

Mathematics Placement Test for Incoming Freshmen

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the St. Xavier Community! We look forward to challenging the Class of 2023 to grow in a variety of ways. As we begin to plan for next year, the first order of academic business is to place students properly in classes that will comfortably challenge them. For mathematics, we use the HSPT along with information gathered on a test given by the Mathematics Department. **All students take the Mathematics Placement Test.** For students attempting to place beyond Algebra I we also use information provided by their current teacher.

Saturday, March 30, 2019 is Placement Test Day for incoming freshmen. The required Mathematics Placement Test and the optional World Language Placement Test will be given on this day. There will be a meeting for parents in the theater beginning at 8:00. The bookstore/spirit wear shop will be open as well.

Students should arrive at the school's main entrance no later than 7:45 AM with two #2 pencils (for math) and a pen (if taking foreign language). Calculators are not permitted. Students will be directed to an assigned classroom and parents will be directed to the theater.

The mathematics test has a required portion which all students will take and a second optional portion for students who have studied some Algebra I and would like to place beyond Algebra I into either the Advanced or Accelerated levels.

Please register for the placement test by completing the following survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Placement2019>

Schedule for Freshman Placement Test Day:

8:00 – 9:30 Mathematics Testing Part I (required for all – Arithmetic, Pre-Algebra and Critical Thinking)

9:45 – 10:45 Mathematics Testing Part II (optional portion for students who have studied some Algebra I)

11:00 – 12:00 Language Testing: (optional portion for students)

Note: Students who would like to take the World Language Test and **not** take the optional Mathematics Test will be able to begin the Language Test at 9:45 and finish around 10:45. Students will also create their St. Xavier username and password during testing breaks with the help of the IT Department.

Mathematics Testing:

Part I will consist of a 90-minute test of basic arithmetic, pre-algebra and critical thinking. Part II is an optional, 45-minute test on Algebra I for those students who wish to be considered for our accelerated or advanced programs. If a student chooses not to take Part II of the test, he will **not** be considered for the advanced/accelerated programs. Therefore, we recommend taking Part II if there is any possibility your son would be a candidate for those levels. Our Advanced/Accelerated program consists of two possibilities; the Advanced track beginning with Algebra I/Geometry or the Accelerated track beginning with Algebra II. The math course sequencing is included with this information.

If your son wishes to test into the Advanced/Accelerated programs, we will also need the enclosed recommendation form completed by his current mathematics teacher. The teacher should mail the recommendation form to the mailing address on the form by **Monday, March 25th**. The student should give the form to his current teacher with a stamped, addressed envelope in ample time for it to be returned to on time.

Mathematics Make-up Test:

The results of these examinations are crucial for proper placement of your son. We trust you will make every effort to have him at St. Xavier High School on Saturday, March 30th. If it is **absolutely impossible** for your son to attend, students should e-mail Mr. Alex Nikias at anikias@stxavier.org to register for the math make-up test. Please indicate the student's name as it appears on school records, a phone number, and if he will be taking the optional Part II mathematics test. The makeup mathematics test will be on Saturday, April 6th at 8am.

Placement Notification:

Students will be notified of their Mathematics placement by April 30th. If you have any questions regarding the placement testing, please e-mail Alex Nikias at anikias@stxavier.org.

Additional Information:

We would also like to let you know in advance that all freshmen will be required to have a TI-84 graphing calculator. Any of the TI-84 models are fine. TI-Nspires are not permitted. Free name engraving will be provided during the first week of school. If you are purchasing a new calculator, please save the packaging, as your teacher will ask for the points on the back of the packaging at the beginning of the year.

Be sure to **register for the placement test by completing the following survey:**

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We look forward to seeing everyone on March 30th.

Thanks,

Dan Lynch
Mathematics Dept. Head

Alex Nikias
Mathematics Placement Chair