Four suggestions for doing better in this course and in your other and future math courses.

1. Read and follow the instructions (failing to do this is one of the most common error students make.)
   [This includes
   • general “universal” instructions, such as instructions on how to write up your homework;
   • instructions given by the instructor that accompany a particular assignment;
   • instructions given in the textbook, workbook, or whatever the source of the problems is.]

2. READ the textbook, especially the examples in the textbook, THINK about what you’re reading, try to UNDERSTAND what you’re reading, and use the examples to help you UNDERSTAND the material and to do the homework.

3. Pay attention to what goes on in class, THINK about it, try to UNDERSTAND it (if useful, taking notes and thinking about it later), and use this to help you understand the material and to do the homework.

4. THINK about your homework while you’re doing it, and review your mistakes when you get your graded papers back.