

NorthWest Arkansas Community College
Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education and Wellness, Legal and
Protective Services

Course Number and Title

PSYC 1021 Psychology of Math Success

Catalog Description

The goals of this course are to correct erroneous beliefs about the importance of mathematics and how to learn math, remove emotional blocks to math success, and teach specific cognitive and behavioral skills for math success.

Prerequisites

READ 0033, appropriate test score, or consent of instructor

Co-requisite: either Pre-Algebra (MATH 0013) or Beginning Algebra (MATH 0053)

Credit hours/Contact hours/Load hours

1/1/1

Target Audience/Transferability

This course is designed for student in introductory math courses.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will display correct beliefs about mathematics in contrast to common erroneous beliefs about the importance of and the learning of mathematics.
2. Students will reduce emotional blocks to math success.
3. Students will display specific cognitive and behavioral skills for math success, such as effective approaches to word problems, effective study and time management habits, and abilities in obtaining assistance from instructors and tutors.

Topics

1. **Historical/Knowledge Component.** This part of the course will address basic understanding of the teaching of and study of mathematics. This includes cultural differences in how math is appreciated and taught and the phenomenon of gender differences in mathematics achievement.

2. **Emotional Component.** This portion of the course will address the disturbingly common phenomenon of math anxiety. Also included are motivational and "attitudinal" issues.

3. **Cognitive Skills Component.** Problem solving and decision making skills particular to the types of problems found in math courses and in math applications will be addressed.

Forms of Assessment