

# **SVCC**

# **Placement Guide**

**SAUK makes it possible-  
YOU make it happen!**

Testing Center: 815.835.6530  
Admissions & Records: 815.835.6273  
Academic Advising: 815.835.6534  
Business Services: 815.835.6295  
Disability Support Services: 815.835.6220

**SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

173 IL ROUTE 2 • DIXON, IL • 61021

## MULTIPLE PLACEMENT MEASURES

Sauk Valley Community College is committed to placing students in courses that correspond with their ability level to provide each student with the greatest chance of success in those classes and future course work. The key to accomplishing this goal is a multiple-measure placement structure that offers students a variety of means to demonstrate college readiness.

Students' skills are measured using the following options (each valid measure on file is looked at independently):

**1. ACT Scores;** Individual score in English and/or Individual score in Mathematics

**2. SAT Scores;** Evidence Based Reading/Writing and/or Math score.

**3. Review of College Credit;** Already earned at any accredited college or university including Sauk Valley Community College.

**4. Review of High School Transcripts;** Individual Class Grades and/or State Approved Transitional Classes.

**5. GED Score;** Reasoning Through Language Arts and/or Mathematical Reasoning.

SVCC placement test scores are used if none of the above are available or if they are not valid. Students who have valid placement measure(s) available and who want to improve their course placement, have the option of testing using the SVCC placement tests in one or more areas. The best or highest course level will be used for placement.

**6. SVCC Placement Test Scores;** Accuplacer Math and/or Accuplacer English

## UNDERSTANDING PLACEMENT

Students are strongly encouraged to first meet with an Admissions Representative or Academic Advisor to determine if placement testing is required or recommended. Placement requirements will vary depending on the courses students have completed (high school or college), individual course grades and records SVCC has on file. All available placement measures will be evaluated. The highest placement will be used.

Students must provide documentation of their ACT, SAT, GED scores, and/or college or high school transcripts if they plan to use the results to satisfy SVCC Placement Policy. Students will need to have official documentation sent to Admissions & Records. Students with earned college credits will also need to complete a "Transcript Evaluation Form" available through Admissions & Records.

English: When students choose to take their first English/ Language Arts course or a course that requires a specific English/Language Arts preparedness standard, they can enroll in the English/Language Arts course as designated by their highest valid placement option. Students must earn a passing grade of "C" or better to progress to the next level.

Math: When students choose to take their first math course, they must enroll in the math course as designated by their highest valid placement option. Students must earn a passing grade of "C" or better to progress to the next level.

**Please note: Some courses that are recommended or required based on placement results may be developmental in nature and offer no academic credit.**

## **DEVELOPMENTAL COURSEPLACEMENT**

Developmental courses do not transfer, do not count toward graduation, and do not count in grade point average calculations. The purpose of developmental courses is to build academic skills in English /language arts and/or math. Developmental courses are identified by course numbers below 100 (i.e., ELA099, MAT 070). The number of developmental courses required will vary depending on placement results.

## **RETAKE POLICY AND FEES**

Students may retake the SVCC Placement test once in the calendar year, from the first attempt with a recommended minimum of 48 hours between the first and second attempts. The highest score is used for placement. Students cannot take more than 2 tests within any 12-month period. Test scores are good for three years. Students currently enrolled in a mathematics or English course have the option of retesting in these areas, only through the registration changeperiod.

If students choose to retake the Accuplacer English and/or math placement test, they must first pay a re-test fee of \$15 per exam, at Business Services or the Testing Center prior to testing. \*

\*This fee will only be waived if it has been 3 years since the student last tested and their original scores are no longer valid.

## **TEST SCORE VALIDITY TIMEFRAME**

Test scores expire at various rates. See the table below to determine how long particular scores are valid.

