Math Requirements for Specific Majors

The Math Placement Exam covers the content of the five one credit pre-calculus courses at CSU.

- **MATH 117** College Algebra I (prerequisite: satisfactory score on a Colorado State University Mathematics Placement Examination, or MAT 055, 093, or 099 taken at a Colorado Community College with a grade of C- or higher)
- **MATH 118** College Algebra II (prerequisite: MATH 117)
- **MATH 124** Logarithmic and Exponential Functions (prerequisite: MATH 117 and 118)
- **MATH 125** Numerical Trigonometry (prerequisite: MATH 117 and 118)
- **MATH 126** Analytical Trigonometry (prerequisite: MATH 117, 118, and 125)

The exam consists of three sections: Algebra (MATH 117 and 118), Trigonometry (MATH 125 and 126), and Logarithmic and Exponential Functions (MATH 124).

The Math Placement Exam is also testing prerequisite skills for the entry-level math courses.

- **MATH 101** Mathematics in the Social Sciences
- **MATH 105** Patterns of Phenomena
- **MATH 117** College Algebra I

Some students should be enrolled in calculus their first semester. There are three different first semester calculus courses at CSU:

- **MATH 141**, Calculus in the Management Sciences (prerequisite: MATH 117 and 118)
- **MATH 155**, Calculus for Biological Students I (prerequisite: MATH 117, 118, 124, and 125)
- **MATH 160**, Calculus for Physical Scientists I (prerequisite: MATH 117, MATH 118, MATH 124, MATH 125, and MATH 126. Note: for both MATH 124 and 126 students must place out of the course on the MPE or have a grade of B or higher.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Is math important to first semester schedule?*</th>
<th>The ideal math placement result will allow students to register for the following math course(s).</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Business</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. You must be enrolled in or have completed MATH 117 &amp; 118 before taking the first class required for Ag Business, AREC 202.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Education</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. You must be enrolled in or have completed MATH 117 &amp; 118 before taking AREC 202, preferably, in your first semester on campus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Science</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, and 124</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apparel and Merchandising</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Computing Technology</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>The algebra and logarithmic sections of the MPE are the most important sections. The prerequisites for the first computer science course are MATH 117, 118, and 124.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art (BA and BFA)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>Only consideration for Art students is if they want a minor that requires a certain level of math.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 155 or MATH 160</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological Science (Biology)</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124, 125, or 155</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical Engineering</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>Biomedical Engineering is a two-degree program therefore takes 5 years (10 semesters) to complete. It is not possible to graduate in 10 semesters unless you place into MATH 160 in your first semester or plan to take summer classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 155 or MATH 160</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 141</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical and Biological Engineering</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>It is strongly recommended students take the MPE exam prior to orientation due to math prerequisites for courses such as mathematics and CHEM111.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>It is not possible to graduate in 8 semesters unless you place into MATH 160 in your first semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for the first chemistry course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineering</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>It is not possible to graduate in 8 semesters unless you place into MATH 160 in your first semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Studies</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>Only consideration for students is if they want a minor or double major that requires a certain level of math.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Engineering</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>It is not possible to graduate in 8 semesters unless you place into MATH 160 in your first semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>It is important students take CS163 or CS164 in their first semester. Students must show completion of MATH124 via transfer credit, AP Credit, or the Math Placement Exam in order to take CS163/164. It is highly recommended students take the MPE exam prior to orientation due to math prerequisites for courses such as mathematics, ECE103, PH141 and CS163/164.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The algebra and logarithmic sections of the MPE are the most important sections. The prerequisites for the first computer science course are MATH 117, 118, and 124.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Management</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 125</td>
<td>A grade of C or better in Math 125 is required for admission to the Construction Management major. Students must take MATH 125 in order to progress to the rest of the Construction Management courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>Only consideration for students is if they want a minor or double major that requires a certain level of math.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Science</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>The algebra and logarithmic sections of the MPE are the most important sections. The prerequisites for the first computer science course are MATH 117, 118, and 124.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>Only consideration for students is if they want a minor or double major that requires a certain level of math.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 117 and 118</td>
<td>Eventually must complete MATH 141 or 155 or 160 and Statistics 201 or 204 or 301. Timely graduation best ensured if calculus done by end of sophomore year. Stats by end of 1st semester junior year (although that is pushing it).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystem Science and Sustainability</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 155 or 160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Electrical Engineering</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>It is not possible to graduate in 8 semesters unless you place into MATH 160 in your first semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Science</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>It is highly recommended students take the MPE exam prior to orientation due to math prerequisites for courses such as mathematics, ECE103, CHEM 111, PH141 and CS163/164 or CS155/156/157.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Science &amp; International Studies</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>It is not possible to complete the program in a timely manner unless you place into MATH 160 (depending on concentration-8-10 semesters.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>The only math consideration for English is if the student is in or is considering a minor or double major with specific math requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental and Natural Resource Economics</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. You must be enrolled in or have completed MATH 117 &amp; 118 in order to take Ag Economics in your first semester on campus.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Major</td>
<td>Is math important to first semester schedule?*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Engineering</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>It is not possible to graduate in 8 semesters unless you place into MATH 160 in your first semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Health</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 155 or MATH 160</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Horticulture</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, plus 124 or 125 (see notes)</td>
<td>Three credits of math are required. Landscape Business, and Landscape Design &amp; Contracting Concentrations require up to MATH 125; Other concentrations up to MATH 124. The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry, and/or microeconomics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equine Science</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, and 124</td>
<td>The only math consideration for Ethnic Studies is if the student is in or is considering a minor or double major with specific math requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic Studies</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>Only consideration for students is if they want a minor or double major that requires a certain level of math.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family and Consumer Sciences</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fermentation Science and Technology</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124, 125</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire and Emergency Services Administration</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any AUCC Math – MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>This degree is offered through CSU online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Biology</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117 or higher</td>
