

## Math Literacy vs. Algebra Intensive (STEM) Pathway

The Math Department offers two different pathways for students depending on their intended field of study. If you are planning to transfer to another institution, be sure and verify your transfer requirements when deciding the correct path.

<b>Math Literacy Pathway</b> (Starting with Math 87 and 88)	<b>Algebra Intensive Pathway</b> (Starting with Math 97, 98, and 99)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Best choice for students who don't need as much algebra (non-STEM majors) and need the math literacy skills that are useful in their college courses, future careers, and lives</li><li>• This shortened pathway leads to Math&amp; 107 or Math&amp; 146, which do not lead to any other math courses</li><li>• Students in this pathway may be more successful than they would be in the Algebra Intensive Pathway, but their academic/career options will be more limited</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Best choice for students who know they need algebra courses, or think they might at some point in the future (primarily STEM majors); Students who are undecided typically choose this pathway</li><li>• This pathway leads to all entry-level college math courses, including Precalculus I (Math&amp; 141)</li><li>• Students in this pathway have more academic/career options available to them, but may be less successful than they would be in the Math Literacy Pathway</li></ul>

### How does placement affect which pathway I choose?

Placement into Math 97 or above will also allow you to take Math 87. The only way into Math 88, currently, is through Math 87.

### What if I need to change pathways?

There is always a way to switch from one pathway to another but it may come at the expense of taking additional math courses, which lengthens the time to degree completion. Therefore, it is important to choose as carefully as possible now. Students who choose to change pathways after beginning their coursework will want to work closely with an academic advisor to make the transition as smooth as possible.

### “Crosswalk” between pathways

For an explanation on how to change from the Math Literacy Pathway to the Algebra Intensive (STEM) Pathway, view the “crosswalk” [flowchart](#).