Shippensburg University -- Placement Testing

Options for Students Testing at Level 4 in Mathematics

Use the University Catalog and your academic advisor or major department chair to properly plan your math coursework.

You have scored into Level 4 on the math placement test. Students who place into Level 4 are required to pass at least one college-level math course.

If your major includes Art, Communications, Criminal Justice, English, History, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, or Sociology, no further action is necessary. PLEASE check your math requirement for your major. You should meet with your academic advisor at the start of the semester to determine which math class is required/appropriate and when that math class should be completed. You will enroll in one of the following:
MAT105: Mathematics for Liberal Studies
MAT107: Mathematical Models Applied to Money
MAT117: Applied Statistics
MAT190: General Education Special Topics

If you have declared, or are interested in an Economics or Business major, you should be registered for MAT 140B: College Algebra (3cr) your first semester. If you are not registered into MAT 140B: College Algebra your first semester, you should meet with your during the drop/add period to determine if changes are needed.

If you have declared or are interested in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Math, Computer Science, Engineering (all types) or Teacher Education (middle school certification), you are required to take MAT175: Pre-calculus. The default for students who place at Level 4 is to register for MAT140B: College Algebra (3cr) your first semester. Students with an adequate background in the prerequisite material for Pre-calculus are strongly encouraged to take The Optional Math Test. This may allow you to begin in a higher-level math course and avoid taking one or as many as two prerequisite courses. For example, all of these majors require Calculus I; students with placement level 4 must take college algebra and pre-calculus as prerequisite courses, but students with placement level 5 can bypass college algebra, and students with placement level 6 can go directly to Calculus I.

The Optional Math Test

The Math Department and Testing Center has designed a self-paced, online placement test that can be taken, reviewed, and retaken, AT HOME, up to four times in order to refine your entry into MAT175: Pre-calculus, or MAT211: Calculus, according to your mathematical abilities.

Visit our website at https://www.ship.edu/Testing/Optional_Testing/ for additional information. If you have questions about this option or wish to request to take the Optional Math Test, please contact Testing@ship.edu using your SU email account.