

Welcome to Math 202!

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Who are you?

Why did you become a mathematics major?

What ideas do you have about your future career?

What is the math major?

What is the math major?

Mathematics is not really calculations! Math majors

- Explain why things are true (proofs!)
- Engage in abstract and creative problem solving
- Know the mathematical foundations of adjacent subjects (Econ, Phys, CS, Stats, Engineering,...)

What is the math major?

Key courses:

- Linear Algebra (Math 206/306/406)
- Real Analysis (Math 412/413/414)
- Abstract Algebra (Math 481/482/483)

What is the math major?

Many other offerings...

- Differential Equations (MATH 242/344/416/418)
- Combinatorics/Graph Theory/Discrete (MATH 335/336/435)
- Geometry/Topology (MATH 404/440/442/443)
- Numerical Analysis/Optimization (MATH 451/452/453)
- Much more!

What is the math major?

The major is more than coursework!

- Research/senior projects with faculty
- Competitions
- Clubs (both in/outside math department)
- Mathematics tutoring/workshop/grading jobs
- Math lounge/community/networking

Math Major Pros

Math Major Pros

- Superior logic, reasoning, and analytical abilities
- Varied career options, especially with a minor
- Technical writing/communication skills
- Interesting and intellectually challenging
- High demand for K-12 teachers, CSET waiver

Math Major Cons

Math Major Cons

- General purpose major, not trained for anything specific
- Need to sell your abilities to earn entry level positions
- Not what some expect (abstract, proof writing)
- May not directly use course content in career
- PhD/academic career path is extremely challenging

Cal Poly Math Major Pros

Cal Poly Math Major Pros

- Wide variety of courses/options
- Research opportunities, some with funding
- Small class sizes/major with large, excellent faculty
- 4 + 1 program/graduate school preparation
- Tutoring/grading/workshop job opportunities

Cal Poly Math Major Cons

Cal Poly Math Major Cons

- Course planning can be confusing
- Some facilities are dated/not optimal
- Cal Poly/SLO can be expensive, esp. for out of state
- Not many local mathematics career opportunities

What is Math 202?

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- Guest speakers will come (please talk to them!)
- Write resume and visit the job fair (sign up soon!)
- Create a valid graduation plan

What is Math 202?

Course information is on Canvas and

<https://anthonymendes.github.io/202.html>