

MAKING EFFECTIVE USE OF WEBWORK

1. WRITE DOWN YOUR WORK IN CORRECT NOTATION

When working on your assignment you should have scratch paper available and neatly write out your thought process in solving the problem, using correct notation. While WebWork does not grade you on this process, writing it out carefully will train you in the skills you need. It will help you track down mistakes, and it will help *us* track down mistakes when you ask for our help. If you ask us a question about a homework problem in office hours, the first thing we will probably do is ask you to show us your work. For us to understand it, the notation needs to be correct.

Also, remember that on quizzes and exams showing your work will sometimes be required. It is important to practice this each week while doing your homework assignments.

2. LOGGING IN TO WEBWORK

Follow the appropriate link on the course home page. Otherwise, first go to the main login page at

<http://uowebwork.uoregon.edu/webwork2>

Select the “Math251-XXXXX” section, replacing “XXXXX” with your class CRN. In either case, your username is your DuckID: for example, if your uoregon email address is `lqwang@uoregon.edu`, your DuckID is “lqwang” (without the quotation marks). Your password is the same as your UO email password.

3. GETTING HELP

If you have a question about a homework problem, one excellent resource is the “Email instructor” button at the bottom of the WebWork screen. Clicking on that and typing a short message about what you’ve tried on the problem will help me diagnose the issue you’re having. The last time I checked, this procedure does indeed generate plain text email.

Do **not** send an email simply saying “What am I doing wrong on this problem” or “I can’t seem to get the right answer on this one.” On most homework problems it is impossible to figure out what you are doing wrong if I only see your answer (which is all WebWork shows me).

Instead, if WebWork tells you your answer is wrong, first go back over your work and see if you can find the mistakes yourself. If you can’t, feel free to email me: but include a description of how you solved the problem as well as any work you did for intermediate steps. The more information you give, the more likely it is you will get a prompt and helpful reply. See

<https://pages.uoregon.edu/ncp/Courses/MathInPlainTextEmail.html>

for how to write mathematics in plain text email. (I won’t be able to help if I can’t read your email.)