

Mathematics

“A degree in mathematics opens the door to an almost limitless number of career options.



Employers know that anyone with the ability to understand advanced mathematics has the capability to learn quickly and attack problems creatively. In your mathematics classes at UMW you will develop the skills to become an effective and creative problem-solver while learning the rich theory and technical tools of modern mathematics.”

Dr. Randall Helmstutler, chair

New students considering a major in mathematics should select an appropriate beginning Calculus course, usually **MATH 121 or 122**. The Calculus sequence up to MATH 122 should be completed as soon as the student’s schedule allows. Additionally, **MATH 201** serves as a gateway course to the upper-level major courses, so it is imperative that the prospective major take MATH 201 as soon as possible, typically in the second or third semester.

Students interested in certifying to teach PreK-6 are encouraged to sign up for **MATH 110**. Please note: Only students who are certain that their intended major does not require a specific mathematics course should register for MATH 110: Finite Mathematics with Applications.

The [department website](#) contains a wealth of information on opportunities within the major as well as alumni profiles and many helpful documents on the program. In particular, potential mathematics majors should take a look at the [Handbook for Mathematics Majors](#).

Below you will find some examples of first semester schedules for a prospective mathematics major. There are many variations of a first semester schedule; the examples are just meant to help you see that there are many ways to reach the same goals.

**Department of
Mathematics**

Trinkle Hall
1st Floor

[Department Website](#)

[Department Chair](#)
Dr. Randall Helmstutler
128 Trinkle Hall
rhelmstu@umw.edu
540-654-1329



Example 1:

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. MATH 121** - Calculus I (4)	Major Prerequisite, QR
2. GEOG 102 - Intro to Human Geography (3)	GI
3. COMM 209 - Argumentation (3)	ALPP, SI*
4. LATN 101** - Elementary Latin (3)	Language
5. FSEM 100E4 – Cryptology (3)	FSEM

Example 2:

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. MATH 122** - Calculus II (4)	Major Course, QR
2. FSEM 100D – Mathematics of Chaos (3)	FSEM
3. PHYS 105** - University Physics with Lab (4)	Major Elective, NS
4. CLAS 101 - Ideas & Cult.: Classical (3)	HES
5. DANC 123A - Beginning Modern Dance (1)	Elective

Example 3: Athletes for varsity sports must register for the 400-level course of the sport. Practice times for varsity sports can vary, but generally speaking, athletes should allow for enough time to get to and from practice on weekdays from 3 - 6 p.m. Please check with the individual coach for your sport to verify specific practice times each semester.

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. MATH 121** - Calculus I (4)	Major Prerequisite, QR
2. BIOL 121 - Biology Concepts I with Lab (4)	NS
3. RELG 103 - The Abrahamic Religions (3)	HES
4. ENGL 205 – Art of Literature (3)	ALPA
5. PHYD 407 - Intercollegiate Cross Country - Women (1)	Elective

**Please note that not all sections of a course may have the Speaking Intensive (SI) or Writing Intensive (WI) attributes. These designations for a course are dependent on instructor and semester, and are listed in the Banner description for the semester in which you are registering.*

***This particular course is in a discipline that allows students with demonstrated competence upon admission to UMW (such as AP/IB credit, dual enrollment, etc.) to begin courses at a higher level. Talk to your Student Success Coordinator if you believe you should start at a higher level.*