Placement and Course Selection Advice from the Mathematics Department

Welcome to Harvard.   We look forward to seeing you in our math courses.

The scores on this exam indicate placement into Math Xa, 1a, or 1b, or general eligibility for any of the following: Math 19a, 19b, 20, 21a, 21b, 23a, 25a, 55a and Applied Math 21a. It does not distinguish between any of the last group as all but Math 55a demand more or less the same level of preparation, and your choice from among them should be based on your interests.

The Mathematics Department offers an online placement re-exam for those of you who question the placement advice that you receive from the pencil-and-paper exam. The URL for the online placement exam can be found on the back of this page. The online exam also offers:

- Entrance tests to determine if you are prepared for Math 1a, 1b, or 21a
- Mastery tests to determine if you have learned the skills for Math 1b, 21a, or 21b. This is useful if you would like to take a course that lists any of these as a prerequisite
- Feedback after the tests indicating what skills you need to pass (A 'Math Warm-Up Series' is also offered during the first week of the semester to help you brush up on rusty math skills.)

Each online exam consists of 30–40 multiple-choice questions and can be taken at any time from September 13 to October 15. You can take any online exam up to three times.

A meeting entitled "Should I take Math 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, or 55?" will start at 4pm on Thursday, September 13 in Science Center Lecture Hall D. All questions concerning these courses will be answered at that meeting. Questions that arise after the meeting should be addressed to the Math Department's Head Tutor, Professor Peter Kronheimer (kronheim@math).

If your placement advice from the online exam differs from that stemming from the paper-and-pencil exam, or if you have any other questions, you should take your results to one of our placement advisors. Here is a table of walk-in hours from September 13–24.

Advisor Office, phone, email	Thu 9/13	Fri 9/14	Mon 9/17	Tues 9/18	Wed 9/19	Thu 9/20	Fri 9/21	Mon 9/24
Brett Benesh SC 422, 5-4744, benesh@math	3–5	3–5	1–3				1–3	
Tom Judson SC 429, 5-5735, judson@math	3–5	3–5		3–5				
Oliver Knill SC 434, 5-5549, knill@math		12–2		1–3				
Matthew Leingang SC 323, 5-5334, leingang@math	1–3	1–3	3–5			1–3		
Robin Gottlieb SC 430, 5-7882, gottlieb@math		10–12	9:30–11:30		10–12			2–4

For more information, visit the Math Department's freshman information website:

http://www.math.harvard.edu/freshmen

To take the online placement exam, visit

http://www.math.placement.fas.harvard.edu/

If you have any questions regarding placement, please talk with a placement advisor.

Take this flier with you as a reference for the next two weeks.