Mathematics

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The Department of Mathematics at the University of Denver offers MA, MS and PhD degrees in mathematics. Our graduate programs enroll about 30 students and provide a personalized, congenial and rewarding educational atmosphere where you will interact with faculty from the start. We have an extraordinarily active faculty of accomplished teachers and researchers with expertise in algebraic logic, computational geometry, dynamical systems, functional analysis, nonassociative mathematics, ordered structures, probabilistic combinatorics, quantum structures, and set theory.

The MS and MA degrees prepare students for careers in which mathematics plays a central role. The PhD is a research degree that prepares students to advance the frontiers of knowledge within a specific area of mathematics.

Our graduates are highly sought, not only for their knowledge of mathematics, but also for their ability to solve problems, to think abstractly, to see the big picture, and to articulate their ideas with clarity and precision. Our graduates have been successful in a remarkably diverse collection of careers, including industry, business, education and academia.

Master of arts in mathematics, master of science in mathematics, doctor of philosophy in mathematics

Following are the simple steps to apply for graduate study in Mathematics at the University of Denver. If you have any questions about the process, please contact the Office of Graduate Studies or the graduate coordinator at the Department of Mathematics.

Apply Online / Application Deadlines

- Applications for graduate study at the University of Denver must be submitted online.
- All online materials must be received, and all supplemental materials including transcripts must be on file in the Office of Graduate Studies, by the program’s stated deadline: February 15, for students interested in competing for graduate teaching assistantships (GTAs) or financial awards for the fall quarter. After the February 15 priority deadline, applications to Mathematics may be considered on a rolling basis and funding opportunities may be limited. Applications are considered for fall, winter or spring quarters.
- A $65 non-refundable application fee is required for an application to be processed. Application fee waivers are available for McNair Scholars.

Course and Degree Prerequisites and Requirements

- Applicants must earn and submit proof of earning the equivalent of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution prior to beginning graduate coursework at DU. Degree candidates must have a BS or BA in mathematics or a related field.

Transcripts

- Applicants are required to submit an official transcript from each post-secondary institution they have attended, or are presently attending, where two quarter hours (or one semester hour) or more were completed, including study abroad and college coursework completed in high school.
- The applicant is responsible for obtaining all transcripts. Applicants who have earned a degree outside the U.S. must submit transcripts accompanied by certified English translations, if not normally issued in English. DU students and alumni do not need to provide DU transcripts.
- Official study abroad transcripts are required unless the course titles, grades and credit earned abroad appear on another transcript. Transcripts from outside of the U.S. are evaluated by the Office of International Student Admission. This process can take three to four weeks and must be complete by the program’s stated deadline. Therefore, applicants with a degree from outside of the U.S. are encouraged to apply early. Applicants educated outside the U.S. are encouraged to contact the Office of Graduate Studies for assistance regarding transcript-related materials.
- The University of Denver will consider electronic transcripts official from a domestic institution provided by the following approved agencies: Army/ American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS); Docufide/Parchment; National Student Clearinghouse; Naviance; Royall and Company; and, Scrip-Safe.
- Mail official transcripts to
  University of Denver
  Office of Graduate Studies
  Mary Reed Building, Room 5
  2199 S. University Blvd.
  Denver, CO 80208-4802
- Electronic transcripts should be sent to gradinfo@du.edu
**Language Proficiency**

- Official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) are required of all graduate applicants, regardless of citizenship status, whose native language is not English or who have been educated in countries where English is not the native language. Applications will not be processed until the required TOEFL or IELTS score is received. The TOEFL and IELTS scores are valid for two years from the test date. The minimum TOEFL score accepted by the University is 80 (iBT) or 550 (paper-based). The institution code for the University of Denver is 4842. The minimum IELTS score accepted by the University is 6.0. Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) must demonstrate fluency in spoken English by scoring a 26 on the TOEFL speaking section or 8.0 on the IELTS speaking section. Please see the Graduate Policy Manual for complete English language proficiency requirements.

