## Steps for success in this course

David M. Keil, Framingham State University, January 2015

## Each day in class:

- 1. Ask about what you are curious or uncertain about. We start each class session with questions.
- 2. Participate in our discussion. You're invited to take notes on paper or a device.
- 3. Based on that, ask more questions. All questions are interesting.
- 4. Work with your group, present a possible solution, or participate in discussion as other students present solutions.
- 5. Based on that, ask more questions. Errors are interesting.

## For each course topic:

- 1. Choose your goals. Two sets of goals (general and detailed) are in the syllabus; read the relevant ones as you study the subtopics.
- 2. Read text material, slides, and study questions, according to your priorities.
- 3. Participate in the classroom discussion. Ask questions there.
- 4. Check your factual knowledge randomly against the multiple-choice study questions at the back of the topic slides.
- 5. Ask questions about the study questions to clarify what they are about.
- 6. Start working on the exercises by writing ideas that are new to you and concepts that are not clear.
- 7. Solve *subtopic objectives* problems that correspond to your classroom ID. Show your possible solutions to a group member if that could help you. Turn in the solutions you have done by the end of the topic's period in the course schedule. You may turn in more solutions later.
- 8. Ask questions about the exercises. Misunderstandings open the door to the truth.
- 9. Take a problem-solving quiz and a multiple-choice quiz in class on the topic, working alone on the quizzes without books or notes.
- 10. Do make-up problems on quizzes given earlier. A topic quiz lasts all semester, in different versions, until you are satisfied. For each subtopic objective, your final quiz score is the *best* score obtained on a quiz problem on that outcome.
- 11. Ask questions about the quiz results. You've earned the right to ask questions and there are answers you need to have.