

FSU Mathematics Advising

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Advisor Orientation
Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
May 1, 2013

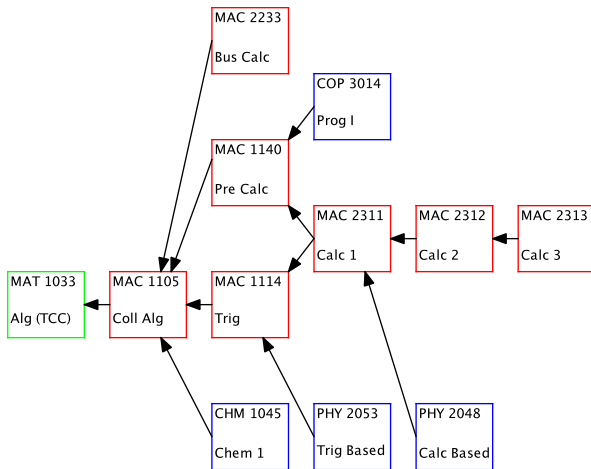
The Sound of Doors Slamming Closed

I advise my students to listen carefully the moment they decide to take no more mathematics courses. They might be able to hear the sound of closing doors. – James Caballero

More quotes

<http://www.math.fsu.edu/~bellenot/quotes.txt>

What requires what



The math department is cruel and heartless

High stakes tests, no make-ups. Death by final.

No repeats if you are successful. No advancing if you are not successful.

This is in the students best interest.

Most math professors feel that College Mathematics begins with Calculus.

You cannot enroll in Calculus without passing an additional test after the SAT/ACT – like AP Calc, CLEP, AMP, ALEKS.
In particular, high school precalculus is not enough.

There is no way to CLEP MAC2311, but you can CLEP MAC2233 Business Calculus and MAC1147 Precal and Trig and MAC1105 College Algebra.

These tests are too easy. There is explicit language to prevent D students from CLEPing a class they just failed to earn a passing grade.

Physics dislike the CLEP for MAC1147 as it really does not tell them if the student knows enough TRIG for the trig based physics PHY2053.

CLEP is a cheap way of earning college credit.

Scores of 3 or more earn credit in MAC2311 is mandated by Florida Law.

People with scores of 3 don't know much, they should be encourage to retake MAC2311.

People with scores of 4 have about a 70% chance of passing MAC2312 (go for it), those that repeat MAC2311 have almost 100% chance of passing MAC2312.

A local placement test given only the week before and the first week of classes.

Practice AMP <http://einstein.math.fsu.edu:8083/>

Students must look at the practice AMP in trig if they have any chance of passing TRIG. Less so in algebra.

It is Free and gives separate placement credit for MAC1140, MAC1114 and MAC1105. (and real credit for MAC1105)

This is insane, giving credit for algebra based on a test that doesn't do algebra.

A math SAT score of 600 lets them take courses that require MAC1105

A math SAT score of 680 gives them credit for MAC1105

A math SAT score of 470 lets them take courses that require MAT1033

ALEKS is a more modern placement tool which breaks down the students current skills into multiple areas. It is fast because it uses the students answer on the first question to determine the second question.

The math department will place a student based on the free version and the resulting pie chart.

This is the future we hope to replace CLEP/SAT/ACT/AMP and even AP with ALEKS.

<http://www.aleks.com>

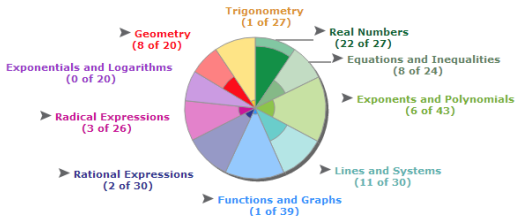
ALEKS pie chart

Preparation for Calculus


MyPie

Course Mastery
(62 of 286 Topics)

[Need Help?](#)



The ALEKS pie shows your learning progress. As you learn new topics, the pie slices are filled with the darker colors. Keep working on new topics until you have mastered all of them.

Click on  at any time to return to your pie chart. For more information, click on "Report."

Basic Math Information

<http://www.math.fsu.edu/~blackw/basicmath/>

Request List – help in getting into a full class <https://www.math.fsu.edu/secure/bellenot/requestlist.html>

Math department is student friendly

But often the students don't realize it.
We accept unofficial copies of transcripts.
All TAs have mentors.

Checking Pre-reqs

There are several computer programs that check students for prereqs. Furthermore all professor get a file with info like this one fro mac2311-01

XY7654321 ap2311credit-??-check! buscal-??-check!

precal-ok-passed trig-ok-pass ed no-higher-credit Last First
Middle

Where the bodies are buried: MAC1140

All sections are capped around 30, but some are solo sections taught by a TA. The rest have a common large lecture and are taught NTTF, who are very experienced.

Most of the solo TAs are new to classroom teaching, but some are much more experienced TAs peer mentoring them.

Most test questions are multiple choice.

Where the bodies are buried: MAC2311/2312

All sections are capped around 40, but some are solo sections taught by a TA. The rest have a common large lecture and are taught by both TTF (Graduate Faculty) and NTTF. The large lectures have recitations lead by a TA.

All of the solo TAs have been successful at teaching before, usually in MAC1140.

All tests are NOT multiple choice.

MAC1105 is a key course

Over 60 FSU majors require MAC1105, and in the fall we limit the enrollment of first year students to that list of majors.