Georgia Institute of Technology

School of Mathematics
Atlanta, GA 30332-0160 U.S.A.
PHONE 404-894-2700
FAX 404-894-4409

Success in Mathematics at Georgia Tech

Mathematics is an integral part of all science and engineering. A solid mathematical foundation is essential for the successful completion of an undergraduate degree at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Success does not come from merely covering a shopping list of topics during the K-12 years. In fact, more isn't necessarily better.

AP Calculus credit is welcome, but it is not essential for success at Tech. Far more important, a solid mathematical foundation requires extensive preparation in middle and high school (including the senior year) with focus on mathematical reasoning, problem solving, and an in-depth understanding of algebra, geometry, and functions, including graphing. Incoming Tech students should be able to use mathematics in an applied context; frame the situation as a problem that can be solved using geometric and/or algebraic concepts; and interpret their answers in terms of the context.

The students who succeed at Tech are able to do quick, accurate algebraic computation. They should have experience in solving mathematical problems that require multiple steps and integration of a variety of topics. They should also be given problems of such difficulty that even the brightest students may take hours or days to solve them. This cannot occur when new topics are introduced at a rapid rate and coverage of material is the primary emphasis.

Prepared by Members of the School of
Mathematics, Georgia Tech March 2006
Rena Brakebill
Tom Morley
Enid Steinbert
Yang Wang