

Seven Habits of Successful Students

- **Set Priorities.** You will encounter many distractions during the semester. Do not allow them to prevent you from reaching your goal.
- **Take responsibility.** Your instructor, the textbook, tutors, and other resources are there to help you succeed. Ultimately, however, you must choose to learn. You must choose success.
- **Hand out with successful students.** Success breeds success. When you work and study with successful students, you are in an environment that will help you succeed. Seek out people who are committed to their goals.
- **Study regularly.** This cannot be said enough. A regular study schedule gets you in the habit of learning.
- **Self-test.** Once every few days, select homework exercises from previous assignments and use them to test your understanding. Try to do these exercises without getting help from examples in the text. These self-tests will help you gain confidence that you can do these types of problems on a test given in class.

- **Try different strategies.** If you read the text and are still having difficulty understanding a concept, consider going a step further. Contact the instructor or find a tutor. At UTEP, the MaRCS tutoring lab is free to all students and is located in the Library room 218. You can also consult other books or look for help online. Be active and get the help you need.

- **Make flash cards.** This is one of the strategies that some math students do not think to try. Flash cards are a very important part of learning math. For instance, your instructor may use words or phrases such as linear, quadratic, exponent, base, rational, and many others. If you don't know the meanings of these words, you will not know what is being discussed.