed if you don’t put in the time and effort.