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Alternative Format: New.Student.Orientation@Dartmouth.edu
More information: http://dartgo.org/access

## Getting Started in Math, Engineering, and the Sciences

Some beginning advice...
DARTMOUTH

## Presenter: Prof. Jon Kull

- Department Representatives
- Mathematics - Prof. Erik van Erp
- Biology - Prof. Tom Jack
- Chemistry - Prof. Dean Wilcox
- Computer Science - Prof. Vasanta Lakshmi Kommineni
- Earth Sciences - Dr. Justin Stroup (9/1) and Prof. Meredith Kelly (9/5)
- Engineering - Prof. Doug Van Citters (9/1)
- Physics/Astronomy - Profs. Jim LaBelle and Kristina Lynch
- Neuroscience - Profs. Wilder Doucette (Psychiatry), Kyle Smith (PBS), Mark Thornton (PBS) [9/1]; Profs. Matt van der Meer (PBS), Emily Finn (PBS) [9/5]
- Psychology - Prof. Cathy Cramer
- Teaching Science Fellows - Prof. Lee Witters
- Jiaming Ma '23
- Joana Lame '23
- Andrew Sasser '23


## This Session

This session is designed to give you introductory information about beginning the college-level study of Math and the Sciences at Dartmouth College

## Goals:

- To introduce you to the Math and Science Curricula at Dartmouth
- For you to assess high school preparation in Math and Science and to determine what that might mean for starting Math and Science course sequencing at Dartmouth
- For you to understand the best way to begin course work in individual disciplines (departments/majors)
- For you to understand the relationship between courses in different disciplines (departments/majors)


## Overall info/advice

- Know where you're starting (i.e., placements in math, sciences, etc.,) and your strengths
- College courses are not the same as high school (in terms of pace, difficulty, and grade scale)
- Successful students use resources available to them!
- Your current comfort and mastery in math has implications for how you begin study in the sciences


## Know where you're starting

This has implications for:

- How easy or difficult your transition to college-level science coursework will be
- What classes you take your first term
- What classes you take your first year
- Whether you take certain classes in combination
- Later flexibility for other opportunities (Foreign Study, Off term, etc.)


## Is this you?

- Placement into MATH 1 (no calculus experience in High School)
- No AP courses in Math or Science
- Concern about Math/Science preparation
- Less than 700 on the SAT I Math Test


## Or, is this you?

- Placement into MATH 3 (some calculus experience in High School)
- You took AP Science course in High School but did not get a 5 on the AP (or didn't take it)
- No "credit-on-entrance" in science courses on placement record


## Or, is this you?

- Placement into MATH 8 or higher
- You got a 5 on one or more AP exams: Biology, Physics, Chemistry
- One or more "credit-on-entrance" in science on placement record
- Score of 22-30 on the Biology Placement/Advisory test
- Confidence/a strong background in science


## Take a minute and decide

## Little or no math and science background

- Placement into MATH 1 (no calculus experience in High School)
- No AP courses in Math or Science
- Concern about Math/Science preparation
- Less than 700 on the SAT I Math Test


## Some math and science background

- Placement into MATH 3 (some calculus experience in High School)
- You took AP Science course in High School but did not get a 5 on the AP (or didn't take it)
- No advanced placement in science courses on placement record


## A great deal of math and science background

- Placement into MATH 8 or higher
- You got a 5 on one or more AP exams: Biology, Physics, Chemistry
- One or more "credit-on-entrance" in science on placement record
- Score of 22-30 on the Biology Placement/Advisory Test
- Confidence/a strong background in science


## Implications for little or no math and science background

- Avoid doubling up in the Sciences, Math, Physics, or Engineering classes in any term during your first year (there are exceptions to this, e.g. in Engineering sequences; consult with departments and your advisors)
- Two courses with labs in one term is always a heavy workload. Avoid taking two lab courses in the same term during your first year
- You will likely adjust to college level work at a pace that will allow for success in your first year
- You will have less flexibility in your D-Plan (i.e., schedule) particularly later years
- Off-campus programs (LSAs and FSPs) are possible but require careful early planning of your schedule
- You will have room for fewer electives
- If you are Pre-health, you can still complete the Pre-health curriculum before you leave Dartmouth. The norm at Dartmouth and nationwide is to take a year off between college and medical school. This enables you to plan a more flexible schedule for completing the Pre-health curriculum before you leave Dartmouth.
- You should limit your extracurricular activities during the first year (this includes internships and academic opportunities outside the classroom)


## Implications for some math and science background

- Be cautious in doubling up Science, Math, or Engineering in the first term
- Avoid having your first lab course be during a term where you are taking two such courses
- Pay careful attention to your schedule as you go forward. You can do Foreign Study, etc., but it requires advance planning
- You should limit your extracurricular activities for the first year
- This allows you to apply to medical school in your final year at Dartmouth


## A great deal of math and science background

- You will have more flexibility down the road (But don't squander this)
- It will be easier to fulfill a second major in addition to your science major (if you so choose)
- You should be able to fulfill the prerequisites for your science major in your first year
- It is probably fine to double up on Math and Science courses in the first term
- You may consider taking two courses with labs in the first term
- You may be taking intermediate level math/sciences courses in your first year


## Some general advice (College is not the same as high school!)

- Course work will go faster than you anticipate (keep up with notes and problems; this will start in the first week).
- Schedule 3 hours of study and prep time out of class for every hour you spend in class (i.e., you will need a minimum of 30 hours a week outside of class to keep up).
- As you adjust to college work, you will need to learn how to study. This takes time.
- Don't be surprised if your first exam grade is less than $70 \%$. This could very well be a respectable grade (depending on the curve/course etc.).
- Limit extracurricular activities. Especially until you have college academics under your belt.