- Applicants may be exempted from English proficiency test requirements if by the time of matriculation they have earned a post-secondary degree from a formally-recognized/accredited university where the language of instruction and examination is English. Such applicants may be exempt from the TOEFL/IELTS requirement but not from other standardized graduate entrance examinations. There are no exemptions for graduate teaching assistants.

- Students whose native language is not English and who are required to submit TOEFL/IELTS scores will be assessed by the University of Denver English Language Center (ELC) prior to matriculation.

**Test Scores**

- The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required. Scores must be received directly from the appropriate testing agency. Students interested in graduate teaching assistantships (GTAs) or financial awards for the fall quarter must make sure that scores are received by the priority deadline, February 15. The institution code for the University of Denver is 4842.

**Personal Statement**

- A personal statement of at least 300 words is required. The statement should include information concerning your life, education, practical experience, special interests and specific purpose in applying to the University of Denver’s Department of Mathematics. The statement should be submitted via upload through the online application process.

**Recommendation Letters**

- Three letters of recommendation are required. Letters should be solicited and uploaded by recommenders through the online application system. Students interested in competing for graduate teaching assistantships (GTAs) or financial awards for the fall quarter must make sure that all letters of recommendation are received by the priority deadline, February 15.

**Financial Support**

- To be considered for federal financial support, domestic applicants should apply early and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the priority deadline, February 15. Information about financial aid can be found on the Office of Financial Aid website. International students are not eligible for federal financial aid.

- Graduate teaching assistantships provide a full tuition waiver, health benefits, and a stipend of $20,000 (PhD students, 2013-14), $17,300 (MS students, 2013-14) for the nine-month year. The assistantships are renewable. These positions are merit-based and are awarded on a competitive basis.

- Dean’s graduate student scholarships provide half-time tuition waiver to graduate students who are not funded by graduate teaching assistantships. The scholarship is renewable for an additional year (masters students) or two additional years (doctoral students). These positions are merit-based and are awarded on a competitive basis.

**Application Status**

- We encourage you to be actively engaged in the admission process. You can check your application status online at PioneerWeb. Applicants will receive login information post application submission.

**Contact Information**

- Mail official transcripts and any supplemental admission materials not submitted with the online application to:
  
  University of Denver  
  Office of Graduate Studies  
  Mary Reed Building, Room 5  
  2199 S. University Blvd.  
  Denver, CO 80208-4802

- Electronic transcripts should be sent to gradinfo@du.edu.

- For more information call (303) 871-2706

**International Applicants**

- For complete international applicant information, please visit the Office of Graduate Studies International Student Application Information. International applicants are strongly encouraged to have their applications complete, with all materials on file in the admission office, at least eight weeks prior to the program’s application deadline.
Master of Arts in Mathematics

Degree Requirements

Coursework Requirements
Every student’s course of study must be approved in consultation with a designated departmental advisor.

| Approved MATH 4XXX courses (minimum 12 credits) |  |
| Additional graduate-level MATH courses |  |
| **Total Credits** | **45** |

**Minimum credits required for degree: 45**

This degree requires completion of 45 credits of graduate-level MATH courses, including at least 12 credits of approved MATH courses at the 4000 level.

At most 10 credits from another university may count toward the degree, and such credits must be approved in writing by an advisor from the Mathematics faculty.

No thesis is required.

Master of Science in Mathematics

Degree Requirements

Coursework Requirements
Every student’s course of study must be approved in consultation with a designated departmental advisor.

| Approved MATH 4XXX courses (minimum 12 credits) |  |
| Approved cognate area (up to 15 credits) |  |
| Additional graduate-level MATH courses |  |
| **Total Credits** | **45** |

**Minimum credits required for degree: 45**

This degree requires completion of 45 credits of graduate-level MATH courses, including at least 12 credits of approved MATH courses at the 4000 level.

Up to 15 credits may be in an approved cognate area. At most 10 credits from another university may count toward the degree, and such credits must be approved in writing by an advisor from the Mathematics faculty.