<b>Test</b>	<b>Score Validity Timeframe</b>
High School Course Completion	3 Years*
College Course Completion	No expiration
ACT	3 Years
SAT	3 Years
ALEKS (Math)	2 Years
Accuplacer (English)	3 Years
Accuplacer (Math)	3 Years
G.E.D. Scores	3 Years
Transitional Math	18 Months**

\*High school coursework (including unweighted CGPA) may be used to fulfill prerequisites in mathematics if no more than three years have passed between high school graduation and college registration; if more than 3 years have passed, it is expected that students will retest.

\*\*From high school graduation to enrollment.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students will need to provide qualifying documentation to be considered for accommodated testing. Each case will be evaluated on an individual basis. Students should make an appointment with the DSO Program Director at (815)835-6220 prior to scheduling placement testing and/or enrollment.

## **GETTING STARTED WITH ACCUPLACER**

- 1. Complete an SVCC Student Information Form** and obtain your Student ID Number. Forms are available at the College and on the College website at [svcc.edu/apply](https://svcc.edu/apply) [Apply Now].
- 2. Determine Placement**

Meet with an Admissions Specialist or Academic Advisor to discuss placement testing requirements. Course placement for English and math is determined through multiple measures including: ACT scores, SAT scores, GED Scores, high school transcripts and/or college transcripts; send official transcripts to Admissions & Records. Accuplacer placement test scores are used if the above are not available, valid, or student is attempting to improve placement options.
- 3. Prepare. Get the Study App!**

Visit [studentportal.accuplacer.org](https://studentportal.accuplacer.org) to download your FREE practice app and to access sample math questions and/or sample English writing prompts.
- 4. Schedule Your Appointment**

Contact the Testing Center by calling (815)835-6530 or by emailing [testing@svcc.edu](mailto:testing@svcc.edu) to schedule an appointment.
- 5. Take the Placement Exam/s**

A valid photo ID must be presented before taking a test. No time-limit restrictions when taking Placement tests. A calculator is embedded in the Math Placement Test. No other calculators or electronic devices are allowed during testing. Score reports are generated immediately upon completion. The 1st attempt is free. One retake is allowed. If eligible, a \$15 retake fee must be paid in the Testing Center or Business Services prior to 2nd attempt.
- 6. Access Your Score Report**

Use the Accuplacer student portal to view and/or print your score report.

## ACCUPLACER MATH

The Accuplacer Math placement tests consist of 20 computer-generated, multiple choice questions. Accuplacer uses computer-adaptive technology, which means the math problems are selected based on your skill level. Your response to each question determines the difficulty level of the next question, so it is important to give each question careful consideration before selecting your answer. There are 3 possible exams of increasing difficulty:

1. Arithmetic
2. Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra and Statistics (QAS)
3. Advanced Algebra and Functions (AAF)

If you have taken a year of Algebra, you will begin with the QAS exam. Otherwise, you will begin with the Arithmetic exam. In either case, depending on results, you may move on to the next exam.

## WRITEPLACER ENGLISH

The English placement exam involves writing a 300-600-word essay in response to an opinion-based prompt. Your score is based on your ability to express, organize, support your opinions/ideas, and grammatical writing skills through your response to the writing prompt.

**Sample Writing Prompt:** *Are we free to make our own decisions or are we limited in the choices we can make?*

Visit [studentportal.accuplacer.org](http://studentportal.accuplacer.org) to get your **FREE practice app and access sample math questions and/or sample English writing prompts.**

## **WHAT TO DO AFTER YOU TAKE YOUR PLACEMENT EXAMS**

**1. Access Your Score Report**

Use the Accuplacer student portal to view and print your score report.

**2. Apply for Financial Assistance**

Students are encouraged to apply for financial aid, scholarships and/or veterans benefits as early as possible. Contact Financial Assistance at (815)835-6339 or visit [svcc.edu/finaid](http://svcc.edu/finaid).

**3. Schedule a Meeting With an Academic Advisor**

Students meet with an academic advisor to discuss career plans, review their placement options, and select classes for the upcoming semester. To schedule an appointment, call (815)835-6354 or visit [svcc.edu/appointment](http://svcc.edu/appointment).

