Mathematics
+ College of Arts and Sciences

Degree(s)
+ Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in mathematics
+ Minor in mathematics
+ Minor in engineering mathematics
+ Minor in actuarial mathematics

Program Overview
Mathematics emphasizes careful reasoning, along with the analysis and solution of problems. Hence, a major or minor in mathematics will appeal to students who like to develop their skills in problem solving and analytical thinking. For this reason, mathematics is also an appropriate major for students planning careers in law or medicine.

Saint Louis University’s mathematics program combines the features of both small and large schools to create a compelling educational experience. Students can expect a student-friendly environment, with the math courses for majors small in size and taught by regular faculty (calculus classes are capped at 30 students). Faculty get to know students and give individual advice while students are individually recruited for participation in math contests and other opportunities.

Like a large school’s program, math at SLU also has enough breadth to let students tailor their upper-division math courses to their interests and goals. Students interested in pure mathematics can choose theoretical courses that provide a solid preparation for graduate school. Since SLU has a graduate program in mathematics, exceptional undergraduate students have the opportunity to take graduate courses in mathematics. Students interested in applied mathematics (or science and engineering students interested in a second major in mathematics) can focus on a wide selection of more applied courses. Students interested in secondary school teaching can select courses that fill the requirements of the major and of a teaching certificate at the same time.

About the Faculty
The department of mathematics and computer science includes faculty members who are internationally recognized researchers in mathematics or computer science. A number of faculty members have received outstanding teaching awards. Mathematics faculty are innovators in pedagogy, curricular development and classroom technology.

Curriculum
All students majoring in mathematics start with a basic core of required mathematics courses. The student then builds on this foundation with a selection of five upper-division courses from one of three options:
+ The pure option: for students intending graduate work in one of the mathematical sciences
+ The applied option: for students intending a career in a field where mathematics is applied
+ The teaching option: for students intending a career in secondary education

Five of the 10 required courses are common to all three options. Thus math majors are not forced to choose an option too early in their academic careers.

Students in the teaching track choose courses that meet the requirements for state certification in mathematics. In the applied and pure options, students receive a measure of depth by taking two year-long sequences in mathematics.

A student who completes these five common courses plus one upper-division elective may earn a minor in mathematics.

Students seeking a minor in engineering mathematics must complete four upper-division math courses beyond calculus from a list that includes subjects traditionally of importance to engineers. Students seeking a minor in actuarial mathematics complete four upper division courses beyond calculus that are important in actuarial science.

Learn More For course listings and more information about our faculty, visit math.slu.edu.
Admission Requirements

Freshman: All applications are thoroughly and carefully reviewed. Solid academic performance in college preparatory course work is a primary criterion in reviewing a freshman applicant’s file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student’s ability to meet the University’s academic requirements and to qualify the student for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be approaching graduation from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer: Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours (or 30 quarter hours) of college credit. Those having completed 24 hours or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from previously attended college(s). In reviewing a transfer applicant’s file, the office of admission holistically examines the student’s academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student’s ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University.

Internships and Careers

Our mathematics graduates have entered careers in companies or government agencies such as:
+ Compaq
+ Mastercard
+ National Imaging and Mapping Agency
+ Shell Oil

Other graduates have enrolled in graduate or professional programs in mathematics, business administration, computer science, physics, meteorology, medicine and education, among other fields.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:
+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

Contact
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Graduate Programs
For a full listing of graduate programs, visit graduate.slu.edu.

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