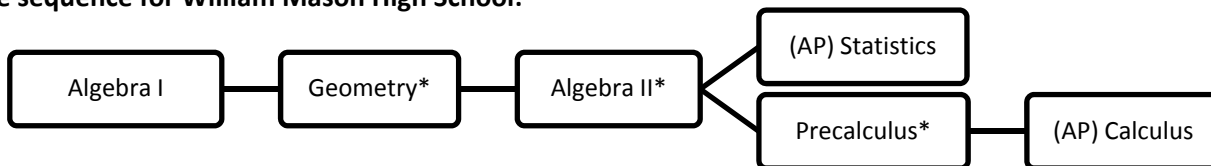


FAQ regarding Mathematics at William Mason High School

Course sequence for William Mason High School:



Why is my child recommended to take one of the “introduction” courses?

- ❖ Intro. courses (Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II) are recommended for students who are putting forth effort but are developing and need a review of prerequisite material.

What is the purpose and what are the advantages of the “continuous progress” path?

- ❖ Continuous progress is for students who want to get to Calculus, Statistics, and/or Computer Programming, but are not in honors. It is **not** for students who want to finish their mathematics requirement early. Likewise, it is **not** intended to keep students from having a trimester without math.
- ❖ Three continuous progress paths are available:

8th - 9th Grade	10th - 11th Grade	11th - 12th Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•8th: Algebra IA•9th: Algebra IB, Geometry A and B	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•10th: Geometry A and B, Algebra IIA•11th: Algebra IIB, Precalculus A and B (or Statistics A and B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•11th: Algebra II A and B, Precalculus A•12th: Precalculus B, Calculus A and B (or Statistics A and B)

Should my child take Calculus or Statistics?

- ❖ In part, this will depend on your child’s intended college major, so check with a counselor or the colleges to which you are considering applying.
- ❖ Calculus is only for those who earned at least a C in Precalculus and who have solid algebraic manipulation skills.
- ❖ Statistics is just as rigorous mathematically as Precalculus, requiring sophisticated reasoning and providing its own set of challenging material. These courses differ, however, in the complexity of symbolic manipulation required.

What is required for my child to take honors?

- ❖ For a student currently in college prep mathematics to switch to honors, a recommendation from his/her current teacher is required.
- ❖ For a student moving in to the district, a qualifying score on the placement test is required. Please check with a counselor for the date (usually in mid-August) on which the placement test will be given.

Is it possible to choose which trimester my child takes math?

- ❖ Due to the constraints of the schedule, this is not possible, and it may be necessary for your child to take their mathematics course for the year during 1st and 3rd trimesters. Likewise, it is possible that students choosing computer programming courses as electives will have both a math course and computer programming course during the same trimester and will not have a mathematics course in one of the other trimesters.