

Math Emporium

A different kind of math class

You are not defined by your previous math grades or placement score. Math Emporium instructors accept you at your current math level, encourage you to work hard, and give you the tools and support to finish the class you need for your program.

How Math Emporium works

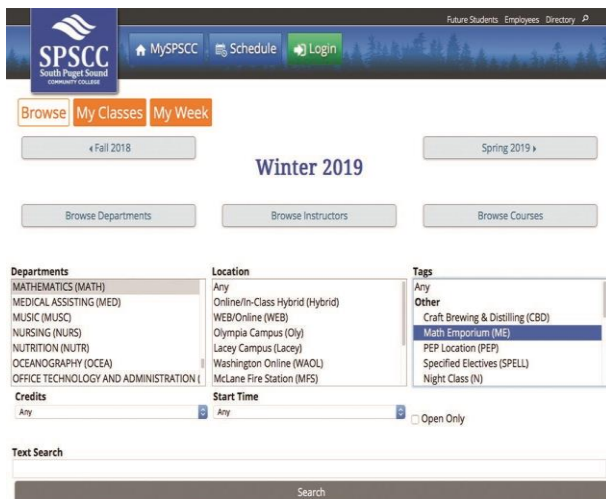
Complete more than one math class per quarter. Instructors meet with you at your current math level and provide personalized homework focused on getting through the classes you need for your program. You can move through several math levels in one quarter and receive credit for the highest level you complete. This may be all of your pre-college courses – or even college-level math classes.

Mid-quarter Advising Session

An advisor will meet with you during the quarter to make sure you complete the correct math class for your program pathway. Throughout the quarter, instructors will work closely with you to check your progress and re-evaluate your homework and math level.

How to register for Math Emporium

Register just like other classes in the mySPSCC portal. Find Math Emporium on the Class Schedule by selecting the “MATH” department and the “ME” tag on the right.



spcc.edu

The Instructor Perspective

Placement Test

Studies show that historically underserved populations end up in pre-college classes in disproportionate numbers. Once a student enters an Emporium class, no one asks them about their placement score or their supposed course. Students at all levels are treated equally, and everyone is assigned the same homework and quizzes for the first 3 weeks.

Acceleration Leads to Fewer Exit Points.

Our current sequence is math 90, 94, and 96, followed by 107 or 146. (For stem students it is 90, 94, and 97.) Students can enroll at the math 90 level and complete math 107 that same quarter.

Personalized Homework

Homework assignments are preceded by a diagnostic that personalizes the work, allowing students to complete only the content they have not mastered.

Integrated Student Services

Our educational planners have made time to come into each of our Emporium classes on the fourth week of each quarter where they meet with each student and make sure they are taking the math class best suited for their program.

High-Touch Advising

Instructors meet one-on-one with students just before advising day and make sure that they are going to be successful with their chosen course. Per our request, IR sends us a list 2 weeks after registration begins which shows all of our students and their registration status for the next quarter.

Advertising Challenges

Making sure students know what they are signing up for has been a challenge. We met with front line staff at the registration desk, our extension site, the testing center, the DEIC, the math center, and with the ed. planners to make sure they understood the class and could inform students of what to expect, but some students choose their courses based on the time of day over all else.

Next year, students will be able to choose between two Emporium classes –one that leads to math 107 and the other to math 146. We are currently addressing the challenge of listing these in such a way that we will get the correct students in the proper class.

Math Emporium

What is class like?

Math Emporium is unique because it combines instructor videos, online coursework, individual support, and group learning activities in a low-pressure environment.

Regular support and safeguards. Instructor-created videos provide you with examples and insider tips, and the online homework program has step-by-step tutorials to help you complete homework. The instructor and tutor are always available during class hours for extra help when you need it.

Make the most of class time. Kick off each week with a group activity that introduces a challenging topic. Spend the rest of class watching video lectures, completing assignments or quizzes, or working with classmates.

Learn in a low-pressure environment. Instructor videos let you watch, rewind, and re-watch lectures on your schedule. You have unlimited attempts on homework problems, letting you work until you get it right, and group activities are graded by participation only.

For more information

Carlea McAvoy: cmcavoy@spscc.edu

For free additional math support:

Visit Learning Support Services – East

Building 22, Room 110 360-596-5505

The Instructor Perspective

Flipped Classroom

All of our lecture videos are posted at our YouTube channel, Emporium Mathematics. Students are expected to learn the material from the videos and come to class to get further help. With the additional time we have, we spend class time on group activities, student mentoring, and helping students with their soft skills, such as time management.

Embedded Tutors

We have embedded tutors for each Emporium classroom. At week 4, students make their choice about what class to complete which leads to a true multi-level classroom. We offer different activities depending on the class and having an extra person in the classroom helps facilitate these activities. They also work one-on-one with students who are having difficulty with the material.

Contextualized Activities

The first day of each week, we offer a contextualized group activity designed to be completed in about 1 hour. These activities are graded based on participation only. Each group is given guidance when needed and expected to complete the activity with 100% accuracy. This is meant to kick off the math 107 topic of the week which differs every week. Students must be present to receive credit for the activity. Activities and test days are the only time that student attendance is required, but we encourage them to work with their peers to complete the math 107 work when possible. Students may attend other Emporium classes to make up a missed activity or test.

The Nudge or Opt-Out Model

Everyone is expected to work on math 107 for the first 3 weeks of class before choosing the class they want to complete. These assignments are accompanied by just-in-time remediation from the pre-college courses. We feel it is important for students to see what college-level math assignments look like before making a decision. In the fourth week, they take a practice midterm, and meet with the instructor and educational planner to decide what class is best for them.

IBEST

In the fall of 2018, we incorporated an IBEST cohort into one section of the Emporium classes. The 20 students in the IBEST section accelerated at a higher rate than the other sections overall with 80% acceleration and 35% completing college-level mathematics

Fall 2018 Emporium Data

