


MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

April 28, 2016

MEMORANDUM

To: Deans, Undergraduate Associate and Assistant Deans, Undergraduate Directors,
and Advisors

From: Douglas W. Estry, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and
Dean of Undergraduate Studies 

RE: Quantitative Literacy

On March 31, 2016 the University Committee on Undergraduate Education recommended to the Provost that the University Graduation Requirement in Mathematics be modified to include an option for courses focused on quantitative literacy (MTH 101 and 102). This recommendation was forward by the Provost to the Faculty Senate for comment and subsequently approved on April 21, 2016.

Effective **Fall Semester of 2017**, students will have the new option of completing the University general education Mathematics requirement by completing two of the courses from the group of Mathematics 101, 102, or 103. (see <https://reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/Text.aspx?Section=110#s284> for full text of Mathematics Requirement). For the **2016-2017 Academic Year** please refer to the memorandum dated March 4, 2016 (attached) for interim approved options.



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Units with courses that currently have MTH 103 as a prerequisite will need to determine whether or not MTH 101 and/or MTH 102 would be an appropriate alternative. Dr. Vince Melfi (Melfi@stt.msu.edu), Director of the Program in Mathematics Education (PRIME) can provide information on MTH 101 and 102 in order to assist units in making a decision.

If course prerequisite changes are needed they must be processed through the normal Course Request System found on the University Curriculum and Catalog website at <https://reg.msu.edu/UCC/UCC.aspx>.

Cc:
June Youatt
John Gaboury
Nicole Rovig
Joy Speas

attachment

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

March 4, 2016

MEMORANDUM

To: Deans, Undergraduate Associate and Assistant Deans, Directors, Undergraduate Directors, and Advisors

From: Douglas W. Estry,
Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and
Dean of Undergraduate Studies

RE: Quantitative Literacy Pilot

The MSU Department of Mathematics, Program in Mathematics Education (PRIME), and College of Natural Science have developed two quantitative literacy courses (MTH 101 and MTH 102) that were offered as pilots in AY 2015-16 and will be expanded in AY 2016-17. These two courses distinctly differ from the courses that currently satisfy the mathematics graduation requirement both in content, by emphasizing quantitative reasoning in real-world contexts, and in pedagogy, by emphasizing active learning, discussion, and student projects. They are intended for students in colleges and majors that do not require preparation in mathematics or statistics beyond the current University mathematics exit requirement¹ and focus on the mathematical skills needed to live a quantitatively informed life and be an effective global citizen in the 21st century.



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In this next phase of the pilot program:

1. MTH 101 (3) will be offered in both FS16 and SS17. In each semester, enrollment will be limited to 210 students. The Mathematics Placement Service (MPS) score for MTH 101 (3) will be that equivalent to the MPS score for MTH 103 or above.
2. MTH 102 (3) will be offered in both FS16 and SS17 and will also be limited to 210 students per semester. The MPS score for MTH 102 (3) will be that equivalent to the MPS score for MTH 103 or above.
3. MTH 101 is not required to enroll in MTH 102.
4. For this pilot study, students who successfully complete both MTH 101 and MTH 102 will be deemed to satisfy the university undergraduate mathematics graduation requirement. As appropriate, college level offices can make the substitution in Degree Navigator.

¹ See <http://www.reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/Text.aspx?Section=110#s284>

5. Students who successfully complete MTH 103 (3) and either MTH 101 (3) or MTH 102 (3) will also be deemed to have satisfied the university undergraduate mathematics graduation requirement. Again college offices can make the substitution in Degree Navigator.
6. Students who do not complete the requirement as stated in #4 or #5 will be held to the existing mathematics exit requirement.
7. For the purpose of enrolling in ISB or ISP MTH 101 only will fulfill the current pre or co-requisite requirement of MTH 103. Contact Ms. Deb Dotterer for overrides.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting Ms. Deb Dotterer (dotterer@msu.edu) or Dr. Vince Melfi (Melfi@stt.msu.edu) or through the AOP Participants Meeting, May 12, 2016.

Cc:

Provost June Youatt
John Gaboury
Nicole Rovig
Mary Beth Heeder

Mathematics Requirement

The University Mathematics requirement consists of college algebra plus one additional mathematics or statistics course beyond college algebra. Each student must complete the university Mathematics requirement by fulfilling one of the options below:

- 2 - 4. Complete both of the following:
- Mathematics 103; and
 - One of the following courses: Mathematics 112, 114, 124, 132, 152H, or 201; or Statistics and Probability 200 or 201.

Students who place into any course in 1.b. via the Mathematics Placement Exam need only complete the course in 1.b. in order to fulfill the University Mathematics requirement.

- 3 - 2. Complete one of the following:

- Mathematics 110 or 116.

4. - 3. Waiver through a *proctored* Mathematics Placement Exam yielding a score resulting in placement in Mathematics 132 (calculus).

For additional information, refer to the statement on *Academic Placement Tests – Mathematics (Algebra)* in the *Undergraduate Education* section of this catalog.

Students who transfer one of the following: Mathematics 112, 114, or 201; or Statistics and Probability 200 or 201 alone, with no other mathematics course above the level of MTH 1825, must take the Mathematics Placement Exam. Based on the score achieved, additional course work may be required to fulfill the university Mathematics requirement.

Incoming freshmen who have taken a College Board Advanced Placement Examination in Mathematics should consult the statement on *Academic Placement Tests*. Transfer students should consult the statement on *Transfer Student Admission*.

For students who are enrolled in Lyman Briggs College, the completion of Lyman Briggs 118 satisfies the University Mathematics requirement.

ensures that all students build a foundation of quantitative literacy.

1. Complete two of the following courses:

- Mathematics 101, 102, or 103.