

## General Education Mathematics

*Belmont's General Education program is an invitation to make yourself at home in other worlds - the worlds of history, art, religion, literature, science, or mathematics - worlds you might not otherwise experience. The goal of the BELL Core is to foster appreciation and respect, attitudes which are precursors to understanding and knowledge. With these attitudes you can begin a life-long journey of learning. The experience of making yourself at home in other worlds will serve you for a lifetime!*

*The mathematics courses offered in the BELL Core are different from most mathematics courses students have experienced. These courses will help you appreciate, respect, and understand the nature and practice of mathematics as an art, as a way of seeing the world, and as a way of uncovering mystery. Each of the following courses will help you comprehend the impact mathematics has made and continues to make on life in the 21st century, and each is an invitation to make yourself at home in the world of mathematics.*

**MTH 1020, Basic Concepts of Mathematics:** This course is probably unlike any mathematics course you have ever taken. You will learn important concepts from mathematics that are rarely highlighted but often used in making good decisions. You will develop your problem solving and logical thinking skills. Success in the course does not depend on algebra skills, and the course has no mathematical prerequisites. Although “basic” is part of the course title, you will need to prepare for every class meeting and to put forth significant effort.

**CSC 1020, Introduction to Computer Science:** This course introduces you to the discipline of Computer Science through readings and programming tasks. You will study concepts developed from mathematical reasoning and apply them to problems on the computer. You will see some exciting algorithms and applications and gain an understanding of what makes programming interesting. There is no prerequisite to this course except some mathematical aptitude. If you can already program, you need not enroll.

**MTH 1050, Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I:** This course prepares potential elementary educators to teach mathematics. You will learn about important mathematical concepts and various strategies for explaining them well. Come to this course expecting to learn, discuss, and share ideas on mathematical concepts, operations, and problem solving strategies that will provide you with the necessary tools for being an effective mathematics teacher.

**MTH 1080, Mathematical Inquiry:** This course is an invitation to explore and appreciate some of the unique aspects of mathematics. You will improve your ability to reason logically and to solve problems while exploring current and ancient puzzles and paradoxes. You will investigate numbers, patterns, infinity, uncertainty, and the people, nature, and impact of mathematics. Emphasis will be on hands-on personal and small group exploration followed by oral and written presentations of results.