WebAssign Instructions

In this class we will be using an online homework system called WebAssign. Once you get down the basics this system will be easy to use, and one great benefit for you will be instant feedback on your homework; as soon as you enter an answer you can see whether or not it is correct. Even better, you get multiple tries on each problem, so if you don’t get it right the first time you can keep trying until you do. A great idea is to work on the homework early, and then ask for help (office hours are a good source of this) with problems you were not able to figure out. In this way you can get 100% on every homework assignment!

First, you will need to purchase an Enhanced WebAssign access code online from www.webassign.net or from the bookstore. There will be a grace period at the beginning of the term during which you will be able to log in without an access code, but you should get your code as soon as possible.

Once you have this, go to www.webassign.net/login.html

- Your username is the same as your uoregon email address username; so if your school email address is jojo@uoregon.edu, then your WebAssign username is jojo.
- Your Institution is uoregon.
- Your password is the same as your uoregon email password. If this does not work, try your UO student ID. After your initial login, I recommend changing your password to something more secure.

Alternatively, you can get to WebAssign through Blackboard. Just sign into your Blackboard account and select “WebAssign” on the left. Occasionally Blackboard is taken down for maintenance, but you can always get into WebAssign directly as detailed above.

Once you are logged in you will see the current assignments. In order to make sure you enter expressions correctly you should read the instructions on this sheet. There is also a lot of help in the online manual for WebAssign, which is available at any time by clicking “Help.”

The main tool used for entering answers that are mathematical expressions is the math palette. This is a reasonably intuitive icon-based applet for entering symbolic mathematical expressions, such as $\sqrt{3x^2 + 5}$. To enter symbolic expressions like this you will open the math palette, click on the icon for what you want, such as a square root symbol, and it will give you a square root symbol with an empty box. Then just enter whatever you need to take the square root of, say $3x^2 + 5$, in that box. To get the “squared” power on the $x$, you can either use the carat symbol (shift-6) to type $x^2$ or you can use another icon in the math palette to get a box in which to put the exponent. Once you have used it a couple of times it’s a piece of cake.

The WebAssign online users’ manual has a lot of other great help, and if you have any other questions you can always ask me!