

## Guide to Introductory Level Statistics at Carleton Should I take Math 115 or Math 215?

**Which course should I take if I don't need stats for my major/program** (I want it for science distribution or as an elective) **and**

1. my last math class was in high-school, and I'm anxious about (don't remember, don't like) math?  
Answer: Math 115.
2. my last math class was in high school and I did well. I am relatively comfortable with math (quantitative) reasoning? Answer: Math 115 or Math 215.
3. I took AP Stats in high school and got a 3 (or less)? Answer: Math 115 or Math 215.
4. I took Calculus I (Math 111) at Carleton College and received a B (or A)?  
Answer: Math 215.
5. I took Calculus I (Math 111) at Carleton and got a C (or less)? Answer: Math 115 or Math 215.
6. I'm majoring in English but I like math and have taken Calculus III (Math 211)? Answer: Math 215 or consider the Math 265-275 sequence.

**...if stats is required or recommended for my major/program/grad school, and**

7. I am thinking of majoring in a science? Answer: Math 215 (or Math 265-275).
8. I'm thinking of being an Economics major? Answer: Economics requires either Math 215 or the sequence Math 265-275.
9. I'm majoring in Political Science/Sociology/Anthropology? Answer: See 1-6 above.
10. I'm a studio arts major but I'm thinking of going to business school after graduation?  
Answer: Math 215.
11. I received an AP Stats score of 4 or 5? Answer: check with your major department for its policies.  
Note: students who score AP Stats 4/5 can earn credit by passing Math 245 (Applied Linear Regression) with a C- or better. See AP policy.

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In cases where a choice of Math 115 or Math 215 is given, the appropriate course will depend on the student and his/her comfort level with quantitative reasoning, working with computers and course schedule. See the course catalog for a complete description of the two courses.

**Students with a good mathematics background (through multi-variable calculus) are encouraged to consider the Probability-Introduction to Statistical Inference sequence offered Fall-Winter.**

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Chihara (x4065 lchihara), Bob Dobrow (x5633, rdobrow) or Katie St. Clair (x4193, kstclair) in the Mathematics Department.