

DEPARTMENT OF

MATHEMATICS



Jason Rose

DEPARTMENT CHAIR
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Welcome to the BYU-Idaho Mathematics Department! Whether you are majoring in Biostatistics, Data Science, Math Education, Math Education Composite, or the Mathematical Sciences (Math/Applied Math/Applied Statistics), we are glad you are here and want to help you get the most out of your degree. Here's what to do first:

1. Send an email to mathematics@byui.edu and let us know the answers to a few questions:
 - Do you have any courses from another college or university that you will be transferring? The office that evaluates students' transcripts may not recognize some transfer courses correctly, so we want to help make sure you get credit in the right courses and don't repeat courses you've already taken.
 - What math classes did you take in high school? In particular, did you take calculus? If not, did you have the course that comes right before calculus (often called precalculus or college algebra or trigonometry)?
 - Did you take the exam for AP Stats, AP Calc AB, or AP Calc BC and get a 3 or better?

Programs offered through this Department:

- [Applied Math \(Concentration\)](#)
- [Biostatistics \(BS\)](#)
- [Data Science \(AAS\)](#)
- [Data Science \(BS\)](#)
- [Data Science \(Minor\)](#)
- [Data Science \(Certificate\)](#)
- [General Mathematics \(Cluster\)](#)
- [Mathematics \(Minor\)](#)
- [Mathematics Education \(BS\)](#)
- [Mathematics Education \(Minor\)](#)
- [Mathematics Education Composite \(BS\)](#)
- [Mathematical Sciences \(BS\)](#)
 - [Applied Mathematics](#)
 - [Applied Statistics](#)
 - [Mathematics](#)
- [Statistics \(Cluster\)](#)
- [Statistics \(Concentration\)](#)
- [Statistics \(Minor\)](#)

- Do you have any experience with programming? Have you used Python, or C and/or something else?
- What do you enjoy and what can you see yourself doing after you graduate? Are there some other majors you considered and why?

2. Once we hear back from you, we can chart a course for you that includes a plan for what to take your first semester at BYU-Idaho. By the way, if you prefer to talk rather than type, send a quick email to schedule a time and we can get together on the phone or over Zoom.

3. It is highly recommended that you have a laptop. If you are going to be buying a laptop, please get something more powerful than a Chromebook. The department uses software like Mathematica, RStudio, Python, and VSCode. Of those, Mathematica has the most intensive computing demands, so make sure you can exceed the minimum requirements for Mathematica here <https://www.wolfram.com/mathematica/system-requirements.html> and still have 100GB of disk space after that.

We're very excited to hear from you and help you get started!

The Mathematics Department

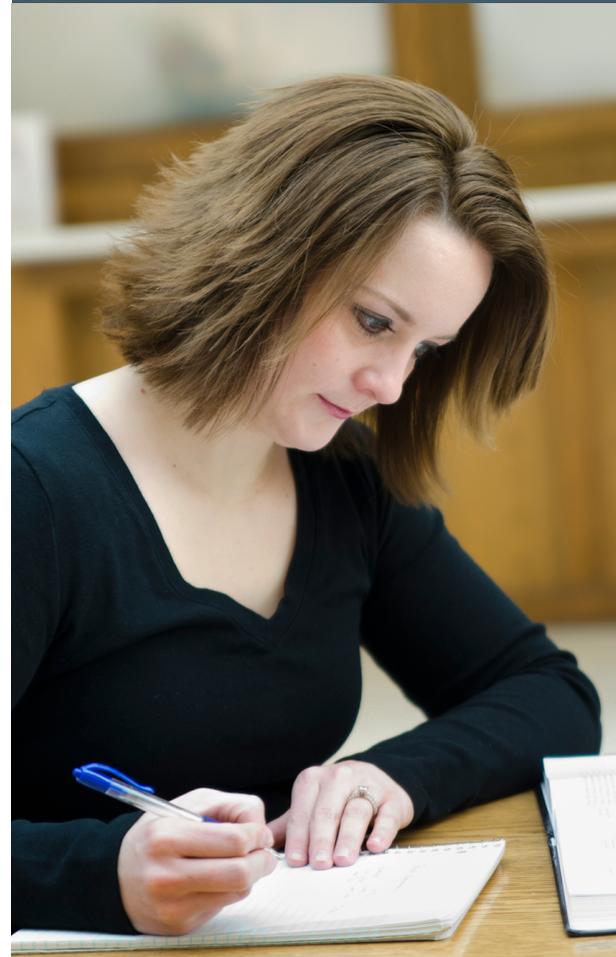
mathematics@byui.edu

+1-208-496-7544

Zoom: <http://byui.zoom.us/j/2084967544>

Some useful contacts in our department:

- Garrett Saunders, Biostatistics Program Director, saundersg@byui.edu, 208-496-7546
- J. Hathaway, Data Science Program Director, hathawayj@byui.edu, 208-496-7558
- Paul Johanson, Mathematics Education Program Director, johansonp@byui.edu, 208-496-7538
- Larry Chilton, Math/Applied Math Program Director, chiltonl@byui.edu, 208-496-7554
- Craig Johnson, Applied Statistics Program Director, johnsonc@byui.edu, 208-496-7539
- Jason Rose, Mathematics Department Chair, roseja@byui.edu, 208-496-7544



One more thing:

Often students who enjoy math have questions about career opportunities in math. Teaching is familiar to everyone, but there is a lot more. If you are interested, here are some links to check out:

- <https://www.siam.org/students-education/programs-initiatives/thinking-of-a-career-in-applied-mathematics> (The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, check out the possible job titles and read the career profiles near the end of the page.)
- <https://www.beanactuary.org/> (information about becoming an actuary, for more details, see <https://soa.org> and <https://casact.org>)
- <https://www.nsa.gov/careers/> National Security Agency
- <https://www.intelligencecareers.gov/career-fields#data-science> and <https://www.intelligencecareers.gov/career-fields#science>
- <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/> (Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook. In particular, see <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/math/actuaries.htm>, <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/math/data-scientists.htm>, <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/math/mathematicians-and-statisticians.htm>, <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/education-training-and-library/high-school-teachers.htm>)
- No matter what your major, if you want to fill in the blank spots in your resume with some real world experience, you should plan to come to the Data Science Society (<https://byuidatascience.github.io/society/>). We meet every Wednesday at 6PM in STC 394

One last thing:

It's never too soon to start thinking about your off-track semester. Fortunately, students with skills in mathematics are in demand. There are some great internship opportunities that typically pay much better than fast food and retail jobs, with the added benefit that you get to use the skills you're learning. Here are some great internship opportunities that you should think about applying for:

- Department of Defense <https://www.smartscholarship.org/smart> gives full tuition, an annual stipend, an internship every year and guaranteed employment at upon degree completion.
- National Labs - SULI <https://science.osti.gov/wdts/suli/Key-Dates> great internships and BYU-Idaho is only 25 miles from the Idaho National Laboratory. You might also be able to get an internship directly from INL <https://inl.gov/inl-initiatives/education/internships/>
- Intelligence Agencies <https://www.intelligencecareers.gov/students-and-internships> (getting a security clearance through an internship is a great way to open up more jobs and higher salaries.)



BYU-Idaho Campus Map

Mathematics courses are primarily held in the Ricks building.

