Math Competency Requirement at Western Illinois University

All students must demonstrate math competency in order to graduate from Western Illinois University. There are three ways this competency can be met:

1) Receive University credit for Math 100 - Core Competency in Mathematics

2) Place in a math course for which Math 100 is a direct or indirect pre-requisite. Math 100 is a prerequisite for all General Education math courses (101, 102, 123, 133, 134, 137, Stat 171). Placement in math is determined by the Math Department using Math ACT scores and subscores, and courses completed prior to enrollment at Western with a C grade or better. Some students will take the COMPASS placement test to improve their placements on the day they register for classes, if the Math Department recommends they do so. If a student places into a General Education math course, he/she has met the University math competency requirement. Whether or not a student who has met the math competency requirement takes math at Western will depend on the student's major and individual preferences.

3) Receive University credit for a mathematics course that lists Math 100 as a prerequisite.

Math 099N: Intermediate Algebra. Pre-requisite for Math 100 unless student is placed into Math 100. Does not count toward graduation. Four semester hours of credit count temporarily for full time status and financial aid purposes during the semester the course is taken. Students who have not taken the equivalent of algebra I and geometry in high school must take Math 099N. All freshmen who are placed in MATH 099 are required to pass the course before the start of the second semester of their second year. Transfer students who are placed in MATH 099 are required to pass it during their first year at WIU.

Math 100: Core Competency in Mathematics - 3 s.h. Counts as 3 semester hours of elective credit for graduation. Introduction and use of mathematics in problem solving, analyzing & interpreting models, and drawing inferences; studying diverse examples and cases of real-world problems.

General Education Math Courses:

If a student places into a General Education math course, he/she has met the University math competency requirement. Courses which count in the General Education are as follows. Semester hours are in parenthesis:

Math 101: Concepts of Mathematics (3)
Math 102: Mathematics for General Education (3)
Math 123: Modeling with Mathematical Functions (3)
Math 133: Calculus with Analytic Geometry I (4)
Math 134: Calculus with Analytic Geometry II (4)
Math 137: Applied Calculus I (3)
Stat 171: General Elementary Statistics (3)

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