Non-coursework Requirements

• Tool requirement- Demonstrated competency in a tool is required and may be chosen from among the following: proficiency in the use of a modern computing typesetting system; approved outside courses; laboratory experience; or reading competency in French, German or Russian.

No thesis is required.

Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics

This degree requires completion of at least 135 graduate-level credits beyond the BA or BS degree; passing of preliminary examinations; completion of a tool requirement; and completion of a written dissertation.

Although a master’s degree is not a prerequisite for acceptance into the PhD program, each student is required to obtain a master’s degree in mathematics before completing 80 credits in the PhD program.

Degree Requirements

Course Requirements
Every student’s course of study must be approved in consultation with a designated departmental advisor.

| MATH 4XXX courses (minimum of 36 credits) |  |
| Additional Coursework (Chosen in consultation with the student's academic advisor.) |  |

Up to 35 credits may be taken in other relevant disciplines, as approved by the mathematics department graduate committee.
Minimum credits required for degree: 135

Non-coursework Requirements

- Preliminary Examinations
  
  Every student admitted to the PhD program is expected to pass a written preliminary examination in analysis and a written preliminary examination in algebra. Both preliminary examinations are designed to test whether students in the PhD program have the adequate undergraduate preparation to continue in the program with a reasonable chance of success.

  Both examinations are offered twice per year: during the week immediately preceding the first week of the fall quarter, and during the first week of the winter quarter. A student must pass both exams by no later than the end of the winter quarter of his/her second year in the program unless the graduate committee grants an extension of this deadline for exceptional and documented reasons.

- Tool Requirement
  
  It is strongly recommended that students satisfy their tool requirement by demonstrating the ability to use a modern computer typesetting system. Other options include: reading competency in two languages selected from French, German and Russian; a series of outside courses in another discipline; a significant laboratory experience involving mathematics.

- Dissertation
  
  The dissertation must make a significant contribution to the research literature in mathematics.

  After the dissertation has been completed, the student must defend it in a final examination, as specified by the Office of Graduate Studies.

Courses

MATH 3000 The Real World Seminar (1 Credit)
Lectures by alumni and others on surviving culture shock when leaving the University and entering the job world. Open to all students regardless of major. Cross listed with COMP 3000.

MATH 3010 History of Mathematics (4 Credits)
This course surveys major mathematical developments beginning with ancient Egyptians and Greeks and tracing the development through Hindu-Indian mathematics, Arabic mathematics, and European mathematics up to the 18th century. Prerequisite: MATH 1953 or MATH 1963.

MATH 3040 Lattices and Order (4 Credits)
Ordered sets, lattices as relational and as algebraic structures, ideals and filters, complete lattices, distributive and modular lattices, Boolean algebras, duality for finite distributive lattices. Prerequisite: MATH 2200.

MATH 3050 Set Theory (4 Credits)
Zermelo-Fraenkel axioms, axiom of choice, Zorn's Lemma, ordinals, cardinals, cardinal arithmetic. Prerequisite: MATH 2200.

MATH 3060 Mathematical Logic (4 Credits)
Classical propositional calculus (deductive systems and truth-table semantics), first-order logic (axiomatization and completeness), elements of recursion theory, introduction to nonclassical logics. Prerequisite: MATH 2200.

MATH 3090 Mathematical Probability (4 Credits)
Limit theorems for independent random variables, multivariate distributions, generating functions. Prerequisites: MATH 2080 and MATH 3080.

MATH 3151 Advanced Linear Algebra (4 Credits)
Vector spaces, linear mappings, matrices, inner product spaces, eigenvalues and eigenvectors. Prerequisite: MATH 2060 and MATH 2200.

MATH 3161 Introduction to Real Analysis (4 Credits)
A theoretical introduction to the structure of real numbers, to convergence of sequences and series, and to the topology of the real line, including limits and continuity. Prerequisites: MATH 2080 and MATH 2200.

