Mathematics and Mathematics Education Majors
Midstream and Major Field Achievement Test Exit Exam Information

All programs at Black Hills State University are required to assess student learning as a part of determining program effectiveness. As a part of the mathematics assessment program, all Mathematics and Mathematics – Teaching majors are required to the take a midstream assessment examination and the Major Field Achievement Test (MFT) in mathematics. The primary purpose of these assessments is to improve instruction and student learning at BHSU. The results you obtain on the midstream assessment exam and on the MFT exit exam will be used to help the mathematics department improve our curriculum, improve instruction, and enhance the learning experience of future mathematics majors. The scores you obtain will be used for required program assessment and accreditation purposes only and will not affect the grades you receive in your current or future math courses. There is no minimum score required for graduation.

Midstream Exam

• Who: All Mathematics and Mathematics Education majors must complete the midstream exam during the scheduled exit exam time at the end of the first semester in which they will complete, or have completed, 3 upper division (300-400 level) mathematics courses. For most students, this will be at the end of their sophomore year.

• What: The midstream assessment exam is a multiple choice exam designed to assess your knowledge of topics typically discussed in College Algebra, Trigonometry, and Calculus I, with a few questions from each of Calculus II, Calculus III, Probability and Statistics, Linear Algebra, Discrete Mathematics, Abstract Algebra, and Ordinary Differential Equations. This exam is designed to assess your knowledge of the above topics as well as serving as a “practice” Praxis II examination.

• When: This 90 minute exam is given during the scheduled Exit Exams during finals week each semester. Specifically, the exam will be given from 9:15-10:45am on the Monday of finals week.

• Where: J168

• Why: The purpose of this exam is two-fold. It is designed to assess your knowledge of mathematics topics typically discussed during, or prior to, the first two years of a Mathematics or Mathematics - Teaching major. The exam is also designed to help Mathematics – Teaching majors prepare for the Praxis II Content examination by serving as a “practice” Praxis II examination.

• Additional Information: The best way to prepare for the exam is to review your class notes/exams for the appropriate courses. Furthermore, you can view some sample questions from the Praxis II Mathematics Content exam at www.ets.org. You may use a graphing calculator on this exam and you can also use the same formula sheet that you can use on the actual Praxis II Content Knowledge exam. This is also available at www.ets.org. You may not be able to answer every question on this exam. Just like on the actual Praxis II or any other exam, answer the ones you can and come back to the others as you have time.

Major Field Achievement Test (MFT) Exit Exam

• Who: All Mathematics and Mathematics Education majors must complete the MFT exit exam during the scheduled exit exam time of the semester in which they will graduate.

• What: Major Field Achievement Test (MFT).

• When: This exam is given during the scheduled Exit Exams during finals week each semester. Specifically, the exam will be given at 8:00 am on the Monday of finals week. The exam consists of two parts with one hour allowed for each part.

• Where: J107

• Why: The purpose MFT exit exam is to assess program effectiveness. The results are used to improve instruction and student learning as well as for accreditation purposes.

• Additional Notes: If you are a double major, you must complete the exit exam for both majors – please resolve scheduling conflicts in advance. You may not use a calculator on the MFT exit exam. You will also be asked to complete a brief exit survey. Lastly, you will have the opportunity to meet with a mathematics professor after the exit exam to discuss your experiences in the program if you desire to do so.