**4. Register for Classes**

Contact Admissions & Records Staff at (815)835-6297 for enrollment assistance. Students should review the “New Student Checklist” at [svcc.edu/students/future/get-started](http://svcc.edu/students/future/get-started).

**5. Pay Tuition & Fees**

Students may pay Tuition and Fees through Business Services by check, credit card, or other payment options online at [svcc.edu/students/business-office/payment-options](http://svcc.edu/students/business-office/payment-options). For additional information, call 815-835-6267\*

\*Students granted financial aid should contact Financial Assistance at 815-835-6339 before making payments.

**6. Attend New Student Orientation**

**7. Buy Books and Supplies**

Purchase textbooks and supplies at [svcc.edu/bookstore](http://svcc.edu/bookstore) or on campus at SVCC Bookstore located on First Floor. Call (815)835-6304 for further information.



## LANGUAGE ARTS PLACEMENT

### A.C.T.

Skill Area	English Test Score	Course Placement
	19+	ENG 101
Writing	19-21	ENG 101 plus ELA 090 (recommended)
	16-18	ELA 099
	0-15	ELA 095

### S.A.T.

Skill Area	Reading/Writing Test Score	Course Placement
	480+	ENG 101
Evidence Based	480-519	ENG 101 plus ELA 090 (recommended)
Reading/Writing	420-479	ELA 099
	419 or less	ELA 095

### \*Accuplacer WritePlacer (test administrated starting 08/29/2016)

Skill Area	English Test Score	Course Placement
	5+	ENG 101
	5	ENG 101 plus ELA 090 (recommended)
Writing	3-4	ELA 099
	1-2	ELA 095

### High School CGPA (unweighted)

Skill Area	CGPA	Course Placement
Writing	3.00+	ENG 101

Other Measures: A GED Reasoning through Language Arts score of 165+

**Sauk Valley Community College**  
**Summer 2021 Course Placement Scores/Prerequisites**

*Please note: Some course(s) recommended/required as a result of placement testing may be developmental in nature and offer no academic credit. Cut off scores are subject to change.*

**Mathematics Placement**

Students are required to enroll in an initial mathematics course as designated by a valid placement score (SVCC test, ACT, SAT, GED) **OR** satisfy individual course prerequisites (high school transcripts, transitional math class).

<b>High School Prerequisite</b> Validity: (3 years Recommended)	<b>ACT Score</b> (3 years)	<b>SAT Score</b> (3 years)	<b>ALEKS</b> (2 years)	<b>HS CGPA</b> (3 Years)	<b>Transitional Math</b> (18 months)	<b>ACCUPLACER</b> (3 years) Starting 1/27/2020	<b>#GED Score</b> (3 years)	<b>Placement</b>
Advanced Math or Math 3 with grades of "C" or higher <b>** and</b> appropriate placement	26-36 & Advanced Math or Math 3 with grades of "C" or higher	600-800 & Advanced Math or Math 3 with grades of "C" or higher	76-100 & Advanced Math or Math 3 with grades of "C" or higher	N/A		AAF: 276 - 300	N/A	MAT 203
Advanced Math or Math 3 with grades of "C" or higher <b>**</b>	23-25	580	61-75	N/A		AAF: 263 - 275	N/A	MAT 220, 221, 230
(Advanced Math AND 1 year of high school geometry) or Math 3 with grades of "C" or higher <b>**</b>	23-25 and geometry*	580 and geometry*	61-75 and geometry*	N/A		AAF: 263 – 275 and geometry*	N/A	MAT 122
Algebra 2 with a grade of "C" or higher <b>** or</b> Math 3 with a grade of C or higher <b>**</b>	22	530	46-60	3.0***	QLS** STEM**	QAS: 250 - 300	165	MAT 240
(Algebra 2 with a grade of "C" or higher <b>** and</b> 1 year of high school geometry*) <b>or</b> Math 3 with a grade of C or higher <b>**</b>	22 and geometry*	530 and geometry*	46-60 and geometry*	3.0*** and geometry*	STEM**	QAS: 263 – 300 and geometry*	N/A	MAT 121
Algebra 2 with a grade of "C" or higher <b>** or</b> Math 3 with a grade of C or higher <b>**</b>	21-22	530	46-60	3.0***	QLS** STEM**	QAS: 250 - 300	165	MAT 115
(Algebra 2 with a grade of "C" or higher <b>** and</b> 1 year of high school geometry*) <b>or</b> Math 3 with a grade of C or higher <b>**</b>	21-22 and geometry*	530 and geometry*	46-60 and geometry*	3.0*** and geometry*		QAS: 250 – 300 and geometry*	165 and geometry*	MAT 110
One year of high school algebra, or Math 1 with a grade of "C" or higher <b>**</b>	18-20	500	30-45	3.0***	QLS** STEM** TECH**	QAS: 237 - 249	N/A	MAT 106
One year of high school algebra, or Math 1 with a grade of "C" or higher <b>**</b>	18-20	500	30-45	N/A		QAS: 237 - 249	N/A	MAT 076
One year of high school algebra, or Math 1 with a grade of "C" or higher <b>**</b>	18-20	500	30-45	N/A		QAS: 237 – 249 QAS: 237-262 (MAT 121)	N/A	MAT 081
N/A	13-17	330	14-29	N/A		A: 276 – 300 QAS: 216 - 236	N/A	MAT 075, 078
N/A	0-12	Below 330	0-13	N/A		A: 200 – 275	N/A	MAT 070

