Should I Withdraw?

This is not an easy question to answer. Talk to your professor about your grade. If your grade is currently a D or F, find out what you would need to earn to bring that grade to a C or better. Sometimes it isn’t even possible! Then you have some difficult issues to consider.

1. Was there an issue early in the semester that lowered your grade, but is now resolved?
   a. This could be an illness that caused you to do poorly because you missed material, missed a test, or got behind. But are you now caught up and understanding the material?
   b. In most classes, the upcoming material will be at least or more difficult than what you have had so far. If you aren’t doing well with the current material, you aren’t ready to build from it; therefore, your grade isn’t likely to rise.

2. What will a D/F or a W mean for you?
   a. D’s and F’s are calculated into your grade point average (GPA). If your GPA is below 2.00, you will be placed on academic probation with limited time to raise it before you will be dismissed from the college.
   b. D’s and F’s remain visible on your transcript, even if you repeat the class and earn a better grade. That better grade will replace the earlier one in your GPA calculation, but you don’t keep the units from the prior attempt.
   c. W’s reflect what the college calls “progress.” Within a given semester, you can withdraw from some or all of your units. But overall, you need to be completing more units than you are withdrawing from, or you will be placed on progress probation with limited time to improve that ratio of completions to withdraws before you will be dismissed from the college.

3. How will your decision affect your financial aid?
   a. This is a discussion for you to have with the Financial Aid Office. While your decision won’t currently affect the Board of Governor’s Grant (BOGG) tuition waiver, it may affect future decisions with the changes coming in how the BOGG is administered. It will affect your eligibility to continue to receive federal financial aid, or at least to receive it for that class. In addition, if you receive funding from the State Department of Rehabilitation, it will likely affect that also.

What Do I Do Now?

Keep on studying the math, so you are better prepared for the next semester.

A. Don’t necessarily go back to the beginning. Take the chapter test — like it’s a test — and then score it. Review more problems like what you missed. Then take the chapter test again.

B. Use Interact Math (http://www.interactmath.com), using either your class’ textbook, or select one from the same level of math. This can give you unlimited practice of items, along with examples and help.

C. Use some of the video sites we discussed in class. Khan Academy, Hippocampus, and Mathheals have professors that can explain the material in a way that can make sense to you. The nice thing about videos is that you can stop them to make notes, and repeat them as much as you’d like.

D. Work at least twice a week for a couple of hours. More often is fine, but keep the durations about 2 hours.

E. Use the strategies we have discussed in class. Use the worksheets that are available. Make yourself quizzes every other week. Make regional maps of topics. These are available through http://instruction.mtsac.edu/ctunstall