WHY MATHEMATICS AT LYON?

We know that being a good mathematician is more than just having technical competence. Employers want professionals with excellent oral and written communication skills and the ability to interact effectively with people. Mathematics majors understand people not primarily from taking math and science courses: they understand people because their major is nestled within Lyon's core curriculum required of all students, no matter their majors.

Lyon's new core curriculum emphasizes civic education, challenging aspiring mathematicians to engage with issues outside of the math classroom. Our graduates often tell us that taking “all those courses in the humanities and social sciences” seemed irrelevant to their career aspirations when students but later became crucial in their lives.

WHAT STUDENTS SAY

“I would say that one of the best things about the Lyon College mathematics program is the countless number of opportunities I was given to do one-on-one research with professors and to give talks/presentations. I feel that this was incredibly helpful in making sure that I was prepared for my teaching assistant position in graduate school and probably contributed to my getting the position to begin with. I also feel like the rigor of the upper level mathematics courses assisted me in learning to think outside of the box, which was exceptionally helpful because it afforded me the opportunity to switch fields (from primarily pure mathematics to applied and computational mathematics) fairly comfortably despite a lack of experience in the field.”

— John Pope, ’14

FACULTY

Dr. Jeremy Chapman, Associate Professor of Mathematics, earned his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Missouri, where he received the Excellence In Teaching Award. He is the regional director of the Arkansas Council of Teachers of Mathematics High School Mathematics and Science Competition and the 2016 recipient of Lyon’s Lamar Williamson Prize for Faculty Excellence. He serves Lyon’s Upward Bound Math-Science Program.

Dr. Joseph Stover, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, earned his Ph.D. in applied mathematics from the University of Arizona in Tucson. He is the faculty advisor to Chi Beta Phi, an advisor to in the Year One program for first-year students, and serves Lyon’s Upward Bound Math-Science Program. He is an Exam Writer for the Arkansas Council of Teachers of Mathematics competition.

Dr. Tharanga Wijetunge, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, earned his Ph.D. in mathematics from Central Michigan University. He has served on the Diversity Committee for Foundations of Excellence and currently serves on the Institutional Assessment Committee. He also advises Lyon students, is a member of the American Mathematical Society, was recently selected as a Project NExT fellow, and serves Lyon’s Upward Bound Math-Science Program.
MTH 210 Calculus I  4 credits
MTH 220 Calculus II  4 credits
MTH 230 Calculus III  4 credits
MTH 290 Foundations of Modern Mathematics  3 credits
MTH 300 Differential Equations  3 credits
MTH 330 Linear Algebra  3 credits
MTH 420 Abstract Algebra I  3 credits
MTH 440 Advanced Calculus I  3 credits
Three mathematics electives at the 300 or 400 level 2  9 credits
CSC 140 Introduction to Programming in C  3 credits
CSC 115 Introduction to Programming in Java  3 credits

1 May be used to satisfy core requirements.
2 MTH 400 Secondary Methods in Mathematics may not be used for this requirement. PHY 240, 241, 250, 251, are recommended general electives.

Students who wish to teach secondary school mathematics must satisfy admission requirements for the Liberal Arts Teacher Education Concentration (LATEC) and complete the General Education Certification Program. Additionally, these prospective mathematics teachers must take MTH 400 Secondary Methods in Mathematics, which may be used as a general elective but not as a mathematics elective. We recommend that prospective mathematics teachers take MTH 360 and 380 as mathematics electives.