

Math 100AX FAQs

- <http://math.arizona.edu/math100/math100AX>
- <http://www.facebook.com/UAMath100>

What is the purpose of Math 100AX?

The purpose of the Math 100AX and Math 100 sequence is to prepare students for a university-level math class and pass the placement exam.

Approximately one-third of the incoming class are not ready to take a university-level math class. Successful completion of Math 100AX and Math 100 provides students with the skills and placement level needed for their next math course.

If I am in Math 100AX, will I be behind a year in Math?

By starting in SAS 100AX in August, it is feasible to complete College Algebra during your freshman year. This is not guaranteed, however, and you need to work diligently to reach this goal.

How can I get into Math 100 instead of Math 100AX?

Students may only enroll in Math 100 if they have the correct placement level. If you are trying to get into Math 100 instead of Math 100AX, you should review the material on the placement exam and re-test before the semester starts. Seats in Math 100 are limited and students who re-test are not guaranteed a seat.

Also, students who are in Schedule for Success (SAS 100AX and Math 100AX) will be able to work through the Math 100 curriculum if they score high enough on their first midterm. This will allow students to finish Math 100AX as well as provide an opportunity to place out of Math 100 and move directly to their university-level math course, such as Math 105, 109C, or 112.

Can I take an Intermediate Algebra class at a community college instead?

Math 100AX is designed to address a student's individual deficiencies in math. An Intermediate Algebra class at a community college may help the student to overcome some deficiencies, but:

- The credit will not transfer to the UA as anything but elective credit.
- The student will still need to take and pass the placement exam at the UA before moving on to higher math.
- The typical classroom setting will not address the student's individual needs.

Students who complete the Math 100AX course often get into a university-level math class sooner than students who take courses at local community colleges over summer.

What do you mean, "there is not a textbook"?

ALEKS (Assessment and LEarning in Knowledge Spaces) is the student's online textbook and tutorial. This is a web-based, artificially intelligent, educational software. Through ALEKS, students practice several problems daily, and test in it regularly. Students often work more problems in two weeks of ALEKS than they do in a semester-long, standard, in-class math course.

Why was the ALEKS program selected?

ALEKS is the student's online textbook and tutorial. We chose this model because the ALEKS program is adaptive. Using this program, students create their own paths through the course content and tackle problems when they are truly ready to master them. Students do not have to work on problems they already know how to do. The regular class meetings and homework goals that are set each day allow us to monitor student progress and hold them accountable for meeting intermediate goals. These intermediate goals are set to help students be successful on their in-person, proctored exams during the semester.

How much time should students spend in ALEKS?

This varies depending on the student. In general, our students spend an average of 1-2 hours per day in ALEKS.

Why is this course online?

Math 100AX is taught in a virtual environment because we have found that we could more easily keep the student to teacher ratio at 12:1. Although this course meets in an online classroom, please note that the student is not alone in class. The teaching staff is interacting throughout the entire meeting period with the students.

Students are given a very specific, individualized, and structured program which includes: daily homework assignments that are individualized to the student's current progress and overall placement goals; required online attendance in the virtual classroom during their class meeting period where they interact with their designated teaching assistant; and regular progress assessments. With a student to teacher ratio of 12:1, we have created smaller, more individualized classrooms, which happen to be in a virtual environment.

How much of this class is online?

Students determine how much in-person contact they would like with this course.

Although the class meetings are held online, the teaching staff interacts throughout the entire meeting period with the students. Students are not alone with their work. All students are also encouraged to come to in-person office hours each week. Additionally, students are able to bring their materials to Pascal's, our coaching center in ILC 140, if they prefer having in person support during class. Students may come Pascal's and receive in-person help on the material during office hours.

When are office hours?

Office hours are a time for students to get help with course material. The office hour times are from 11:00AM to 5:00PM. Office hours take place at Pascal's in Room 140 of the Manuel Pacheco Integrated Learning Center (ILC 140).

Can students talk with the instructional staff in person?

Yes. Office staff can help students with general questions and concerns from 9:00AM to 5:00PM, Monday – Friday, at Pascal's. Students are also able to make one-on-one instructor appointments if they have concerns they would like to address in private.

What is the best way to communicate with the Math 100 instructional staff?

Students may:

- Like and message us on our Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/UAMath100>
Students will receive a response from instructional staff within 1 hour during open hours.
- Come see us in person at Pascal's in ILC 140 from 9:00AM – 5:00PM Monday - Friday.