Mathematics, Writing and Foreign Language Requirements and Placement Exams at CCSU

No matter what your major is at CCSU, mathematics and writing will be an integral part of your coursework. Read the following information prior to completing the First-Year Student Interest Survey.

The CSU Board of Trustees Proficiency Requirement

You may be required to improve your math and/or writing skills by taking Elementary Algebra (MATH 099) and/or Remedial English (ENG 099).

- **If required, you must successfully complete Math and/or English 099 courses within your first year (or within 24 credits attempted at CCSU).**
- **You must do this in order to continue to register for courses at CCSU or at any other CSU institution.**
- **You are encouraged to complete this requirement at CCSU during the summer prior to your first year. (See frequently asked questions for more information.)**

CCSU Math Requirement and how you are placed in your first math course

There are different mathematics course requirements for each major and all students are required to take two courses in the area of mathematics, statistics, or computer science as part of the general education requirement. (MATH 099 and MATH 101 do not satisfy this requirement.) You will learn more about this during your Advising and Orientation Program.

- Your SAT Math score is used to initially determine your eligibility for your first math course. See the chart below for your placement.

**OR**

- We encourage you to take the MATH Placement Exam if you took a math course in your senior year in high school, as your math skills may be stronger than they were when you took your SAT.
- You may also take the MATH Placement Exam if you think that your MATH SAT score is **NOT** reflective of your math ability.
- Call The Learning Center, (860) 832-1900 to make an appointment to take a placement exam. (Appointments begin in May.) Do NOT wait until the start of the fall semester.
- To see mathematics and statistics course descriptions visit [www.math.ccsu.edu](http://www.math.ccsu.edu).

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<th>Level</th>
<th>SAT Math Score</th>
<th>CCSU math or statistics course placement</th>
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| A     | 450 or below   | MATH 099: Elementary Algebra
Review of fundamental algorithms of whole numbers, integers, rational numbers, and elementary algebra. |
| B     | 460 to 490     | MATH 099: Elementary Algebra
**OR YOU MAY CHOOSE TO TAKE MATH 101 Combination**, which combines the content of MATH 099 with the content of MATH 101 |
| C     | 500 to 540     | MATH 101: Intermediate Algebra
Review and extension of elementary algebra. A study of functions including their algebraic properties and graphs. Quadratic equations and inequalities are solved and graphed. |
| D     | 550 and above  | Math or statistics courses with MATH 101 as prerequisite, which may be determined by requirements of chosen major. |
| E     | 600 and above with pre-calculus or calculus in high school with a grade of B or better | Math or statistics courses with MATH 101 or MATH 119 as prerequisite, which may be determined by requirements of chosen major. |
| F     | Advanced Placement exam credit for Calculus AB (equivalent to MATH 152) | Math or statistics courses with MATH 101, or MATH 119, or MATH 152 as prerequisite, which may be determined by the requirements of chosen major. |
The CCSU Writing Requirement and how you are placed in your first writing course

All entering students are required to take Freshman Composition (ENG 110), which is an introductory course in expository writing, unless you are exempt due to previous coursework.

- A score of 450 on the Writing OR Critical Reading portion of the SAT (or 21 on the ACT) is needed to enroll in Freshman Composition.
- If your SAT Writing score AND your SAT Critical Reading score are both below 450 (or 21 on the ACT), you will be required to complete Remedial English (ENG 099), which focuses on improvement of basic writing skills, prior to taking ENG 110.
- There is no writing placement exam for first-year students. Student writing is assessed during the first week of your writing class. Course adjustments will be made based on the writing assessment, if it is determined that you are enrolled in the wrong writing course.

If English is not your native language and your score on the SAT Writing and SAT Critical Reading are both below 450 (or 21 on the ACT or 61 on the internet-based TOEFL), you are required to complete ESL 108 and/or ESL 109 prior to taking ENG 110.

If English is not your native language and your score on the SAT Writing or SAT Critical Reading is above 450 (or above 21 on the ACT or 61 on the internet-based TOEFL), you will be well-served to complete ESL 108 and/or ESL 109 prior to taking ENG 110.

The CCSU Foreign Language Requirement

If you have completed 3 sequential years of one foreign language at the high school level (to level 3), you have already satisfied the CCSU foreign language requirement.

If you did not complete 3 sequential years of one foreign language in high school, you have these options:

1. Elementary proficiency as demonstrated by successfully completing a 2nd semester-level CCSU foreign language course (112 or 118).
2. Demonstration of native proficiency in a language other than English.

To continue studying the same language you studied in high school, you must take a placement exam.

- Spanish placement exams are offered by The Learning Center (860) 832-1900.
- French, German and Italian placement exams are offered by the Modern Language Department (860) 832-2875.

Frequently Asked Questions

Should I take a Mathematics Placement Exam?
Consider taking a placement exam if you think, after reading the course descriptions, you are prepared to succeed in a higher-level course than the one you are eligible to take. Mathematics and statistics course descriptions are found online at www.math.ccsu.edu. If you are taking Algebra II or higher in your senior year, you are encouraged to take the MATH placement exam.

How do I go about taking a Spanish or Mathematics Placement Exam?
Placement Exams are offered by The Learning Center beginning in May. Call (860) 832-1900 to sign up for a placement exam.

What if I want to take courses in a language other than Spanish, German, French or Italian?
Check the Modern Language Department website at www.modlang.ccsu.edu or call (860) 832-2875 for further details regarding placement testing.

Can I complete my English and/or Math proficiency requirement (English 099/Math 099) before starting classes in the fall?
Yes. In fact, it is a good idea to do so. You may register for MATH 099 or ENG 099 offered during the summer at a special discounted rate. Call Continuing Education at (860) 832-2256 or visit their website at www.ccsu.edu/coned to register. Start with your proficiency requirement completed!

How will I know which math class to take in the fall?
An academic advisor will enroll you in the appropriate math course, based on the major you indicate on your First-Year Interest Survey. You will learn more about your curriculum when you come to your Advising and Orientation Program this summer.

My Math SAT is 460-490, should I choose the MATH 101 Combination course?
The MATH 101 Combination course combines both MATH 099 and 101 and is an accelerated course. It meets 5 hours each week and covers an extensive amount of material. You should choose the MATH 101 Combination course if you are highly motivated and are willing to put in the extra effort. The benefit of successfully completing the Combination course is that you will satisfy the MATH 101 prerequisite, in a single semester, needed for other college-level courses.