## Successful students use resources.

- Professors' Office Hours
- Math Department - drop-in tutorials
- Biology and Chemistry - use the Teaching Science Fellows
- Computer science - take advantage of section leaders and TAs in COSC 1 and COSC 10
- Academic Skills Center
- 1:1 academic coaching, learning strategies online resources, E-Guide to academic success
- Peer Tutoring Program—group tutoring for most introductory/foundational courses

Visit dartgo.org/asc for more details

- Form your own study group
- Engineering: Dartmouth Emerging Engineers (DEE). FREE study sessions five nights a week at Thayer to help with pre-requisites. Empathetic TA's, engineering faculty advising, a community of engineering students. https://engineering.dartmouth.edu/dee/


## Teaching Science Fellows



## Jiaming Ma '23 Biology

Office: 123 Life Sciences Center
Fall term covering BIO 12 \& 19 and CHEM 5 \& 11, but available to any science student


Joana Lame '23 Biology \& Chemistry

E-mail us for help/advice!
Jiaming.Ma@dartmouth.edu
Joana.Lame@dartmouth.edu
Andrew.Julian.Sasser@dartmouth.edu


Andrew Sasser '23 Chemistry FYSEP Liaison

Link to our web site learning resources \& our appointment calendars


## Teaching Science Fellows Website

Teaching Science Fellows

Helping students succeed in SIEM?

http://sites.dartmouth.edu/teachingsciencefellows
OR Google: Dartmouth Teaching Sciences Fellows
It's the first thing that pops up!
Check out our Study Strategies including videos of study tips!

## Mathematics

Math is not only a major, but math classes are pre-requisites for STEM majors, so starting at the correct place is critical.

## Little or no math and science background

- If you've never taken calculus, take MATH 1 this Fall and MATH 3 in the Winter


## Some math and science background

- If you've taken some calculus but do not place out of MATH 3, take MATH 3 this Fall

A great deal of math and science background

- You are placed into MATH 8 or higher
- Depending on what you think you might want to major in, take more Math in the Fall or Winter
- If you are considering majoring in Math, take a Math class Fall term


## Biology

## Little or no math and science background

- If placed into MATH 1, take MATH 1 this Fall and MATH 3 in the Winter
- Consider taking BIO 11 in the Fall or Winter


## Some math and science background

- If placed into MATH 3, take MATH 3 this Fall
- Take BIO 11 in the Fall or Winter; consider a foundation course (BIO 12-16)
- Consider taking CHEM 5 in the Winter


## A great deal of math and science background

- Take BIO 19 in the Fall, or a foundation course (BIO 12-16) in the Fall or Winter; consider taking a second foundation course this year
- Consider taking CHEM 5 (Fall or Winter) and CHEM 6 (Winter or Spring) or CHEM 11


## Chemistry

(Note, students with prematriculation credit for CHEM 5 or a passing effort on the Chemistry Placement Test are placed into the one-term general chemistry course, CHEM 11)

## Little or no math and science background

- If placed into MATH 1, take MATH 1 this Fall and MATH 3 in the Winter
- Take CHEM 5 in the Winter and CHEM 6 in the Spring


## Some math and science background

- If placed into MATH 3, take MATH 3 this Fall
- Take CHEM 5 in the Winter and CHEM 6 in the Spring
- If you have credit for MATH 3, depending on your chemistry placement, take CHEM 5 in the Fall and CHEM 6 in the Winter, or take CHEM 11 in the Fall or Spring


## A great deal of math and science background

- Take CHEM 5 in the Fall and CHEM 6 in the Winter, or take CHEM 11 in the Fall or Spring
- If you have credit on entrance for both CHEM 5 and CHEM 6, consider taking organic chemistry (in consultation with the Chemistry Department)

Chem 5 prep site: https://canvas.dartmouth.edu/courses/53399

## Computer Science

Students wishing to devote one course to the study of Computer Science should take COSC 1 offered in Fall, Winter, and Spring. No previous programming experience is required to take COSC 1 (over 75\% of students taking COSC 1 have no computer programming experience). Students wishing to devote two or more courses to the study of Computer Science should begin with COSC 1 and COSC 10. Students wishing to take courses in Digital Arts should start by taking COSC 1 or COSC 2 . ENGS 20 may substitute for COSC 1 in any program of study.