<td>Completing MATH 117, 118, 124, and 125 before the end of the freshman year is critical to staying on track for calculus and other courses that have MATH 155 and/or MATH 117-125 as prerequisites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Forest Biology concentration MATH 155, all other concentrations MATH 141</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for MATH141. Completion of MATH141 by sophomore year is key to a student graduating in four years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>Only consideration for students is if they want a minor or double major that requires a certain level of math.</td>
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<td>Major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geology</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry. Some concentrations previously accepted MATH 155. As of Fall 2015, all concentrations must take MATH 160.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Exercise Science</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 118, 124, and 125</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>Only consideration for students is if they want a minor or double major that requires a certain level of math.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horticulture</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124 or MATH 155</td>
<td>Three credits of math are required. Horticultural Science Concentration requires MATH 155; Other concentrations require up to MATH 124. The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry, and/or microeconomics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitality Management</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117 and MATH 101</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Development and Family Studies</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>MATH 101 or higher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Dimensions of Natural Resources</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any AUCC math – MATH 101 most common</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts and Engineering Science</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Interior Design</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Interior Architecture and Design</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Studies</td>
<td>Yes, but not critical</td>
<td>Any AUCC Math is fine</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journalism and Media Communication</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any AUCC Math</td>
<td>The only math consideration is if the student is in or is considering a minor or double major with specific math requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Architecture</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 125, and 126</td>
<td>Three credits of math are required. Placing into MATH 118 is ideal. Program requires up to MATH 126.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry, and/or microeconomics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages, Literatures and Culture</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any AUCC Math – MATH 101 most common</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>It is highly recommended that students take the MPE prior to orientation due to math prerequisites for courses such as mathematics, CHEM111, and PH141.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td>It is not possible to graduate in 8 semesters unless you place into MATH 160 in your first semester.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Major</td>
<td>Is math important to first semester schedule?*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Microbiology</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 155 or MATH 160</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music (BA and BM)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>Only consideration for Music students is if they want a 2\textsuperscript{nd} major or minor that requires a certain level of math.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resource Tourism</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources Management</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 125</td>
<td>Completion of three math credits by sophomore year is key to a student graduating in four years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 155 or 160</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuroscience</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 155 or MATH 160</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition and Food Science</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124</td>
<td>Nutritional sciences and Nutrition &amp; Fitness concentrations require MATH 125.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any AUCC Math – MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>The only math consideration for Philosophy is if the student is in or is considering a minor or double major with specific math requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any AUCC Math – MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>The only math consideration is if the student is in or is considering a minor or double major with specific math requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 117</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rangeland Ecology</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Range and Forest concentration MATH141; all other concentrations MATH117, 118, and 125</td>
<td>Completion of three math credits by sophomore year is key to a student graduating in four years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any AUCC Math – MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any AUCC Math—MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>Three credits of math required. Math 105, 133, and 135 are NOT acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil and Crop Sciences</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Plant Biotechnology, Genetics, and Breeding concentration – MATH 124, 125, 126, All other concentrations – MATH 117, 118, 124</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>MATH 160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatre</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any, MATH 101 is fine</td>
<td>Only consideration for students is if they want a 2nd major or minor that requires a certain level of math.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Major</td>
<td>Is math important to first semester schedule?*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undeclared Exploring Arts/Humanities and Design</td>
<td>No, but encouraged</td>
<td>Math 117 encouraged, any math is acceptable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Biomedical Interest</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Math 124</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Business Interest</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Math 118</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Information Technology Interest</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Math 160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Engineering Interest</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Math 160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Exploring Exploring</td>
<td>No, but encouraged</td>
<td>Math 117</td>
<td>Depends on major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Exploring Global and Social Sciences</td>
<td>Yes, but not critical</td>
<td>Math 117</td>
<td>Depends on major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Is math important to first semester schedule?*</td>
<td>The ideal math placement result will allow students to register for the following math course(s).</td>
<td>Notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Exploring Health, Life, and Food Sciences</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Math 117</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Exploring Land, Plant, and Animal Sciences</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Math 117</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Exploring Environmental and Natural Resources</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Math 117</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Exploring Organization, Management, Enterprise</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Math 117 or 118</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Exploring Physical Sciences and Engineering</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Math 124</td>
<td>Most majors in this area require Math 160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Is math important to first semester schedule?*</td>
<td>The ideal math placement result will allow students to register for the following math course(s).</td>
<td>Notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared Journalism Interest</td>
<td>No, but encouraged</td>
<td>Math 117 encouraged, any math is acceptable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watershed Science</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 155 or 160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s and Gender Studies</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Any AUCC math – MATH 101 most common</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoology</td>
<td>Yes, very important</td>
<td>MATH 117, 118, 124, 125, or 155</td>
<td>The algebra section of the MPE is the most important section. Placing out of the two algebra courses (MATH 117 and 118) will allow you to register for chemistry.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* CSU requires all students to satisfy category 1B (3 credits of mathematics) of the All-University Core Curriculum before earning 60 credits, including transfer credits. Refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information.