WHICH CALCULUS IS BEST FOR YOU?

If your degree requires Calculus (other than Business Calculus) you may have a choice of Calculus tracks. The Department of Mathematics offers two Calculus tracks for science, social science, and engineering majors: 3 SEMESTER or 4 SEMESTER. You can choose the track that works best for you.

**3 SEMESTER TRACK (3x4 CREDIT HRS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMESTER 1</th>
<th>SEMESTER 2</th>
<th>SEMESTER 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1914</td>
<td>MATH 2924</td>
<td>MATH 2934</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The topics and assignments are spaced proportionally across the courses: 3 hours per week for 4 semesters or 4 hours per week for 3 semesters.

3 SEMESTER TRACK = ~12 HOURS OF STUDY TIME / WEEK

**THE 3-SEMESTER (1914) TRACK MAY BE BEST IF:**

- You took a math course last semester.
- You got an A in MATH 1523.
- You took Calculus in high school.
- You have gotten good grades in your previous math courses.
- You can devote 8-12 hours per week outside class to the homework.
- You are organized enough to stay on top of a 4 credit course with frequent assignments.

**4 SEMESTER TRACK (4x3 CREDIT HRS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMESTER 1</th>
<th>SEMESTER 2</th>
<th>SEMESTER 3</th>
<th>SEMESTER 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1823</td>
<td>MATH 2423</td>
<td>MATH 2433</td>
<td>MATH 2443</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE 4-SEMESTER (1823) TRACK MAY BE BEST IF:

- You haven’t taken math in a year or more.
- You find math courses difficult.
- You have several other difficult courses this semester.
- You can devote 6-9 hours per week outside class to the homework.
- You got a B or C in MATH 1523 at OU.
- You did not take Calculus in high school.
- You are transferring Calculus credit, particularly from a community college (e.g. start with 2433 instead of 2934).

Note: Some students in the 4-semester track will need a summer course to stay on track for 4-year graduation. Consult your major advisor.
Although the Engineering College (and other departments) may list the 3-semester track in their degree plans, students can complete these degrees taking either the 3-semester or the 4-semester track. The same content is covered by both tracks.

Engineering students choosing the 4-semester track should meet with an Engineering advisor. Due to math prerequisites in their engineering courses, they may need a summer course to stay on track to graduate in 4 years.

We have a higher placement score cutoff for 1914 than for 1823.

Some students are surprised by the workload in the 3-semester track courses. We expect students to spend 2-3 hours outside class weekly for every credit hour of the course. This means 8-12 hours per week for the 1914 track and 6-9 hours per week for the 1823 track. A student’s other courses and time commitments may play a role in deciding which track will be best.

Only 60-70% of students that receive a B or C in Trigonometry and Pre-calculus (MATH 1523) and attempt a Calculus I course are successful. Such students may have better completion results in 1823.

Some students who struggle early in 1914 are successful if they switch over to 1823. These are often students who have good study habits but who either haven’t taken math recently or who find math difficult. The Department of Mathematics can facilitate a change to 1823, even after the first exam.

Interviews from a past semester showed that students who have the most trouble in 2934 (Calculus 3 in the 3-semester track) are students who transfer their earlier Calculus credit from other schools, particularly from community colleges. Many transfer students will be better served by starting in 2433 than in 2934.
WHICH CALCULUS IS BEST FOR STUDENTS?

INFORMATION AND DATA FOR ADVISORS

0 Although the Engineering College (and other departments) may list the 3-semester track in their degree plans, students can complete these degrees taking either the 3-Semester or the 4-Semester track. The same content is covered by both tracks.

0 Engineering students choosing the 4-semester track should meet with an Engineering advisor. Due to math prerequisites in their engineering courses, they may need a summer course to stay on track to graduate in 4 years.

0 We have a higher placement score cutoff for 1914 than for 1823.

0 Some students are surprised by the workload in the 3-semester track courses. We expect students to spend 2-3 hours outside class weekly for every credit hour of the course. This means 8-12 hours per week for the 1914 track and 6-9 hours per week for the 1823 track. A student’s other courses and time commitments may play a role in deciding which track will be best.

0 Only 60-70% of students that receive a B or C in Trigonometry and Pre-calculus (MATH 1523) and attempt a Calculus 1 course are successful. Such students may have better completion results in 1823.

0 Some students who struggle early in 1914 are successful if they switch over to 1823. These are often students who have good study habits but who either haven’t taken math recently or who find math difficult. The Department of Mathematics can facilitate a change to 1823, even after the first exam.

0 Interviews from a past semester showed that students who have the most trouble in 2934 (Calculus 3 in the 3-semester track) are students who transfer their earlier Calculus credit from other schools, particularly from community colleges. Many transfer students will be better served by starting in 2433 than in 2934.

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS