

GSSM Mathematics Course and Placement Information

GSSM Math Requirements: In order to graduate from GSSM, all students must take at least 4 credits of high school mathematics including one year of calculus.

Placement Information: The mathematics department's goal is to place each student in the course which is best suited for their level of preparation. Before arriving at GSSM, incoming students will take a placement assessment to place them in the proper math courses. The placement assessment is a diagnostic assessment used to determine each student's mathematical strengths and weaknesses and will most likely contain some topics not seen by every student in their previous math courses. The assessment is used solely for placement purposes and will not be used in future grade determination once placed in the proper course.

Mobility and Flexibility: Once placed in a math course, homework, quiz, and test scores may indicate that a student would benefit from being moved to a different math course (either a higher lower level). The student may request to be moved or the student's teacher may ask for the student to be moved to a different level class. In either case, the change must be discussed by the student and teacher of the current course and the teacher of the course where the student is potentially going to be placed. These changes are ideally made as soon as possible within the semester and may not be made after midterm.

Summary of Math Courses: Students who have not yet taken calculus will be placed into one of our pre-calculus or calculus classes depending on their placement assessment. Students who have already completed calculus can take upper level elective classes; for these students, the assessment be used to advise what electives to take. Below is a summary of our pre-calculus and calculus courses. For complete course descriptions and a list of mathematics electives, please see the course catalog.

Pre-Calculus: These courses are all pathways to prepare for calculus. Each of the following bullet points constitutes a single pre-calculus curriculum. For example, MAT 102 is a fall semester course and MAT 103 is a spring semester course, both courses must be taken to complete the pre-calculus curriculum.

- **MAT 101 (Essentials for Calculus, yearlong)** is designed to fill in the gaps of students' mathematical backgrounds and to prepare students for calculus. This course meets 4 days a week.
- **MAT 102 (Foundations 1 for Calculus, Fall) & MAT 103 (Foundations 2 for Calculus, Spring)** are designed to move at a pace that allows students additional time for extra practice on key problems related to the algebraic foundations of calculus. These courses meet 4 days a week.
- **MAT 111 (Concepts 1 for Calculus, Fall) & MAT 112 (Concepts 2 for Calculus, Spring)** are designed to provide foundational instruction to prepare students for calculus and move at a faster pace than the Math 102/103 sequence. These courses meet 3 days a week.

Calculus: These courses all count towards the calculus requirement.

- **MAT 200 (Calculus with Applications, yearlong)** is designed to move at a pace that allows additional time to practice fundamental problems in elementary calculus and is a class for seniors only.
- **MAT 201 (Fall) & MAT 202 (Spring) (AP Calculus AB)** are designed to present more advanced problems and provides greater depth in the theoretical foundations of calculus than the Math 200 course. These two courses form a single calculus sequence.
- **MAT 203 (AP Calculus BC, yearlong)** is designed to present more topics, more advanced problems, and greater depth in the underlying theory of calculus than the MAT 201/202 sequence.

For questions on math courses or placement, please contact the department chair: Dr. Nicole Kroeger
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