



Math Readiness Course

University of Saskatchewan

Objectives for Innovation

Web- and print-based instruction

Intended Audience

Students preparing for first-year university-level math and science courses

Results Achieved

Interactive non-credit math review
 Flexible access for students across the province and at the University of Saskatchewan
 Information technology experience for students helping to develop the web site

Partners

SaskTel, Cameco

Implementation

September 1997

Program Web Site

<http://math.usask.ca/mrc.save>

Additional Benefits

Part of the new Science and Engineering transition program offered in La Ronge by the University of Saskatchewan, Northlands College and Northern Teacher Education Program/Northern Professional Access College

15 teachers from the Northern Lights School Division and northern Band schools trained to use Math Readiness as a resource

Demonstrated in Beijing, China, as part of presentations made by a team of Canadian mathematicians

The Math Readiness Course (MRC) provides a print- and web-based overview of math concepts important for understanding calculus at university level. Course notes and exercises are provided in print. Tutorials and quizzes are available on the web, along with a Virtual Mathematics Laboratory that uses interactive Java applets. These are programs that run independently on a computer's web browser, allowing the user to interact with the material and see the dynamic display resulting from the interaction. This helps to demonstrate concepts such as graphing polynomials, pendulums and conic sections. Students can check their progress on the quizzes at the web site and leave messages for one another or for the MRC staff at the site bulletin board.

The MRC reviews relevant high school math material from the perspective of calculus study. It also covers topics that may be new to many students. The course reviews algebraic skills, functions, graphing, trigonometric functions, exponential and logarithmic functions. Students learn how to analyze problems, and how to use different approaches to problems. In addition to developing specific skills, such as solving exponential equations, students focus on more general abilities, such as understanding mathematical writing and expressing ideas in mathematical notation.

Math Readiness is also offered as a face-to-face summer and evening course.

Contact

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