MATH 3162 Introduction to Real Analysis II (4 Credits)
A rigorous introduction to the analysis of functions of a real variable, including differentiation, Riemann integration, and the notions of pointwise and uniform convergence for sequences of functions. Prerequisite: MATH 3161.

MATH 3166 Group Theory (4 Credits)
Groups and homomorphisms, isomorphism theorems, symmetric groups and G-sets, the Sylow theorems, normal series, fundamental theorem of finitely generated abelian groups. Cross listed with MATH 4166. Prerequisite: MATH 3170.

MATH 3170 Introduction to Abstract Algebra (4 Credits)
Examples of groups, permutations, subgroups, cosets, Lagrange theorem, normal subgroups, factor groups, homomorphisms, isomorphisms, rings, integral domains, quaternions, rings of polynomials, Euclid algorithm, ideals, factor rings, maximal ideals, principal ideals, fields, construction of finite fields. Prerequisite: MATH 2060 and MATH 2200.
MATH 3260 Metric Spaces (4 Credits)
Metric spaces and continuous functions; completeness and compactness; examples including norm spaces; pointwise and uniform convergence; Baire Category Theorem. Cross listed with MATH 4260. Prerequisite: MATH 3161 or equivalent.

MATH 3311 Linear Programming (4 Credits)
Linear optimization models, simplex algorithm, sensitivity analysis and duality, network models, dynamic programming, applications to physical, social and management sciences. Prerequisite: MATH 2060.

MATH 3312 Markov Chains (4 Credits)
Discrete-time and continuous Markov Chains, ergodic theorems, random processes, elementary queueing theory, applications. Prerequisite: MATH 2060 and MATH 3080.

MATH 3400 Introduction to Geometry (4 Credits)
Specific geometrical systems including finite, Euclidean, non-Euclidean and projective geometries. Prerequisite: MATH 2200.

MATH 3451 Chaos, Dynamics & Fractals (4 Credits)
Introduction to one-dimensional dynamical systems, fractals; fixed and periodic points; sources and sinks; period doubling and tangent node bifurcations; chaotic dynamical systems; Sarkovskii's Theorem. Prerequisite: MATH 3161.

MATH 3550 Introduction to Theory of Numbers (4 Credits)
Concepts of nonanalytic number theory and its history; prime numbers, divisibility, continued fractions, modular arithmetic, Diophantine equations and unsolved conjectures. Prerequisites: MATH 2200.

MATH 3651 Ordinary Differential Equations (4 Credits)
Modeling of phenomena by ordinary differential equations; techniques of analysis and solution of such equations; oscillation theory and boundary value problems, power series methods, special functions, Laplace transforms and difference equations. Prerequisites: MATH 2060 and MATH 2070.

MATH 3661 Partial Differential Equations (4 Credits)
First and second order linear equations, Fourier series, the wave equation, the Cauchy problem, the heat equation, maximum principles, Laplace's equation, Green's functions. Prerequisites: MATH 2070 and MATH 2080.

MATH 3701 Combinatorics (4 Credits)
The principle of inclusion and exclusion, elementary counting techniques, systems of distinct representatives, partitions, recursion and generating functions, Latin squares, designs and projective planes. Prerequisite: MATH 2200.

MATH 3705 Topics in Mathematics (4 Credits)
Varying selected advanced topics in mathematics, depending on student demand and instructor interest.

MATH 3710 Graph Theory (4 Credits)
Paths, cycles, trees, Euler tours and Hamilton cycles, bipartite graphs, matchings, basic connectivity theorems, planar graphs, Kuratowski's theorem, chromatic number, n-color theorems, introduction to Ramsey theory. Prerequisite: MATH 2200.

MATH 3720 Coding Theory (4 Credits)
Goals of coding theory and information theory, instantaneous and Huffman codes, Shannon theorems, block and linear codes, generating and parity-check matrices, Hamming codes, perfect codes, binary Golay code, Reed-Muller codes, cyclic codes, BCH codes, Reed-Solomon codes, ideas of convolutional and turbo codes. Prerequisite: MATH 3170.

