

Getting ready - Algebra and Trigonometry

How do I know if I have the required algebra and trigonometry skills?

After registration for MATH 111 (Calculus I), you will get access to an online “Calculus I Readiness” resource site on Canvas (our learning management system). There you will be able to work through a number of review modules, as well as take a self-assessment test to determine what topics you should spend more time on reviewing/learning.

We recommend that you take the self-assessment test in June, in order to leave all options open to brush up your skills over the summer. We will provide recommendations based on your results.

If I need to brush up, what are my options?

- Self-study – Use the resources and review modules on the Calculus I Readiness Canvas site to self-study the topics you need the most.
- Register for Messiah’s summer MATH 105, *Pre-calculus for the Sciences*– This three-credit course is online and asynchronous (no prescribed meeting time) and provides instruction that aligns with our MATH 111/111L course. To enroll in the MATH 105 Summer session (July 7 - August 17, 2024), please submit the [Summer Online Registration Form](#). A tuition discount is offered to students enrolled in MATH 111/111L in the fall 2024 semester. To receive the discounted tuition rate (\$150/credit), use code “math105discount”. Should you later decide to drop calculus, this course will meet the general education mathematical science requirement, so it will be useful regardless.
- Take a pre-calculus course of your choice. Many universities and community colleges offer pre-calculus courses.

NOTE: Asynchronous online instruction offers flexibility and requires good time management skills. Success in any class, especially a challenging math class, requires serious commitment!

After Arriving at Messiah

Proficiency Test

Students registered for MATH 111 will take a Proficiency Test during new student orientation. Please review the [schedule](#) for dates and times (results will be communicated to student/advisor the same day). Proficiency test content is similar to the summer Assessment Test, and the score will determine the student’s mathematics course placement. The academic advisor will assist with course placement dependent upon the test outcome.

Outcomes:

- Placement in MATH 111/111L – If the score demonstrates proficiency in algebra and trigonometry, student will remain in MATH 111/111L. MATH 103 co-requisite will be automatically dropped by the Registrar.
- Placement in MATH 111/111L AND MATH 103 – If the score demonstrates that the student will benefit from algebra/trigonometry support while progressing with calculus, the student will remain enrolled in MATH 111/111L and MATH 103 (Supplemental Calculus).
- Recommended for MATH 105 – If the score shows that additional algebra/trigonometry support will be needed in order to ensure academic success in calculus, registration in MATH 105 is strongly recommended.

If my major recommends MATH 111 in the first semester but I need to begin in MATH 105, can I still graduate on time?

- Fall registration in MATH 105 is designed to prepare students to succeed in Calculus I in the spring semester of their first year.
- *MATH 112, Calculus II*, is offered as a summer online course. Consult with your academic advisor to determine if MATH 112 must be completed prior to the start of the sophomore curriculum and register accordingly.