\*High School geometry with a C or better in both semesters or Math 3 or Math 076 with a grade of C or better

#GED Mathematical Reasoning score

\*\* C or better two/both semesters

\*\*\* UNWEIGHTED PLUS 4<sup>th</sup> year of mathematics

**ACCUPLACER MATH:**

A = Arithmetic

QAS = Quantitative, Reasoning, Algebra, and Statistics

AAF = Advanced Algebra and Functions

**Additional Notes –**

A: 200 – 235, Adult Education Recommended; 276 or higher will route to QAS;

QAS: 200 – 207, Adult Education Recommended; 276 or higher will route to AAF; 215 or lower will route to A

For advanced math placement (MAT 122, 220, 221, 230), a minimum score of 263 is required in AAF; MAT 203 requires a 276 or higher AAF

**Transitional Math**

The portability code from the high school transcript:

- STEM Pathway; Portability Code – TM001
- QLS Quantitative Literacy and Statistics Pathway; Portability Code – TM002
- TECH Pathway; Portability Code – TM003

## **SVCC Geometry Placement Test**

**7/25/2019 – 5/1/2020**

<b>SVCC Assessment</b>	<b>Placement</b>
<b>0-16</b>	<b>MAT 076</b>
<b>17-30</b>	<b>No Geometry Required</b>