MATH 3851 Functions Complex Variable (4 Credits)
Complex numbers, analytic functions, complex integration, series expansions, residue theory, conformal maps, advanced topics and applications. Prerequisites: MATH 2060 and MATH 2080 and MATH 2200.

MATH 3991 Independent Study (1-10 Credits)
Cannot be arranged for any course that appears in regular course schedule for that particular year.

MATH 3992 Directed Study (1-10 Credits)

MATH 4050 Combinatorial Set Theory (4 Credits)
Beginning with a quick review of ZFC, the standard axioms of set theory, the course covers advanced ordinal and cardinal arithmetic and infinitary combinatorics, including Ramsey theory. Additional axioms such as the Continuum Hypothesis, Martin's Axiom, and combinatorial principles such as Diamond and their consequences for mathematics are studied. Prerequisite: MATH 3050.

MATH 4060 Descriptive Set Theory (4 Credits)
Descriptive Set Theory is one of the main branches of modern set theory. Set theory provides techniques for the precise study of real analysis. This course covers trees as tools for analyzing sets of real numbers, Polish spaces, the Borel hierarchy, Baire-measurability, extensions of continuous functions, separation theorems, and more. Prerequisite: MATH 3050.

MATH 4070 Proof Theory (4 Credits)
Hilbert-style systems, Natural deduction, (simply typed) lambda calculus, combinatory logic, the Curry-Howard correspondence, normalization, cartesian closed categories, Sequent calculi, cut elimination and applications, structural rules; logical systems: classical, intuitionistic, relevance, linear; algebraic semantics. Recommended prerequisite: MATH 2200.
MATH 4080 Algebraic Logic (4 Credits)
Elements of universal algebra, lattice theory and first-order logic; elements of abstract algebraic logic (deductive systems, algebraization, deduction filters, deduction theorems, matrix semantics); sequent calculi for substructural logics, residuated lattices, structure theory for congruences and deductive filters; subvariety lattices (atomic varieties, axiomatizations of joins, translations); algebraic cut elimination; (un)decidability and finite model property. Prerequisites: MATH 3170 and either MATH 3040 or MATH 3060.

MATH 4110 Topology (4 Credits)
Point set topology including topological spaces, connectedness, compactness and separate axioms; preparation for advanced courses in analysis. Cross listed with MATH 3110.

MATH 4120 Algebraic Topology (4 Credits)
Fundamental groups, simplicial homology, Euler characteristic classification of surfaces, manifolds. Prerequisites: MATH 3170 and MATH 3110/4110.

MATH 4162 Rings and Modules (4 Credits)
Ideals, left and right R-modules, simple modules, totally decomposable modules, Wedderburn-Artin theorems, Artinian and Noetherian rings and modules, Hopkins theorem, Hilbert basis theorem, free modules, projective and injective modules, Kaplanski theorem. Prerequisites: MATH 3176 or MATH 4176.

MATH 4163 Universal Algebra (4 Credits)
Universal algebras, congruences, lattices, distributive lattices, modular lattices, Boolean algebras, subdirectly irreducible algebras, Mal’cev theorems, varieties, Birkhoff theorem. Prerequisites: MATH 3170 and either MATH 3040 or MATH 3060.

MATH 4164 Galois Theory (4 Credits)
The fundamental theorem of algebra, field extensions, ruler and compass constructions, normal and separable extensions, field automorphisms, Galois correspondence, solvability and simplicity, calculating Galois groups. Prerequisite: MATH 3176/MATH 4176 and MATH 3166/MATH 4166.

MATH 4165 Introduction to Real Analysis II (4 Credits)
A rigorous introduction to the analysis of functions of a real variable, including differentiation, Riemann integration, and the notions of pointwise and uniform convergence for sequences of functions. Prerequisites: MATH 3161.

