

# The Math Emporium Model of Instruction



Policies and Procedures

# Table of Contents

- I. Overview - Definition of the Emporium Model
  
- II. The Math Emporium Lab (MEL)
  - A. Lab description and location
  - B. Lab rules
  - C. Testing Policy
  - D. Attendance Policy
  
- III. Coursework
  - A. Proceeding through the coursework
    - i. Mastery Based
    - ii. Making Progress (MP)
  
  - B. Finishing Early
  - C. Summer school procedures
  - D. Step –credit

## Overview



Definition –Developmental math courses taught at Madisonville Community College’s (MCC) North Campus have been redesigned beginning fall 2010. Students are expected to complete the class preparation material for each class before attending class. This includes reviewing the basic concepts, watching the associated video lecture, or reading the material in the textbook on the section to be completed in class. Lectures are not given in the classroom like a traditional math course. When you come to class you will be working on the homework, quizzes, pretests, or posttests. The advantage is that you will have faculty and tutors available while you are working on your homework. This method of learning math is called the *Emporium* method. The Emporium model of instruction dispenses with the traditional lecture format in favor of computer-based learning and assessment with “on-demand” individualized instruction in the classroom. It is self-paced and mastery based.

## The Math Emporium Lab (MEL)

Lab Description and Location - The emporium model is facilitated by members of the math faculty, along with a math specialist and a MEL assistant. The MEL is located on the second floor of the John H. Gray building in room 201. The lab contains ten computer stations with six computers at each station. There are also eight small cubicles with computers reserved for testing. The program that students learn from is a Pearson product called MyLabsPlus. This program contains an electronic version of the textbook used for the courses in the MEL, as well as lecture videos, homework problems, and many other utilities to assist the student. The premise behind the use of this program is to encourage students to engage in “flipped-instruction”, where students will do homework in the lab and listen to recorded video lectures at home. Other aspects of the emporium model of instruction and activities in the MEL include:

- Active, independent learning using technology
- One-on-one assistance from MEL faculty and staff
- Mastery-based instruction, where students cannot proceed to a subsequent topic until targeted areas are mastered.
- Proctored exams
- Accessibility to students in College Algebra and other higher mathematics courses.
- A “no-excuses” student-centered approach to learning, with a variety of instructional means, both on and off-line, provided by faculty and staff.

Lab Rules – In order to create an environment of mutual trust and respect for all faculty, staff, and students in the MEL, the following rules may be enforced:

1. Food is not allowed in the Math Emporium.
2. Drinks are allowed as long as they are kept in a closed, spill-proof container.
3. Facebook and other social networks are not allowed on our computers.
4. Students may only work on their math classes while in this lab.
5. Cell phones must be put on silent or vibrating mode. If needed, please answer your cell phone outside the classroom.
6. Children or friends may not come into the lab.
7. Computers are limited and reserved for the class period; students from other math classes can use computers if they are available.

Testing Policy – Students must sit at one of the computers designated for testing. Students must adhere to the following rules when testing.

1. Students should be prepared to present a picture ID when taking a test.
2. No help allowed during test.
3. Students may use a formula sheet provided for them by personnel in the MEL.
4. Students may use a 4” by 6” card with information on both sides of the card while testing.
5. Students in MAT 055-PreAlgebra may not use a calculator except for the test on Chapter 6.
6. Testing must be proctored by faculty, math specialist, or in the Disability Resource Center.
7. Cell phones may not be used for any reason while taking a test.

Attendance Policy – Attendance counts as 5% of your overall grade. If a student has 75% of his or her attendance recorded, then he or she is eligible for a grade of MP (making progress) provided that 50% of the coursework is complete. While it is possible for a student to succeed with developmental math courses without attending class, studies have shown that success is not probable with poor attendance. Therefore, in the event a student is inactive for a period of two weeks, he or she will be removed from the MyMathLab roster and will not be able to continue coursework without contacting the instructor of record. It is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the student is reinstated.

## Coursework

Proceeding through the coursework – Before the student may enroll in higher level, credit bearing courses, they must obtain the necessary placement exam (COMPASS, ACT) score to do so. If the score does not allow the student to be placed into a college level math course, then he or she must enroll in the appropriate developmental course. Depending on placement exam scores, students will enroll in one or more of the following: Prealgebra (MAT 055), Basic Algebra (MAT 065, or Intermediate Algebra (MAT 085). The student may proceed at his or her own pace. It is important, however, that the suggested course pace listed in your instructor's syllabus is followed. Falling behind will result in tremendous discouragement. Working ahead is strongly encouraged. The goal is to enroll in a credit-bearing, transferable math course that applies to a degree. It is possible for students to complete all three courses of the developmental sequence in one semester, all for the price of one course. The student must complete MAT 065 before enrolling in Applied Math (MAT 110) and MAT 085 before enrolling in College Algebra (MAT 150).

### **Mastery Based Learning**

Learning in the MEL is mastery based. This means that students must demonstrate a specified level of mastery of the content of each assignment before being permitted to advance to the next assignment. This method ensures that students are prepared to succeed as they proceed through their courses. The mastery levels for each type of assignment are as follows:

- Homework Assignments: 80%

Homework problems are designed so that students have unlimited attempts and help aids available, making it possible for every student to achieve 80% mastery.