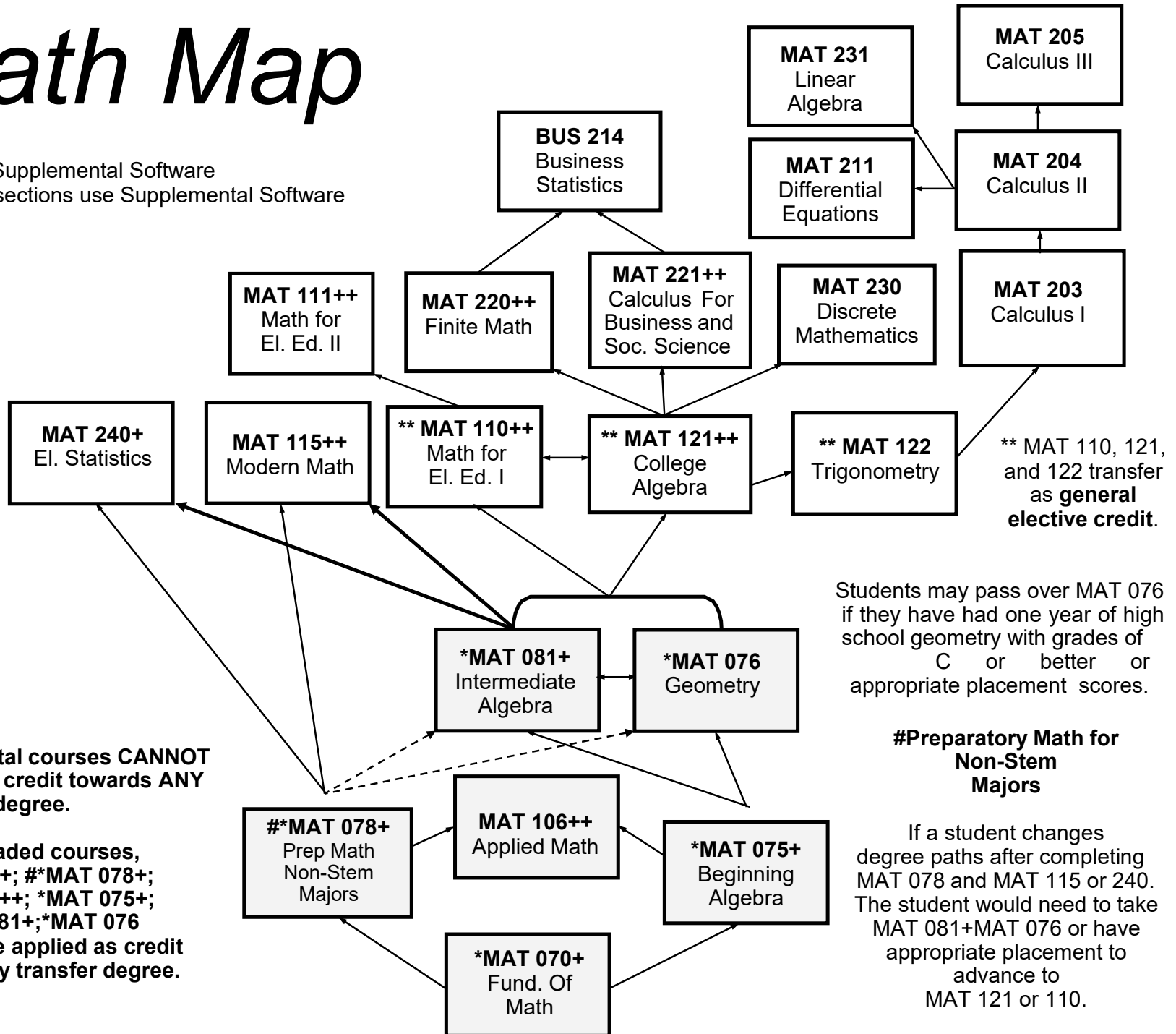
**Starting 5/4/2020 - Current**

<b>SVCC Assessment</b>	<b>Placement</b>
<b>0-7</b>	<b>MAT 076</b>
<b>8-12</b>	<b>No Geometry Required</b>

