Modern Language Assessment

Students who are planning to continue a language that they have already studied may be asked to take a modern language assessment during orientation. Students who plan to begin a new language at Otterbein will not be asked to complete an assessment.

All students will answer questions related to past experience with modern languages in the registration survey. The information submitted in the survey, combined with any assessment given, will determine modern language placement.

Most students will be placed based on the questions answered in the survey, however, students who are asked to take an assessment will do so on the morning of their scheduled orientation.

Math Placement Exam

Q: How do I know my math placement?
A: Your math placement is determined by your Math ACT or SAT sub score and your intended major (your highest score will be used). A full list of ACT/SAT placement is enclosed.

Questions or concerns about your math placement can be directed to Dr. Susan Thompson, Professor and Math Placement Coordinator.

Chart: stthompson@otterbein.edu
614-823-1412.

Q: Who should take the exam?
A:
- Students who do not feel that their ACT/SAT scores are a true reflection of their math ability and would like to be considered for higher placement
- Students whose major requires them to take pre-calculus or calculus (MATH 1250 or MATH 1700) as an entry-level course, but who have placed below the necessary course. See page 2 of the math placement guide for a list of majors with specific math requirements.

Q: What if I placed into MATH 0900?
A: As the basic mathematical literacy requirement and prerequisite for all Otterbein mathematics courses, MATH 0900 does not count toward the graduation requirement in any degree program. If you are interested in moving beyond this level you should take the online math placement exam as early as possible. If the placement exam indicates you need MATH 0900, you will receive information concerning an option to improve math placement through the summer ALEKS tutorial online. Successful completion will allow you to begin in a 1200 level course in the Fall. ALEKS information will be sent to you with your placement email.

Note: If you are planning to study Nursing, Equine Science, Allied Health, Chemistry, Life Science, Computer Science, Physics, Mathematics, Actuarial Science or Athletic Training your program was designed for you to begin in a 1200 level course (or higher). If you are placed into MATH 0900 you MUST successfully complete the summer tutorial. Failure to do so may result in a delay in your progress toward graduation.

Questions?

No problem! Give us a call, or send us an email. We are happy to help!

- For general questions: Contact the Orientation Office
  orientation@otterbein.edu
  614-823-3202
- For technical problems: Contact the Student Help Desk
  studenthelpdesk@otterbein.edu
  614-823-1060
Q: When should I take the exam?

A: Prior to submitting your registration questionnaire, if possible. You MUST complete the exam two weeks prior to your scheduled orientation date. The math exam will be open on May 1. Keep in mind that the sooner you take the test the better! However if you are currently in a math course, you can wait until you finish as much material in that current course as possible before taking the placement exam.

Q: I have decided to take the exam, how should I prepare?

A: First - Make sure your computer and internet connection will work with the exams.
HINT: You must use the Firefox web browser to access the exam.

Second - Review your math skills! You do not need to spend hours studying for these exams, but you want to be placed in the appropriate course and so brushing up on your basic skills (much like you would for the SAT/ACT) will make your placement more accurate. The topics covered in each part of the exam can be found at the Blackboard exam site in the Instructions tab, under “General Math Placement Information and Exam Topics”.

Third - Plan a time and place to take the exams. The exams are timed and you can only attempt to take the exams once. Make sure there are no distractions and that you have ample time to complete the exam. If you stop an exam before finishing, you will have to take a paper exam on campus.

Q: How do I take the exam?

A: Log on to the Otterbein Blackboard website: [http://otterbein.blackboard.com](http://otterbein.blackboard.com). Log in using the information provided on your Welcome Letter in your Registration Packet. You will see a link in the section “My Courses” that says “Math Placement Exam 2013”. Click on that link and you will be in the placement test page. Check out the announcements and instructions before launching the actual exams. Also, take the practice exams, they will help you know what to expect and double check that your computer is ready!

Q: What can I expect on the exam?

There are two parts to the Otterbein Math Placement Exam, each with 25 questions and 1 hour time limit:

- Part A: Prerequisite Knowledge—Tests Beginning and Intermediate Algebra. [Take this to test out of MATH 0900.](#)
- Part B: Pre-calculus—Tests College Algebra and Trigonometry topics. [Take this to test out of MATH 1250.](#)

Q: I don’t have access to a computer/internet!

A: You are welcome to come to campus whenever it is convenient for you to take the exams. Just call the Orientation office and schedule a time. Also, some students in the past have visited a friend or relative’s house, their school, or their parent’s work to take the exams.

Q: How will I know how I did?

A: You will receive an e-mail (to your Otterbein account, so be sure to activate and check it) letting you know how you did and what course you should register for. A complete schedule of the notification timeline will be available on your V.I.P. portal after May 1.

What if I have a disability and need special accommodations?

Contact Kera McClain Manley, Disability Services Coordinator. She will work with you to obtain the appropriate documentation of your disability and provide you with the information you need to utilize extra time on the placement tests.

[614-823-1618](#)