

Mathematics Bachelor of Arts 2025-2026

Nature of Work: Mathematics is one of the oldest and most basic sciences. Most important scientific discoveries about our world involve mathematics in some way. Mathematicians engage in a range of activities including educating, modeling and solving real world problems, and discovering new mathematics. Students with mathematics degrees from Walla Walla University go into a wide variety of occupations. While some go into secondary education, others find that the mathematics major is excellent preparation for professional schools such as law, medical, or veterinary school. Still others go on to graduate school in mathematics, engineering, or statistics, with eventual careers working in industry, teaching in colleges or universities, or conducting research. Some of our majors enter the workplace immediately after graduation, working in business, software development, at engineering firms or healthcare providers, or even in law enforcement.

Professional Training: Students select mathematics as a major because they enjoy studying logical systems and solving interesting problems. Mathematics majors need creativity and the ability to communicate clearly, both verbally and in writing. The B.A. degree is more general than the B.S. degree in that it includes a foreign language and a minor but requires fewer mathematics and science courses. Students planning to teach at the secondary level will need to take additional education courses as a part of their undergraduate program.

Students who wish to work in applied mathematics or statistics often go on to earn a master's degree before entering the workforce. A Ph.D. degree is ordinarily required if one wishes to go into mathematical research. Mathematical research involves creating new mathematics, improving existing mathematics, or developing new applications of mathematics for scientific or business problems. Most researchers are also college or university professors, but some work for government agencies or private industry.

Job Outlook: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), "employment of math occupations is projected to grow 29 percent from 2021 to 2031, much faster than the average for all occupations, and will add about 82,000 jobs." Mathematicians will particularly be needed for data analysis and information security analysis in business operations. (See www.bls.gov)

Earnings: In their May 2021 salary survey, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports the median annual wage for mathematicians and statisticians as \$96,280; and \$105,900 for actuaries. (See www.bls.gov)

Note: Before graduation, all students must take an exit exam.

MATH DEPARTMENT

Kretschmar Hall
(509) 527-2751

Websites

[Walla Walla University](#)
[University Bulletin](#)

[Mathematics Department](#)

Faculty

Chair
[Benjamin Jackson](#)

Advisors
[John Foster](#)
[Benjamin Jackson](#)
[Ross Magi](#)
[Stefan Sremac](#)
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Professional Organizations

[Mathematical Association of America](#)
[Society for Industrial & Applied Mathematics](#)
[Society of Actuaries](#)
[American Mathematical Society](#)

Suggested Degree Path

TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED: 192 cr. GENERAL STUDIES REQUIREMENTS: 72-81cr. [See the Undergraduate Bulletin for Details](#)

The chart below details one suggested path a student may take to complete a bachelor's degree in Math.

All B.A. degrees require a minor

Cognates are listed in *italics* and courses marked UD must be at the 300 or 400 level

Freshman Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Calculus I (MATH 171)	4
Modern Language Sequence	4
Intro to Analytical Writing (ENGL 121)	3
General Studies: P.E. Activity	1
General Electives or Minor	4
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
Calculus II (MATH 172)	4
Modern Language Sequence	4
Intro to Research Writing (ENGL 122)	3
General Studies: P.E. Activity	1
General Studies: Foundations of Faith	4
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
Intro to Linear Algebra (MATH 239)	4
Modern Language Sequence	4
<i>Computing for Insight</i> (CPTR 230)	4
General Studies: Oral Communication	4
Total	16

Sophomore Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Calculus III (MATH 273)	4
General Studies: Religion and Theology	4
General Studies: Science	4
General Electives or Minor	4
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
Discrete Mathematics (MATH 250)	4
Ordinary Differential Equations (MATH 286)	3
General Studies: History	4
General Studies: Engaging Faith	2
General Studies: Engaging the Arts	3
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
Calculus IV (MATH 274)	4
General Studies: Humanities	4
General Studies: Social Science	4
General Electives or Minor	4
Total	16

Junior Year

Fall Courses	Hours
- Real Analysis I (MATH 451)	4
General Studies: History and Philosophy	4
General Studies: Engaging faith	4
General Electives or Minor	4
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
Junior Math Seminar I (MATH 397)	0
*Mathematics Electives	4
General Studies: Engaging Society	4
General Electives or Minor	8
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
Probability and Statistics (MATH 315)	4
General Electives or Minor	12
Total	16

Senior Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Abstract Algebra I (MATH 461)	4
Senior Math Seminar I (MATH 496)	1
Gs: Exploring SDA life and thoughts	3
General Electives or Minor	8
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
Senior Math Seminar II (MATH 497)	1
*Mathematics Electives	4
General Electives or Minor	11
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
Senior Math Seminar III (MATH 498)	1
*Mathematics Elective	4
General Electives or Minor	11
Total	16

+ Offered even years only

- Offered odd years only

*Math electives must include either [MATH 452](#) or [MATH 462](#) and at least 8 upper division hours.

Individuals seeking teaching certification should contact the School of Education and Psychology. Additional mathematics courses required for teaching certification are:

- Data Analysis.....([MATH 215](#))
- Probability and Statistics ...([MATH 315](#))
- Survey of Geometries in their Historical Contexts([MATH 321](#))

Methods of Teaching Mathematics([MEDU 395](#))

Calculus IV ([MATH 274](#))

Ordinary Differential Equations ([MATH 286](#))

Office of Academic Advisement

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