

ARE YOU FINDING THIS COURSE MORE DIFFICULT THAN EXPECTED?

- If you are finding the level of your first year mathematics course unexpectedly challenging, this might be the result of shortcomings in your high school mathematics background.
- Past experience shows that such shortcomings are a common source of difficulty for many of the students who end up failing or dropping courses such as MATH 1013, 1300, 1505, 1510 and 1520 each year. *Such problems can exist regardless of your high school mathematics grades.*
- Most of you will have already written the online Mathematics Proficiency Test. The test consists entirely of high-school-level material we would expect all high school graduates to be familiar with. *Thus, any errors which didn't result from either boredom or carelessness point to background problems likely to negatively impact your performance in your first year courses.*
- Fortunately, such problems are easily dealt with. This can be done either through self-study (using online resources we will point you to below), or by attending one of the “background tutorial” sessions offered during the Fall term co-curricular break, October 30-November 2.
 - **The Self-Study Option:** Links to (1) an online course on trigonometry (which starts right from the basics), and (2) a useful site containing a large number of topics in basic algebra, can be found on the Bethune College Math Help webpage, bethune.yorku.ca/math (this is the page you would have gone to to find the link to the online Math Proficiency Test)
 - **The Background Tutorial Option:** *The “background tutorial” sessions are 16 hours in length, 2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the afternoon on Wednesday October 30, Thursday October 31, Friday November 1 and Saturday November 2. They are provided FREE OF CHARGE by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and the Faculty of Science.*

You can enroll in one of the Fall term co-curricular break background tutorial sessions by following the relevant link in the “October Math Review Sessions” on the Bethune Math Help webpage, bethune.yorku.ca/math
- **FYI, COMPARED TO STUDENTS IN THE SAME COURSES WHO DID NOT ATTEND THE BACKGROUND TUTORIAL SESSIONS, STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED PAST YEARS' SESSIONS WERE A FACTOR OF 2 OR SO LESS LIKELY TO DROP OR FAIL THEIR FIRST YEAR COURSES, AND GOT BETTER GRADES IN THOSE COURSES AS WELL.**