

MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT EXAM

What is it?

The mathematics placement exam is used to place entering students into a mathematics course of an appropriate level. The placement exam is designed to test your knowledge of basic algebra and precalculus mathematics.

Who must take the exam?

All entering students are required to take the exam with the following exceptions:

- Students who have taken the AP Calculus (AB/BC) exam and attained a score of 3 or more, students who have taken the IB exam with a score of 5 or more, or students who have credit for the CLEP subject exam.
- Students who have participated in a summer science program (SSEP or ECP, etc).
- Students who have *approved* credit in college-level mathematics.

In which course will I be placed?

Non-science majors will be placed in either MATH 107 Contemporary Mathematics or MATH 193 Honors Quantitative Reasoning. Non-science majors that show adequate proficiency in basic algebra and precalculus mathematics may be exempted from taking a mathematics course.

Science (biology, chemistry, computer science, environmental science, mathematics physics, and all pre-med) majors and minors and economics majors will be placed in either MATH 115 Precalculus I, MATH 116 Precalculus II, MATH 120 Accelerated Precalculus, MATH 211 Applied Calculus I, or MATH 231 Calculus I.

Can I fail the exam?

It is not possible to fail the exam. However, students are encouraged to take the exam seriously. Your score will determine your placement. Hence, a low score may result in a placement in a lower-level mathematics course that may slow your progress towards your degree. We therefore encourage you to take this exam very seriously.

Where can I find additional information about the exam?

For information about the exam you may visit the Mathematics Department website at <http://www.spelman.edu/math/index.html>. This website contains information about the content of the placement exam and a sample test. You will need the Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the sample test. For questions contact Dr. Gladys Glass gglass@spelman.edu, Dr. Nagambal Shah nshah@spelman.edu, or Dr. Monica Stephens mstephens@spelman.edu in the Mathematics Department. The number for the Department is (404)270-5833.