

## Information in re Math Comprehensive Exam Graduation Requirement (FA04-SP05)

Math majors have five ways to satisfy the 'comprehensive exam' graduation requirement. They are listed below with some amplifying information.

### 1. **Graduate Record Exam (GRE) Math Subject Test**

Test dates are Nov 13, Dec 11, and Apr 2.

Registration deadlines are Oct 8, Nov 5, and Feb 25, respectively.

Students can get a plethora of information regarding the test at [www.gre.org](http://www.gre.org).

A passing score on the GRE Math Subject Test is "at or above the 20<sup>th</sup> percentile".

Cost is \$130.

### 2. **Actuarial Science Course 1 or 2 (=Exam 1 or 2)**

Fall test date for actuarial science course 1 is Nov 4. It costs \$95.

Fall test date for actuarial science course 2 is Nov 3. It costs \$140.

Registration deadline for both of these fall courses (=exams) is Sept 24.

Spring *tentative* test date for actuarial science course 1 is May 25. It costs \$95.

Spring *tentative* test date for actuarial science course 2 is May 26. It costs \$140.

Registration deadline for both of these spring courses (=exams) is April 1.

Students can get info aplenty at [www.soa.org/ccm/content/](http://www.soa.org/ccm/content/). Click on 'Education & Jobs' followed by 'Candidate & Exam Information'. A passing score, for math dept purposes, is "5 or higher" (a passing score for SOA purposes is "6 or higher").

### 3. **Math Field Test**

This test is administered locally (by TW) and hence scheduling is flexible. It's a 2 hr exam designed to measure basic knowledge, *not* as a predictor for success in grad school.

This test can be taken October-June. It must be ordered 3-4 weeks before the desired test date and it takes about 3-4 weeks to get the results back from ETS.

Cost is \$30 for test fee + S&H.

A passing score is "at or above the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile". Students can find all kinds of information about the test at [www.ets.org/hea/mft/discipline.html](http://www.ets.org/hea/mft/discipline.html).

### 4. **Teacher Certification Exam**

A student who is majoring in math with secondary teacher certification may take the "math subject-matter knowledge certification test" (Code 036) in lieu of the GRE Math Subject Test, the Actuarial Science Course 1 or 2, or the Math Field Test. A passing score on this test is a 70 (on a scale of 100). The test costs \$85 for test fee + registration fee.

Test dates → Sep 18, '04    Nov 6, '04    Jan 29, '05    Mar 12, '05    Apr 30, '05    June 5, '05

Registration deadlines → Aug 6, '04    Sep 24, '04    Dec 17, '04    Jan 28, '05    Mar 18, '05    May 3, '05

More information can be obtained from the school of education or by visiting the Illinois Certification Testing System (ICTS) web site at [www.icts.nesinc.com](http://www.icts.nesinc.com).

### 5. **Mathematics Department In-House Comprehensive Exam**

If a student does not achieve a passing score on one of the above four exams, then he/she can take the in-house comprehensive math exam. Dr. Wangler or Dr. Townsley can administer this exam.

- If a math major earns a passing score on any of the above tests that he/she is using to fulfill the math comprehensive exam graduation requirement, he/she may apply to the mathematics department for partial reimbursement of the test fee.