

Student Guide to Examination 2

In comparison with the first examination, some important changes will be implemented. Please make sure that you understand the process fully, especially the role of **hints** in the exam and the effect they will have on your grade.

Each problem will have one question asked. You will work on it and then show and explain your work to your instructor. If you do not know how to start a problem, you may ask for a **hint**. The instructor may also offer you a hint if you do not solve a problem in a reasonable amount of time. You can accept the hint from the instructor or refuse it. Either way, you will have a little more time to work on the problem. If you refused a hint, you can not ask for it again for the same problem. **Important: getting a hint has consequences.**

Consequences for Getting a Hint

1) A problem **solved with a hint** is considered to be **partially solved**. This will apply even if you end up not using the hint that you were given. A problem is also considered partially solved in the following situations:

- it is solved with multiple arithmetical mistakes
- it is solved with an arithmetical mistake that reduced its difficulty
- the answer is incomplete, or the justification is not sufficient.

2) A problem **partially solved** with a **hint** is considered **not solved**.

3) **Easy problem partially solved or solved with a hint is considered not solved**. Because of this, your instructor will not be giving hints for the easy problems.

4) Sometimes, your instructor will not give you a hint for a medium or a hard problem. For example, near the end of your examination you may be given a medium problem to decide between a C and a B grade and in order to earn a B you will need to solve it completely. In this situation your instructor will not give you a hint even if you ask for it, because doing so will automatically prevent you from getting a B.

5) Problem not solved even after receiving a hint is simply a problem not solved: there is no additional penalty.