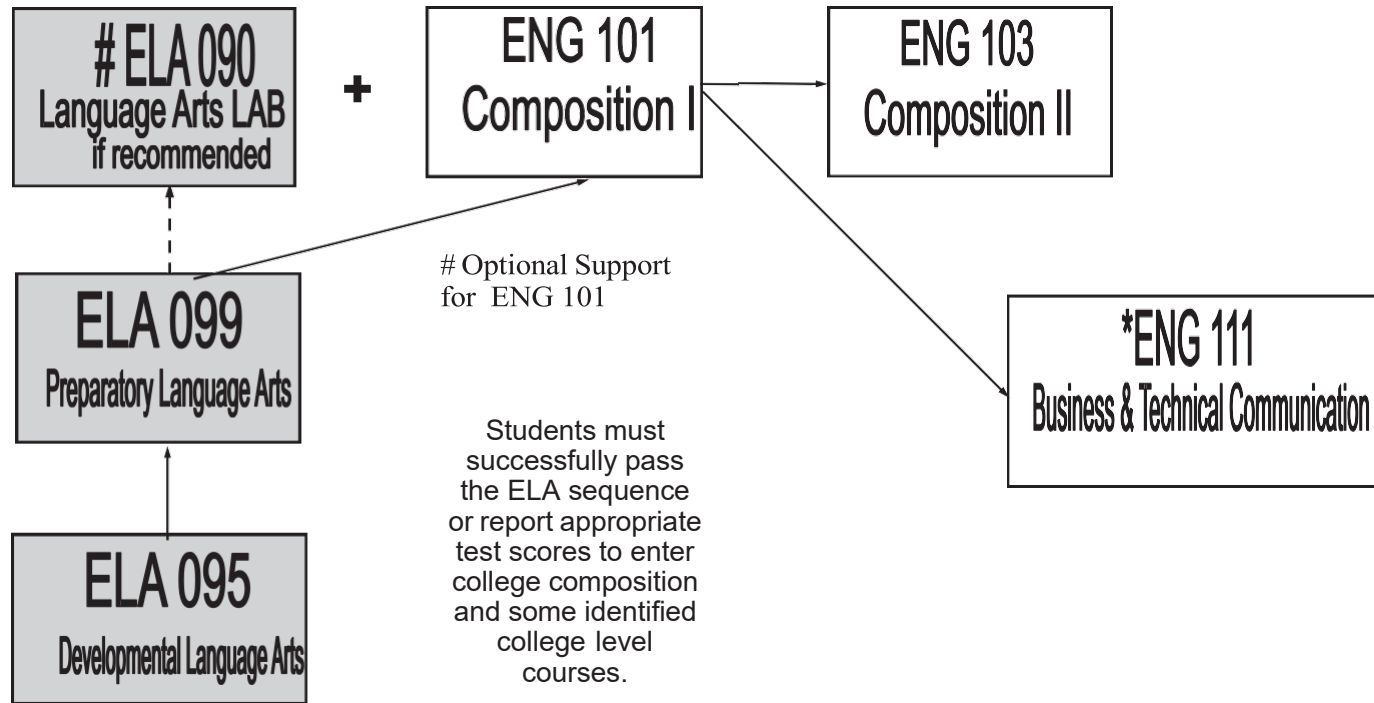
3/2021  
Geometry Update 5/6/2020

# Math Map

+ Utilizes Supplemental Software  
 ++ Select sections use Supplemental Software



# Language Arts Map



The shaded courses are developmental and **CANNOT** be applied as credit toward any associate degree.

\*ENG 111 can be used as elective credit towards a transfer degree.

Effective Summer 2021 (2021-2022 SVCC)

## **Disability**

Disability Support coordinates needed accommodations of students with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations will be made after verification is completed by the Program Director of Disability Support located in Student Services Center Room 1F21. Call (815)835-6220 or submit a student self-referral form at [svcc.edu/disability-support](http://svcc.edu/disability-support) to request services.

## **Privacy**

The college policy on student records complies with the “Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.” This Act was designed to protect the privacy of education records, to establish the rights of students to inspect and review their education records, and to provide guidelines for correction of incorrect or misleading data through formal and informal hearings. For a copy of the Act or questions concerning the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, contact the Registrar in the Student Services Center (815)835-6378.

## **Nondiscrimination Statement**

SVCC provides equal opportunity and affirmative action in education and employment for qualified persons regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, gender, marital status, disability, military status, or unfavorable discharge from military service. Complaints and inquiries related to this policy or any potential discriminatory concerns may be addressed to: Director of Human Resources, Sauk Valley Community College, 173 IL, Route 2, Dixon, IL 61021, (815)835-6291.

*Sauk Valley Community College is dedicated to teaching and scholarship while engaging the community in lifelong learning, public service, and economic development.*

3/2021

