Dear Student,

Welcome to the Virginia Tech Mathematics Department! We are Jessica Hurdus and Eric Ufferman and we will be your academic advisors during your summer orientation advising session.

Meeting with new students and helping them choose an ideal first-semester schedule is our favorite part of orientation, and we regret not being able to meet you in person this summer. We look forward to getting to know you during our online Mathematics Department orientation advising session and going through the registration process with you.

In the next few weeks we will send an email with a link to a survey where you will sign up for a Mathematics Department orientation advising session. The main goals of the session are to familiarize you with the math major and the options it allows – we have four different degree options – and for you to complete your class registration for the fall semester.

**MATH COURSES**

The most important component of your fall schedule is your choice of mathematics courses. In order to place you in the correct courses, we need to know whether you are eligible to take first-semester calculus (MATH 1225). More information can be found in item C at the end of this letter.

**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE ACTION ITEMS**

The College of Science has set up an orientation website that contains a checklist of all the action items that you need to complete before your orientation advising session. More information can be found in item A at the end of this letter.

Be sure to carefully read the website and complete all items. In particular, complete the College of Science pre-orientation worksheet. You will need to submit the worksheet as part of the math orientation advising session sign-up survey.

**MATH DEPARTMENT ACTION ITEMS**

Before our orientation advising session, you should think about what courses you would like to take in the fall, so that your schedule best fits your interests. We will be able to recommend the appropriate math and English classes for you. In our orientation advising session sign-up survey, we will also include a list of potential fall classes which satisfy Pathways (general education) requirements. To learn more about these classes and to search for other classes use the Virginia Tech timetable of classes. Tutorial videos on using the timetable can be found on College of Science orientation website.

For now, focus on your personal interests and take the time to read about the variety of courses offered at Virginia Tech. We will help you check prerequisites during our session and we will make sure that your fall schedule is appropriate.
Please do the following before our math department orientation advising session:

A. Complete Steps 1 (Set Up Technology), Step 2 (VT Requirements), and Step 3 (Incoming Credits) on the College of Science orientation checklist:

   https://www.science.vt.edu/content/science_vt_edu/en/resources/orientation.html

B. Learn about the four degree options for math majors:

   https://www.math.vt.edu/orientation (Item B)

   and complete the Math Department 2021 Orientation Survey:

   https://forms.gle/nw9JAeKV68gscAcB7

C. Take the ALEKS Placement Assessment until you pass (3 attempts). We will send out a reminder when the ALEKS assessment becomes available.

   https://www.math.vt.edu/1225placement/aleks

D. Prepare for your advising session by completing Step 4 (College of Science Action Items) on the College of Science orientation checklist:

   https://www.science.vt.edu/content/science_vt_edu/en/resources/orientation.html

If you have any questions don’t hesitate to reach out to us at mathorientation@math.vt.edu.

Sincerely,

Jessica Hurdus
Advanced Instructor | Academic Advisor
Mathematics Orientation Academic Advisor

Eric Ufferman
Collegiate Faculty | Academic Advisor
Mathematics Orientation Academic Advisor