MATH 4166 Group Theory (4 Credits)
Groups and homomorphisms, isomorphism theorems, symmetric groups and G-sets, the Sylow theorems, normal series, fundamental theorem of finitely generated abelian groups. Cross listed with MATH 3166. Prerequisite: MATH 3170.

MATH 4168 Lie Groups and Lie Algebras (4 Credits)
Lie groups and Lie algebras, fundamental theorems of Lie, general structure theory; compact, nilpotent, solvable, semisimple Lie groups; classification of semisimple Lie algebras; representation theory of compact and semisimple Lie algebras and Lie groups. Additional topics as time permits: universal enveloping algebras, symmetric spaces. Prerequisites: MATH 3161 and MATH 3170.

MATH 4176 Rings and Fields (4 Credits)
Rings, domains, fields; ideals, quotient rings, polynomials; PIDs, UFDs, Euclidean domains; maximal and prime ideals, chain conditions; extensions of fields, splitting fields, algebraic and transcendental extensions; brief introduction to Galois theory. Cross listed with MATH 3176. Prerequisite: MATH 3170 or equivalent.

MATH 4181 Loop Theory (4 Credits)
Quasigroups, loops, latin squares, 3-nets, isotopy, multiplication groups, inner mapping groups, nuclei, commutant, center, associator subloop, inverse properties, power-associative loops, Bruck loops, Bol loops, Moufang loops, octonions. Prerequisites: MATH 3166 or MATH 4166.

MATH 4260 Metric Spaces (4 Credits)
Metric spaces and continuous functions; completeness and compactness; examples including norm spaces; pointwise and uniform convergence; Baire Category Theorem. Cross listed with MATH 3260. Prerequisite: MATH 3161 or equivalent.

MATH 4262 Hilbert Spaces (4 Credits)
Metric spaces and continuous functions; completeness and compactness; examples including norm spaces; pointwise and uniform convergence; Baire Category Theorem. Cross listed with MATH 3260. Prerequisite: MATH 3161 or equivalent.

MATH 4270 Differential Geometry (4 Credits)
Planar and spatial curves, global properties of curves, surfaces in three dimensions, the first fundamental form, curvature of surfaces, Gaussian curvatures, geodesics, Theorema Egregium, hyperbolic geometry. Prerequisites: MATH 3170 and either MATH 3110/4110 or MATH 3260/4260.
MATH 4501 Functional Analysis (4 Credits)
Advanced topics in structure of linear spaces; Banach spaces; Hahn-Banach Theorem and Duality; Uniform Boundedness Theorem; Open Mapping and Closed Graph Theorems; Stone-Weierstrass Theorem; Topics in Hilbert Spaces. Prerequisite: MATH 4280.

MATH 4700 Special Topics in Mathematics (1-4 Credits)

MATH 4701 Combinatorial Algorithms (4 Credits)
Basic enumeration techniques; representations of combinatorial objects; algorithms for searching, sorting, generating combinatorial objects, graph algorithms. Prerequisites: MATH 3701 or MATH 3710.

MATH 4705 Special Topics Applied Math (1-5 Credits)
Varying selected advanced topics in mathematics, depending on student demand. Possible alternatives include of variations, partial differential equations, algebraic topology, differential manifolds, special functions.

MATH 4991 Independent Study (1-10 Credits)
Cannot be arranged for any course that appears in course schedule for that particular year.

MATH 4992 Directed Study (1-10 Credits)

MATH 4995 Independent Research (1-10 Credits)
Research projects undertaken in conjunction with a faculty member.

MATH 5000 Doctoral Seminar (3 Credits)
Techniques, methods used in mathematical, computing research. Includes proofs, bibliographic searching, writing styles, what constitutes an acceptable dissertation.

MATH 5991 Independent Study (1-10 Credits)
Cannot be arranged for any course that appears in the regular course schedule for that particular year.

MATH 5995 Independent Research (1-10 Credits)
Research leading to a dissertation.