Math 235 Notebook Guidelines

Here are the rules for homework in this course:

Rule 1. You will have to do a lot of homework to succeed in this course.

Rule 2. I am not going to collect your homework.

Rule 3. It is your responsibility to decide which problems to do, and how many.

Rule 4. Your Homework Notebook can be used on some quizzes and tests.

- Rule 5. Everything must be handwritten by you and SPIRAL BOUND; no loose papers.
- Rule 6. The mimimum that you should do for each section is:

SUMMARY	at least one page of notes from the reading
QUESTIONS	solutions to the five Questions at the end of each section
CLASS NOTES	notes from class
THINKING BACK	solutions to all Thinking Back problems
CONCEPTS	solutions to at least 10 Concepts problems
SKILLS	solutions to at least 20 Skills problems
APPLICATIONS	solution to at least 1 Application problem
PROOFS	ssolutions to at least 2 Proofs problems
THINKING FORWARD	solutions to some Thinking Forward problems
CHAPTER REVIEW PROBLEMS	all problems at the end of each chapter

Tips and tricks for success:

- Your Notebook is for YOU, not me; so write in it whatever will help you most on exams and for later studying. In particular it won't help you at all if you just write answers from the back of the book or answers without supporting work.
- Work on problems you *don't* already know how to do, even though that is sometimes less fun than practicing what you are already good at. Do problems from many different blocks/types of exercises, not just the first or easiest ones.
- The majority of exam problems will come directly from the homework with only slight modifications; all homework problems are fair game for exams unless I say otherwise in class.
- You can include definitions and theorems in your Notebook for easy reference.
- If you visit me in office hours, the very first thing I will ask to see is your Notebook, so that I can see how much work you have successfully completed and where you may need help.
- I may or may not spot-check your notebooks once or twice during the semester for bonus points. To be eligible for these bonus points you will have to have done the minimum amount of work for each section, with each category clearly labeled for each section.
- If you are doing poorly in the class and have not been doing the minimum amount of homework then there is an obvious answer to the question "what can I do to improve my grade?"
- You are expected to bring your Notebook to class every day.
- If you run out of space in your Notebook, then you may continue in a second Notebook.