Choosing Your Math Pathway

The goals of all three pathways are to provide pre-requisite attitudes, knowledge, skills and understanding for specific post-secondary programs or direct entry into the work force. All three pathways provide students with mathematical understanding and critical thinking skills. It is the choice of topics that varies among pathways. Students should consider their current and future goals and interests so that the pathway they choose will be the one to engage them in their studies.

1. The first thing you should consider is your realistic post-secondary goals. Some common careers and post-secondary programs are shown in the chart below (from 2018).

Workplace Math 11	Foundations of Math 11 or 12	Pre-Calculus 12
• Direct entry into work force	• Communication (SFU, UBC)	• Computing Science (SFU, UBC)
• Accounting, Finance, and Insurance (BCIT)	• Contemporary Arts or Fine Arts (SFU, UBC)	• Engineering Science (SFU, UBC, BCIT)
• Broadcast and Media Communications (BCIT)	• Bachelor of Environmental Studies (SFU)	• Business/Commerce school (SFU, UBC)
• Digital Arts and Web Development (BCIT)	• Health Science Bachelor of Arts (SFU)	• School of Interactive Arts and Technology (SFU)
• Business Administration (BCIT)	• Faculty of Arts (UBC)	• Faculty of Science (SFU, UBC)
• Marketing, Sales, Tourism (BCIT)	• Dental Hygiene (UBC)	• Food, Nutrition, and Health (UBC)
• Interior Design (BCIT)	• Education (SFU, UBC)	• Forestry (UBC)
• Many trade programs at BCIT including: carpentry, joinery, metal fabricator, plumbing, welding, machinist, millwright, automotive technician, aircraft technician, etc.	• Wood Products Processing (UBC)	• Computer Information or Systems Technology (BCIT)
	• Applied and Natural Sciences (BCIT)	• Some Health Sciences at BCIT including Medical Lab. Science
	• Some Health Sciences at BCIT including nursing	• Electrical Trade – only need PC 11 (BCIT)

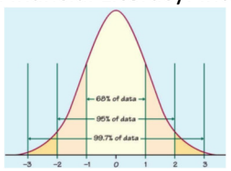
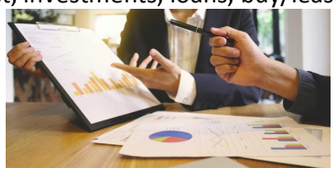
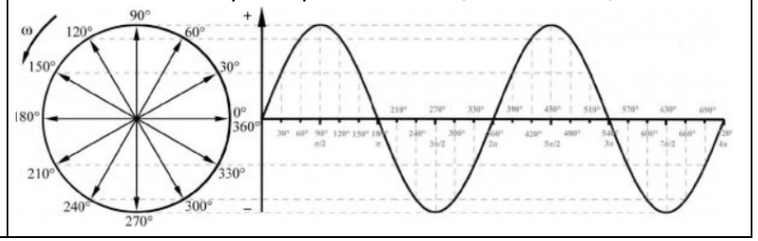
**Please carefully check the admission requirements of the program you are interested in. The admission requirements may have changed since last researched.

Other info:

- UBC and SFU post previous admission averages from previous years (the average percentage earned in all grade 11 and 12 approved academic courses). SFU and UBC state on their website that students entering the universities from high school had admission averages in the 80% - 95% range, and that some programs are more competitive than others.

- For smaller institutions like Douglas and Capilano, potential students meet the general admission requirements with any math 11 course. However, specific programs have special math prerequisites and you may need to upgrade your math courses once you're admitted into the school.

2. Second, you should consider your strengths and interests in different math topics. The key concepts from each pathway are shown below:

Workplace Math 11	Foundations of Math 11	Pre-Calculus 11
• Geometry: angle relationships, views, scale models • Measurement: rate of change • Statistics: interpreting graphs in society. How probability and statistics are used in different contexts in society. • Financial Literacy: personal investments, loans, and budgeting 	• Geometry: angle relationships and scale models • Graphical Analysis: linear inequalities, quadratic functions, systems of equations, optimization • Statistics: collecting and interpreting data, measures of central tendency, confidence intervals, standard deviation, etc. • Financial Literacy: interest, investments, loans, buy/lease  	• Trigonometry: non-right triangles and angles in std. position • Graphical analysis: linear and quadratic functions/inequalities • Algebra and number: exponents and radicals, factoring, rational expressions/equations, solving quadratic equations. • Financial Literacy: compound interest, investments, loans. 

3. If you still need help choosing a math 11 course, try this survey:

a) Do you prefer social studies courses over science courses?	Y	N
b) Do you enjoy abstract math concepts like factoring and simplifying radicals?	Y	N
c) Do you find math concepts difficult and uninteresting if there is not a specific application attached?	Y	N
d) Do you enjoy doing challenge problems (like those on math contests)?	Y	N
e) Do you prefer writing over doing math?	Y	N
f) Do you prefer to solve math problems related to art, money, and logic problems instead of those related to engineering or science?	Y	N
g) Do you tend to learn math concepts quickly?	Y	N
h) Is a post-secondary science/math/engineering/commerce program a realistic goal for you?	Y	N

If you answered YES to a, c, e, and f then consider registering for **Foundations of Math 11**
If you answered YES to b, d, g, and h then consider registering for **Pre-Calculus 11**