

## Math Discipline

**Sources: Frank Trumpy, Burgess Shriver**

Frank Trumpy began teaching at DMACC in 1972 as a physics instructor. Eventually he became the DMACC District Chair for Mathematics, Science and Engineering. Although he didn't teach math, he worked closely with several of the math instructors. When he started at DMACC, there were two full-time math instructors on the Ankeny Campus: Gary Wilcox and Jerry Wisnieski. Ted Clinkenbeard and Mel Stanard were the math instructors on the Boone Campus. Ted eventually moved to the Ankeny Campus. On the Boone Campus, Ted was replaced by John Doran. Other full-time instructors who came onboard later were Barbara Worle, Randy Smith, Thomas Wu, Chris McClure, Harry McMaken, Michelle Mosman, Mark Alberts, Terry Luloff and Bob Jansen (Ankeny Campus); Nancy Woods (Boone Campus); Tim Rial & Bob Schouten (Carroll Campus); Lois Kockler (Urban Campus).

The original course offering included Calculus, Pre-Calculus, Trigonometry, Introductory and Intermediate Algebra, Arithmetic, Finite Math, and numerous program-specific related math courses. Over the years, Differential Equations, Elementary Statistics, Pre-Algebra, Math 410 & 411 were added. Differential Equations was added to create a smoother transfer for engineering students. Elementary Statistics was added to meet demand; we didn't have a separate statistics department. Pre-Algebra was added because many students could not make the transition from Arithmetic to Introductory Algebra. MATH 410 & 411 were introduced to core up related mathematics courses in the vocational programs. Like physics, the fundamental content of mathematics courses has remained that same over time. There was always agreement on course content. However, different text books for the same course were used on different campuses.

As enrollment grew, the full-time math instructors devoted most of their work load to teaching the courses at the upper end of the curriculum. However, the demand for preparatory courses was growing even faster. Those courses were primarily covered by part-time instructors. There were many excellent, dedicated part-time math instructors. These included Carol Williams, Jeri Lee, Susan Hondred, Jim Riggs, Nina Cohn, Don Boyvey, Don Helvick, Bill Stammerman, Clark Roberts and Don Dory. They played an essential role in delivering the mathematics curriculum and we could not have functioned without them.

Initially, courses were taught in Old Bldg. #7 on the lower campus in Ankeny. In 1975, math and science moved to the upper campus, mostly in Bldg. #4 (initially called Bldg. #32).

In 2001 summative assessment of Introductory Algebra began on the Ankeny Campus. This was applied district-wide by 2003. The same technique was also applied to other mathematics courses by 2005.

Reflecting on how students had changed during his tenure, Trumpy stated, "While I never taught math, I often had conversations with those who did. Over time the most common thing I heard was that the preparation of students to handle college-level mathematics courses steadily declined. Eventually this led to adding more transitional courses to bring students to a level where they could succeed in a math

course that would satisfy our degree requirements. Because of this, there was an ongoing debate regarding mandatory placement. That is to say, requiring students whose diagnostic tests revealed serious deficiencies in their mathematics backgrounds to take remedial courses before being allowed to enroll in college-level mathematics courses. This was never implemented when I was under contract, but I am aware that some sort of placement evaluation is now in place (ALEKS). Since 2014 students must accept mandatory placement or have made at least a C- in any prerequisite course.

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Faculty teaching in November 2019 include Rebecca DeHart, Chelsy Doyle, April Garrison, David Gisch, Julie Hartzler, Chris McClure, Necole McGary, Joel Overton, Dan Petrak, Robert Reynolds, Tim Rial, May Shoomkamola, Randy Smith, Virginia Swenson, Thomas Wu, and Nancy Woods.

Math courses offered are Arithmetic, Pre-Algebra, Elementary Algebra, College Prep Math, Elementary Algebra, Math for Liberal Arts, Elementary Educators Math I and II, College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, Trigonometry, Finite Math, Statistics, Principles of Basic Statistics, Calculus for Business/Social Science, Calculus I and II and III, Differential Equations with Laplace, and Applied Math I and II.