- Quizzes: 80%

Quizzes also require 80% mastery. However, individual quiz problems cannot be repeated. Students who do NOT receive 80% on a quiz must retake the entire quiz. There is an unlimited number of quiz attempts.

- Tests: 70%:

Tests require 70% mastery before moving on to the next unit. In addition, each test is cumulative meaning it contains material from previous units. If a student fails to attain 70% on the first attempt, a customized re-take assignment is created for that student based on the results from the first attempt. The student must then achieve 80% on this retake assignment before attempting the test again. Help aids are not available on this assignment. Students are encouraged to meet with their instructor after each failed attempt to receive additional instruction.

### **The Grade of Making Progress MP**

Students must complete every unit (chapter) and unit test at the specified mastery level in order to earn a grade of A, B, or C. The grade is determined by the overall course average which can be found under GRADEBOOK in MyMathLab.

The grading scale for MEL courses is as follows:

Below 70-F

70—79 C

80-89 B

90-100 A

Students who do not complete every unit will either earn the grade of F (Failed) or MP (Making Progress). To be eligible for the grade of MP students must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- a) Student must attend 75% or more of the scheduled class sessions.
- b) Student must master at least half of the units (chapters) in the course. For MAT 55 this means passing the Chapter 3 Test. This translates to the Chapter 10 Test for MAT 65 and Chapter 13 Test for MAT 85.

Students earning the grade of MP in a course should re-enroll in the **same course** for the following fall/spring (summer optional) semester and will be allowed to retain their previous coursework and will continue working where they left off. However, students who have received a grade of F or who do NOT re-enroll the following semester will be required to start over at the beginning of the coursework. In other words, a student with an MP who does not complete the coursework in the following fall or spring semester will lose credit for their previous coursework.

**Special Note on MPs:** Students with an MP may continue working in their course on their own in the dead period between the fall and spring semesters and also over the summer break. However, these students are still required to come to the MEL for testing. Students who complete a course in the period between semesters should contact their instructor to receive credit for the course.

## Finishing Early

Students working in the emporium model can, and are encouraged to, work ahead of the suggested schedule included in the syllabus. Students who finish a course early may obtain the course ID from his or her instructor for the next course in the developmental sequence, or the student may choose to wait until the following semester to begin work in the next course. In the event that a student finishes a course before the end of the semester, the student's attendance grade will be calculated based on the percentage of classes attended before the student completed the course work. Students are not required to attend classes once they have completed the course work for the class in which they are enrolled. For example, a student who is enrolled in MAT 055 and finishes the class before midterm may choose to come to the MEL to work on MAT 065, but attendance for that student is no longer recorded as part of the calculated grade.

## Summer School Procedures

Summer classes are offered in the MEL in both the 4-week and 6-week intercessions. These courses follow the same guidelines as the MEL courses offered during the fall and spring semesters. Students may also wish to continue working over the summer on course work for which they have earned a grade of MP. Students who finish a course early and begin the next course in the developmental sequence may also use the summer to work ahead before entering the course in the fall.

# Step-Credit

Students who finish a second (or third) developmental math course in a single semester earn step-credit for the subsequent course(s) completed. Students earning step-credit are not required to pay tuition for the course(s) in which the step-credit was earned.

## Contacts

**Dr. John Lowbridge, Division Chair – Mathematics and Natural Sciences**

Office: Joe C. Davis Building, Room 108

Phone: (270) 824-1835

Email: [john.lowbridge@kctcs.edu](mailto:john.lowbridge@kctcs.edu)

**Mark Hawkins, Emporium Coordinator**

Office: Joe C. Davis Building, Room 111

Phone: (270) 824-1841

Email: [mark.hawkins@kctcs.edu](mailto:mark.hawkins@kctcs.edu)

**Katrina Florea, Instructor**

Office: Joe C. Davis Building, Room 101A

Phone: (270) 824-8568

Email: [katrina.florea@kctcs.edu](mailto:katrina.florea@kctcs.edu)

**Stacie Gary, Assistant Professor**

Office: Joe C. Davis Building, Room 110

Phone: (270) 824-1896

Email: [sgary0002@kctcs.edu](mailto:sgary0002@kctcs.edu)

**Shari Davis, Assistant Professor**

Office: Joe C. Davis Building, Room 109

Phone: (270) 824-1838

Email: [sharon.davis@kctcs.edu](mailto:sharon.davis@kctcs.edu)

**Dawn Chumley, Professor**

Office: Joe C. Davis Building, Room 102

Phone: (270) 824-1830

Email: [dawn.chumley@kctcs.edu](mailto:dawn.chumley@kctcs.edu)

**Patricia Fouse, Math Specialist**

Office: John H. Gray Building, Room 201

Email: [pfouse0001@kctcs.edu](mailto:pfouse0001@kctcs.edu)

**Dr. Roger Warren, Professor**

Office: Joe C. Davis Building, Room 134

Phone: (270) 824-1844

Email: [roger.warren@kctcs.edu](mailto:roger.warren@kctcs.edu)