## Little or no math and science background

- If placed into MATH 1, take MATH 1 this Fall and MATH 3 in the Winter


## Some math and science background

- If placed into MATH 3, take MATH 3 this Fall


## Please note:

- COSC 1 is a prerequisite for COSC 10


## Earth Science

Prerequisites: Any one introductory Earth Science course (EARS 1-9 exclusive of EARS 7); EARS 40; CHEM 5 (or CHEM 11); and any one of the following courses taken at Dartmouth: MATH 3, MATH 8, MATH 9, MATH 11, MATH 12, MATH 13, MATH 14, MATH 23, or MATH 46.

## Little or no math and science background

- If placed into MATH 1, take MATH 1 this Fall and MATH 3 in the Winter
- EARS 1 the Fall or Spring


## Some math and science background

- If placed into MATH 3, take MATH 3 this Fall
- EARS 1 in Fall or Spring or EARS 18 in the Fall


## A great deal of math and science background

- EARS 1 in Fall or Spring or EARS 18 in the Fall
- CHEM 5 in the Winter


## Engineering

## Little or no math and science background

- If placed into MATH 1, take MATH 1 this fall, MATH 3 - winter, MATH 8 - spring.
- First year: develop confidence in mathematics and work with a faculty advisor
- MATH 13, PHYS 13, PHYS 14, and ENGS 20 in the second year, begin engineering core courses during sophomore summer.


## Some math and science background

- MATH 3 this fall, MATH 8 in the winter.
- PHYS 13 in the winter, PHYS 14 in the spring. MATH 13 or ENGS 20 or ENGS 21 in spring
- Plan to complete math and physics, plus ENGS 20 and 21, by the end of sophomore year, to begin taking engineering core courses during sophomore summer.
- CHEM 5 or CHEM 11 can wait until later.


## A great deal of math and science background

- Take MATH $8+13$ or 11 in fall/winter, with PHYS $13+14$ in fall/winter or winter/spring.
- Take ENGS 20 or 21 in the Spring, the other during sophomore Fall. Talk to your engineering advisor about planning the second year.
- CHEM 11 can be taken first year, sophomore year, or wait until later


## Biomedical Engineering and/or Pre-Health

- Follow math guidance above and consult with an engineering advisor
- Take CHEM 5 and 6 or CHEM 11 as soon as reasonable
- Begin Biology sequence $(11 / 12)$ if schedule allows
- Take PHYS 13/14 in sophomore year


## Physics and Astronomy

## Little or no math and science background

- If placed into MATH 1, take MATH 1 this Fall and MATH 3 in the Winter (start with PHYS 13 Sophomore Fall)
- Note: PHYS 3 \& 4 are for non-majors (don't start here if you want to major)


## Some math and science background

- If placed into MATH 3, take MATH 3 this Fall, AND take MATH 8 in the Winter
- Take PHYS 13 in the Winter, PHYS 14 in the Spring
- Students placing into MATH 11 or MATH 9 should consider MATH 9 or speak with a faculty member during the Math Open House.


## A great deal of math and science background

- Take Physics 13, 14, 19 in the first year (or postpone 19 until Sophomore Fall) OR
- Take $15 / 16 / 40$ or $15 / 14 / 40$ in the first year (the accelerated track)
- Note: PHYS 15 is offered Fall/Winter, PHYS 16 is offered Winter, and PHYS 14 is offered Winter/Spring; PHYS 40 offered Fall/Spring
- Note: PHYS 15 requires that your high school physics used calculus and requires taking an on-line placement exam during orientation

Note for Premeds: PHYS 3 is now offered Summer/Fall/Winter and PHYS 4 Winter/Spring

## Neuroscience

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Prerequisites: PSYC 6 \& PSYC 10, plus four courses from the following: MATH 3, 4, 8;
ENGS 20; COSC 1, 10, 31; CHEM 5, 6, 11; PHYS 3, 4 (must have at least one CHEM/PHYS course; see PBS website for details)
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## Little or no math and science background

- If placed into MATH 1, take MATH 1 this Fall and MATH 3 in the Winter
- Take PSYC 6 (Intro to Neuroscience) in Winter or sophomore Fall


## Some math and science background

- If placed into MATH 3, take MATH 3 this Fall
- If taking MATH 3 or another STEM course in Fall, take PSYC 6 in Winter or sophomore Fall


## A great deal of math and science background

- Take PSYC 6 Fall (if no other STEM courses) or Winter term


## Psychology

Psychology at Dartmouth is a STEM discipline that focuses on an experimental approach to understanding behavior.

- Prerequisites: PSYC 1 and PSYC 10. Please note that AP/IB Statistics credit (as MATH 10 credit-on-entrance) is inadequate preparation as a substitute for PSYC 10. We strongly encourage prospective Psychology majors to take PSYC 10 rather than any other department's statistics course.
- Calculus is not needed for the Psychology major. Thus, all students, regardless of background, should:
- Take PSYC 1 (Intro Psyc) in Fall or Spring of the first year
- Plan to take PSYC 10 (Statistics) by no later than midway through the sophomore year
- The department does not give credit for AP/IB Psychology scores, nor do we offer an online placement test.

