

Math 120-Math 130 Comparison

Mathematics 120 Nature of Mathematics 3 units; 3 lecture hours	Mathematics 130 College Algebra 3 units; 3 lecture hours
General survey course across ideas and concepts of mathematics	An advanced algebra course in preparation for an applied calculus sequence.
Examples of topics include ancient numbering systems, mathematics of finance, and probability	Topics comparable to an abbreviated pre-calculus course, including exponential and logarithmic functions, combinatorics, and the Binomial Theorem
Intended to satisfy the general education mathematics requirement	Intended to prepare students for a calculus sequence
Does not serve as a prerequisite	Serves as a prerequisite for the Calculus for the Biological, Management, and Social Science sequence, Math 160-161
Both satisfy the Associate Degree general education mathematics competency requirement On the IGETC, both Math 120 and Math 130 meet the requirement in Area 2: Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning. On the CSU GE, both Math 120 and Math 130 meet the requirement in Area B4: Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning. They both also meet the transferable math required to meet minimum admissions requirements for UC and CSU.	
Both are 3-unit courses requiring about 3 hours in class and 6 hours studying each week	
Both courses have the same prerequisite, Intermediate Algebra (Math 73 or 80), or ECC Placement Test	

For more information please see the Assistant to the Dean at the Mathematical Sciences Division.