The Math Maze


- Math 112 meets the prerequisite for Math 12 ONLY. It won't work to get into Psych 2A, Bus 9, or any of our science courses that have Math 154 or 142 or 152 as prerequisites.

- Math 112 will NOT meet the Math Competency Requirement for our non-transfer AA/AS degree.

Math 112 does meet the critical thinking (A2) requirement for our non-transfer AA/AS GE patterns (not math competency).


Effective Summer, 2012, students have 3 attempts at a course. To accommodate students who were not able to anticipate this, our Math Dept outlines the following:

Students who have had 3 unsuccessful attempts at Math 154 or MATH 152 may petition to the Dean for approval for one more attempt at the course. However, as of summer 2012, students with two unsuccessful tries at 154 should enroll in 154A/B for their third attempt. Approval to enroll in 154B is not automatic, however.

In other words, "if the three attempts ALL predate summer 2012, I plan to approve the petition to enroll in 154B. If any of the attempts occurs in summer 2012 or later, the answer will be no unless there really is a viable extenuating circumstance." The same applies to 152 vs 152A/B.


1. Math Competency: For students with catalog rights that started with 08/09, the math competency requirement increased for AS degrees from Math 154 to Math 152. "The mathematics requirement may be met by completion of Intermediate Algebra (Math 152) or equivalent or a higher-level mathematics course with a grade of "C" or better."

2. For students with catalog rights that started with 04/05, the math competency requirement changed for the AA degree and reads as follows: "The mathematics requirement may be met by completion of Intermediate Algebra (Math 152) or equivalent or a higher-level mathematics course with a grade of "C" or better". This was an increase in the math requirement for the AA degree only that started with students having 04/05 catalog rights. "Successful completion must be verified by an official college transcript or by an appropriate score on the Cabrillo mathematics assessment." Students can demonstrate their math competency by assessing into transfer level math, out of 152. If a student assesses out of 152 and chooses not to take a math class, s/he will still need to meet the Critical Thinking portion of the GE pattern.
3. For students with catalog rights that started with 03/04, elementary algebra (Math 154) was still sufficient for both the AA and AS degrees. The math competency requirement was changed, however, to read as follows: "The Mathematics Requirement may be met by successful completion of elementary algebra (Math 154) or equivalent or a higher-level mathematics course with a grade of "C" or better. Successful completion must be verified by an official college transcript or by an appropriate score on the Cabrillo mathematics assessment." This means that students with catalog rights starting 03/04 needed to demonstrate their math competency by assessing out of Math 154 and into Math 152 - even if they have completed one year of algebra in high school. If a student assesses out of 154 and chooses not to take a math class, s/he will still need to meet the Critical Thinking portion of the GE pattern.

4. For students with catalog rights prior to 03/04, the Math Competency Requirement for both the AA and AS was be met by completion of elementary algebra (Math 154). This Math Competency Requirement can be met with a grade of "C" or better in one year of high school algebra. An official high school transcript can be used to document completion of the requirement. If high school math is used, the student will still need to meet the Critical Thinking portion of the GE pattern.

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