Advice for how to study:

1. If you cannot make it to office hours, please feel free to email me for an appointment. I'm more than happy to try to find a window of time where we can sit down and talk through problems.

2. It's a good idea to use class notes to do homework (seeing ideas and problems repeatedly really help solidify the concepts). However, when it comes to a quiz or a test, the **most** beneficial way you can study is to do the homework problems, in-class problems, and sample exam problems **without** looking at their solutions.

So, what does this look like? Let's say you're focusing on the homework problems first. By the time you go to study for the exam, you probably solved some homework problems 2 or 3 or 4 weeks previously (AKA it's been a while). So when you sit down to do the homework problems (without your work in front of you), first look at the problem and think about what skills you've learned so far in the class that might help you to solve it. Brainstorm.

If you get stuck (cannot begin the problem), THEN refer to your notes/solutions to give you a starting point. Once you know how to start, put your solution away and see how far you can get before you look at your notes/solutions again. Key point here: when you pull out your solution, do not look at the whole thing. Only the first line or two. Any problems that you were not able to do without help from notes, make a list of. Keep going through the homework problem by problem and by the end, there will be a list of problems you need to go through again prior to the exam since you were struggling with them/had trouble starting them. For those you know how to do, you don’t need to review again.

Same with the problems and concepts from the in-class notes and sample exam. That is honestly the best strategy because it forces you to sit down to many different problems that are "blank" (i.e. no solution written under them), which is very much like an exam setting would be. This helps decrease panic in test settings, as well, since you are used to sitting down and working through problems with a blank space under them.

3. If you get help on a problem from some resource or person and do not understand why you did the things you did, come see me so that you actually understand and not just complete the homework. Understanding is key for doing well on quizzes and tests.

4. If you get points taken off quizzes or tests, come see me so you know what I am expecting and then you know what you should be careful about next time around.

5. START STUDYING NOW. The earlier the better (I promise!).