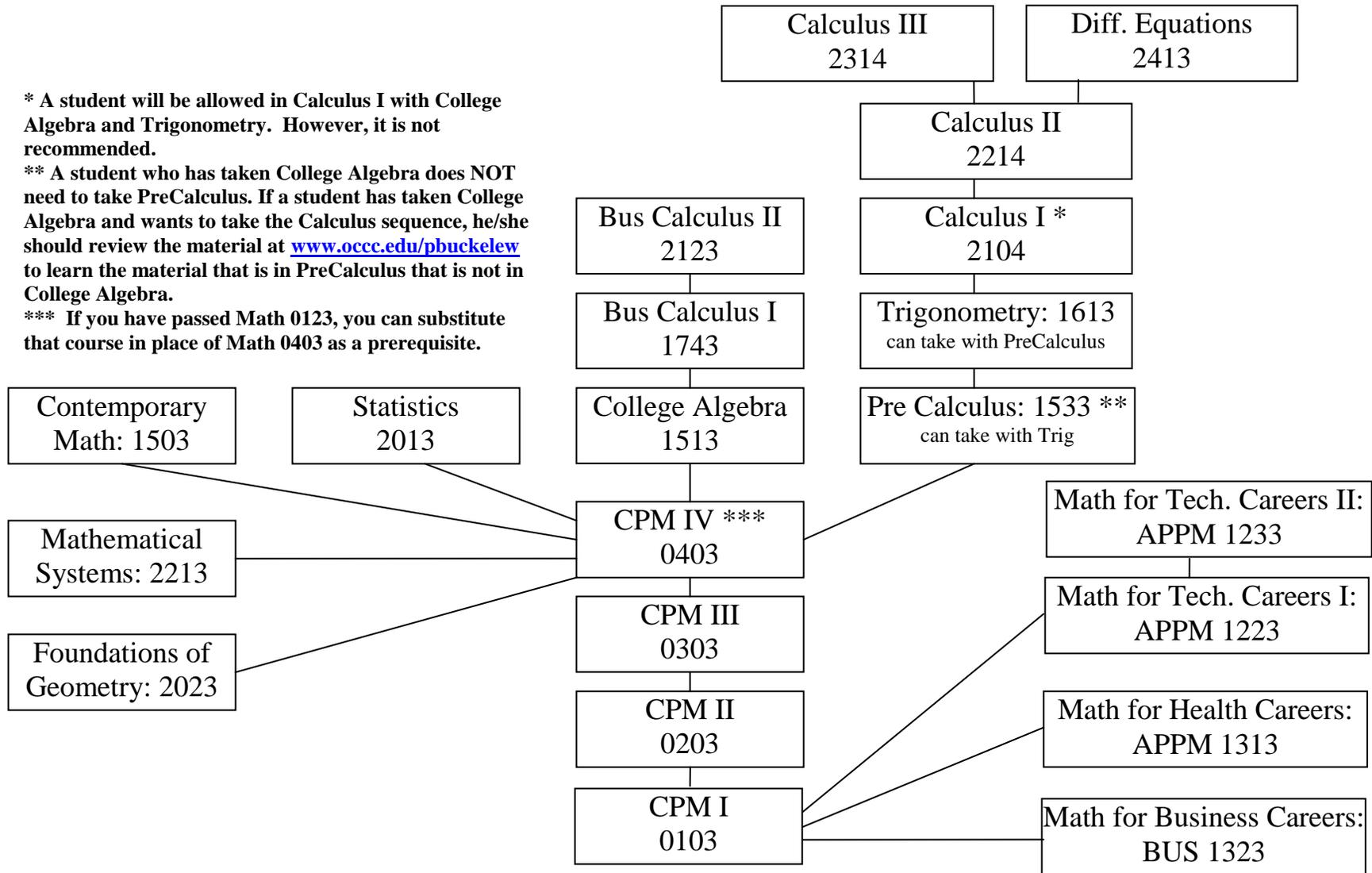


Mathematics Classes at OCCC

* A student will be allowed in Calculus I with College Algebra and Trigonometry. However, it is not recommended.

** A student who has taken College Algebra does NOT need to take PreCalculus. If a student has taken College Algebra and wants to take the Calculus sequence, he/she should review the material at www.occc.edu/pbuckelew to learn the material that is in PreCalculus that is not in College Algebra.

*** If you have passed Math 0123, you can substitute that course in place of Math 0403 as a prerequisite.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: I am new to mathematics at OCCC. Do you have any general advice?

A: You learn mathematics by doing mathematics. Whichever course you take, you should reserve plenty of time to work on math outside of class. The Math Lab is a great place to study, with a group or by yourself, so you can ask questions when you have them. The MyMathLab program associated with many of the courses is also a very useful tool that can help you be successful. Please start taking your mathematics courses your first semester and continue in math each semester until you complete your mathematics requirements.

Q: I only need to take one college level math class. Which one should I take?

A: If you are transferring to another university, check to see what will be needed on your degree plan at that school. Otherwise, see which one works best with your major. In Contemporary Mathematics (Math 1503), you will study the mathematics used in many real-world applications. You will experience a variety of mathematical topics. This class often involves more reading and projects and fewer tests than your standard mathematics class. Introduction to Statistics (Math 2013) will provide the background to help you understand and critically consider the numerical information you hear in the news and advertisements on a daily basis. In College Algebra (Math 1513), you will study a wide variety of algebraic topics that are useful in subsequent courses such as Physics and Chemistry.

Q: Should I take College Algebra, Pre-Calculus or both?

A: You should NOT take both – there is too much overlap between the courses to take both. If you plan to take Math 1743 (Business Calculus I), you should take College Algebra (Math 1513). If you plan to take Math 2104 (Calculus and Analytic Geometry I – the class needed for Math, Engineering, and Physics majors), you should take Pre-Calculus (Math 1533) and Trigonometry (Math 1613) – you can take them at the same time or in separate semesters.

Q: I want to take Calculus and Analytic Geometry (Math 2104), but I have already taken College Algebra. Do I need to take Pre-Calculus?

A: No. Although we strongly recommend Pre-Calculus (rather than College Algebra) for students who want to take Calculus and Analytical Geometry, there is too much overlap between College Algebra and Pre-Calculus to justify taking Pre-Calculus. Enroll in Trigonometry and study the Pre-Calculus material that you missed. The material is listed at www.occc.edu/pbuckelew.

Q: Are online courses individually paced?

A: Not necessarily. Most instructors have homework and testing deadlines just like you would have in an on-campus class.

Q: If I sign up for an online course, will I ever have to come to campus?

A: Yes. For most courses, your exams will be taken on campus in the testing center. If you live too far away to come to campus for tests, please contact the professor of the course to make alternate arrangements. You also may want to visit campus for your professor's office hours or to visit the Math Lab.

Q: I passed Math 0123. Now I see courses that say I need Math 0403 as the prerequisite. Do I really need that course too?

A: No. We changed the course sequence of Math 0033 (Basic Math), Math 0113 (Elementary Algebra), and Math 0123 (Intermediate Algebra) into the sequence of Math 0103 (College Prep Math I), Math 0203 (College Prep Math II), Math 0303 (College Prep Math III), and Math 0403 (College Prep Math IV). If you have passed Math 0123, you have finished the developmental mathematics sequence. Therefore, you can take courses that require Math 0403 as the prerequisite. If the course lists a deadline for how recently you must have completed Math 0403, that deadline would count from completion of Math 0123 instead.