Dates, Flexible Schedules: Go-At-Your-Own-Pace "Asynchronous".

1. FLEXIBILITY. You can schedule your own test dates (so long as you finish all by December 16, 2026)

2. The "Official" semester start date is August 24, 2026
   - But you can start earlier, much earlier, if you want. (As early as late July is fine!)

3. Semester Completion date: December 16, 2026.
   a. You can finish early, and you can start early (or late), but you MUST FINISH BY DECEMBER 16
   b. MSUM academic calendar: https://www.mnstate.edu/academiccalendars.aspx

4. YOU CAN START EARLY, AND/OR FINISH EARLY. (But must finish by December 16 deadline.)
   - I will try to have all course materials ready/online by July 1st! ☺☺
   - Since lectures and learning materials are online, you don't need to wait for the official university semester start dates to actually start. You could start sooner.

5. "GO AT YOUR OWN PACE"/ASYNCHRONOUS. Self-schedule your tests.
   - As long as you complete all of the tests by the end of the semester (December 16), test dates are otherwise unfixed/undefined. Some suggested planning schedules are shown on the following pages.
   - Online Homework assignments likewise have no fixed due dates, other than end-of-semester
   - For zoom-testing with me, I will be super flexible.
   - You can adjust on the fly, to some degree. For example, suppose you were planning to take Test 1 on a Friday, but you realized that if you could study more over the weekend and take it on Monday instead, you might be much better prepared and do much better. That would be OK. (Of course, it's all too easy to keep "moving tests back" only to run out of time, so be disciplined…)

6. For each individual test, plan to finish the regular lectures a week (or most of a week) prior to when you actually intend to test, so you have time to practice. Practice makes perfect!
   - Organic has LOTS of information. Tests will require that you know how to USE the info.
   - So, doing a lot of practice problems, practice sets, and practice tests is crucial for test preparation.

7. "IT'S EASY TO PROCRASTINATE AND FALL BEHIND. TRY TO SET UP AN AGGRESSIVE SCHEDULE FOR YOURSELF SO THAT YOU SCHEDULE TO GET DONE EARLY. THAT WAY IF YOU DO HAVE SOME SETBACKS, YOU'LL HAVE SOME CUSHION TIME.
   - If you schedule to take the full number of weeks, that will leave you no cushion in case job or other classes or personal issues create a scheduling crisis and leave you unable to prepare adequately.
   - If you schedule to finish early, that provides some "extra" weeks in case you need them.

8. TESTS WILL NOT BE RETURNED. Given the flexible test-scheduling, I will not be able to send you copies of your graded tests. Sorry. ☹ But whether testing on campus with me, or testing via zoom, I can usually grade it for you right away, so you can see how you did and get feedback. The share-screen capacity on Zoom is great for this.

9. The following pages have some info to help with scheduling.