

Sample Basic Skills Test Problems

Below are sample problems taken from a twenty-five problem Basic Skills Test that is given during the first week of class in several of our math classes. These tests represent some of the skills you need to have *before* taking the class.

Can you do the following?

Basic Algebra

Simplify:

$$3^2 - (5 - 3) \div (1 \cdot 2)$$

Intermediate Algebra

Completely factor the polynomial

$$2x^5 - 8x^4 - 42x^3$$

College Algebra

Simplify. Leave with all positive exponents. Assume all variables represent positive real numbers.

$$(3a^{2/3}b^{1/4})(5a^{1/3}b^{-1/2})$$

Math Instructor Contact Information

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Calculator Usage Policy

No calculators:

MATH085 MATH095 MATH098

Graphing calculators may be used but are not required

(scientific calculator required):

MATH097 MATH102 MATH105
MATH107 MATH130 MATH210
MATH244 MATH250

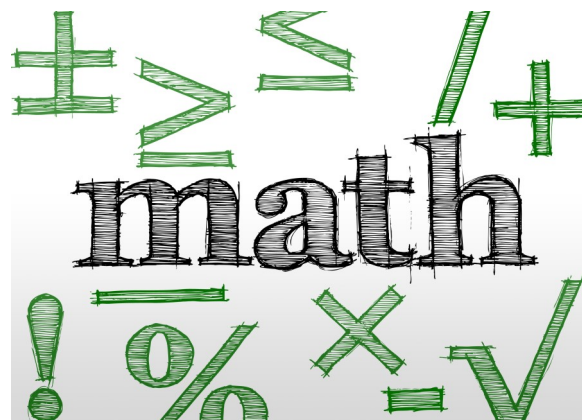
Graphing calculators required:

MATH106 MATH110 MATH111
MATH141 MATH142 MATH243



<http://www.baycollege.edu>
1-906-786-5802 ■ 1-800-221-2001
1-906-774-8547 (West Campus)

Take Math First



*Informational Brochure
from the
Bay College
Math Department*

2017-2018

Answers: 8, $2x^3(x-7)(x+3)$, $\frac{15a}{b^{1/4}}$

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On behalf of the Mathematics Department, welcome to Bay College! We would like to offer some advice as you make your way through the sometimes overwhelming list of classes that are required to complete your degree or transfer program.

Many students focus only on the classes listed for their program and overlook any prerequisites leading up to those classes. Students often put off the math class(es) required for their degree until the semester before they plan to graduate. Suddenly, they are confronted with the realization that they will actually need to stay longer to earn their degree.

***Don't let this happen to you.
Take math first!***

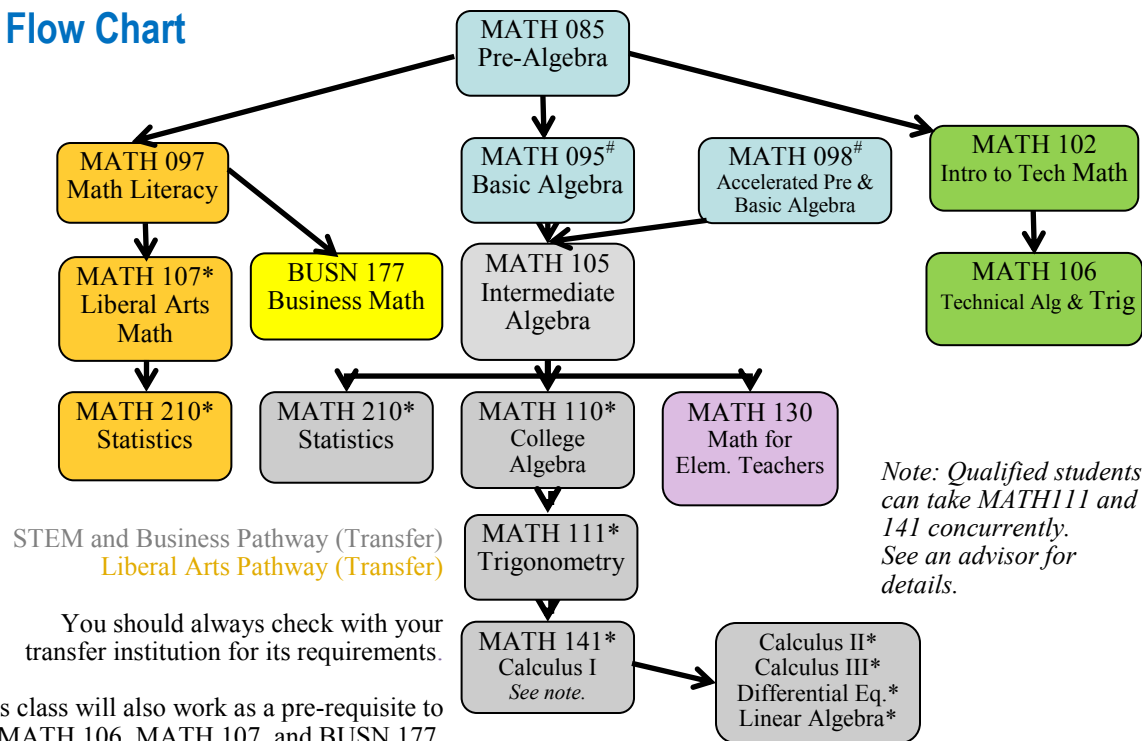
Start by taking the appropriate math class your first semester. Get your math requirement(s) out of the way early, so you don't become one of the unfortunate students who has to stay for extra semesters to earn his or her degree.

See the math flow chart on the right. If your SAT/ACT score is more than 3 years old or you are unhappy with your placement, you should sign up to take the ALEKS assessment, a computer based test that provides you with accurate information about your current math skills. Bay College provides this test **free** as a service to students. Contact extension 4010 (Escanaba campus) or extension 3200 (Iron Mountain campus) to set up an appointment. To prepare for the test, you can use the resources listed in this brochure. You may also visit the ALEKS website at https://www.aleks.com/free_trial/consumer to sign up for a free trial.

Note: New students who score below the minimum SAT/ACT score will be required to take the ALEKS test.

We want every student to succeed and are here to help you. If you have any questions, please contact us. We look forward to seeing you in class.

Math Flow Chart



Resources

Online Tutorials:

Hippocampus

www.hippocampus.org

Khan Academy

<https://www.khanacademy.org>

Purple Math

www.purplemath.com

West Texas A & M University

www.wtamu.edu/academic/anns/mps/math/mathlab/

Visit the HUB in Escanaba or the Student Success Center in Iron Mountain for additional resources.

The Bay College Library can also assist you with books, DVDs, tutorials, and other online resources.