



## Sabrina Green

Student, Borough of Manhattan Community College



# Student Success Story

## Student Exceeds Her Own Expectations with WebAssign®

Sabrina Green says she studies every chance she gets — the trick is finding the chance. A full-time student at Borough of Manhattan Community College, she also works afternoons and evenings. Having a full schedule can be stressful, and adding a math course to the mix raises the anxiety level even higher for many, including Sabrina. Thanks to WebAssign, which provided online guidance in elementary algebra whenever she needed it, her fears dissipated and she earned a better grade (by far) than she expected.

### Problem-Specific Guidance

Sabrina's conscientiousness and work ethic motivate her to carve out study time throughout the day, and to meet her challenges head on. "When I first stepped foot in my algebra class I was convinced that I would fail it, and that kind of apprehension can make studying ineffective," says Sabrina. "I thought I was going to have a hard time concentrating and understanding the math. But I paid attention, did my best to stay organized, and completed all the WebAssign homework as soon as possible. Overall, the experience was better than I expected. I passed the course with a 'B,' and WebAssign helped a lot."

WebAssign was required in the course. "The class revolved about WebAssign, including providing us with help when we didn't understand the homework or a specific kind of problem," says Sabrina. "When I had trouble, there would be videos in WebAssign to explain the problem, and links to the textbook page where I could find the procedure for solving it. I liked that."

Sabrina says she also needed abundant repetitive practice to "get" the concepts and problem types she encountered in algebra. WebAssign is tailor-made to provide just that — users can practice a problem as many times as they want to (or need to) while working at their own pace. WebAssign also delivers immediate feedback and offers links to problem-specific resources such as mini-tutorials and video solutions. This interactive tutorial support guides students through the problem-solving process, and encourages the continued practice that promotes understanding.

### Effective Preparation for Exams

Sabrina has nothing but positive things to say about WebAssign. "WebAssign is organized and systematic in the way it presents problems and assistance, and that helped me grasp the concepts. It also included problems that were more difficult than the ones on the final exam, so I felt prepared. The combination of a very supportive professor and WebAssign definitely helped me. If WebAssign enabled me to pass math even when I thought I was doomed, I believe anyone can succeed with it."

### Challenges

- Many students have poor skills in and/or are intimidated by mathematics, and need individual assistance to guide them to success.

### Solutions

- WebAssign®

### Results

- WebAssign alleviates anxiety by allowing students to work at their own pace, while providing problem-specific tutorial resources that address various learning styles. WebAssign also offers immediate feedback that encourages students to continue practicing, thereby promoting skill development.
- If students answer incorrectly or want to practice before attempting an answer, the 'practice another version' feature offers problems with different numerical values than the assigned problem; students can practice as many problems as they want.

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