Interpreting Language Placement Scores

Language placement scores tell you in which course you should register.

For example, if you have a Spanish placement score of 102, that means your next language course should be SPAN-102.

A 5-digit placement score indicates a borderline placement*; for example, a Spanish placement score of 10102 means that you placed somewhere on the borderline between SPAN-101 and SPAN-102. Similarly, a placement score of 10201 means a borderline 102/201 placement, a score of 20203 means a borderline 202/203 placement, and a score of 20301 means a borderline 203/301 placement.

If your placement was 10102, we make the following recommendations:

- If you have been placed into 101/102 and have three or more years of language in high school, you should register for the 102 course*.
- If you have been placed into 101/102 and have fewer than three years of language in high school, you should register for the 101 course.
- If you are not sure which course to take, register into the course that you think is more likely to be a good fit during the July registration period(*) and plan to make an appointment with one of our language faculty to help you further evaluate the best placement for your ability during orientation.

* If you have a borderline placement, the registration system will automatically allow you to register for the lower course; if you want to register in the higher course, just call or email the Registrar's Office (269-337-7204, regist@kzoo.edu) and we will adjust the system to allow you register in the higher course.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR LATIN: If your placement was 400, it means you can register for any 400-level Latin course that has a pre-requisite of LATN-201.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR ARABIC AND HEBREW: If your placement was 999, it means you have placed out of all of the levels of Arabic or Hebrew offered at Kalamazoo College.

*Keep in mind that the course you placed into might not be offered in fall quarter.*

Interpreting Math and Chemistry Placement Scores

Math and Chemistry placement scores tell you in which course you should register. For example, if you see a Math placement score of 113, your next math course should be MATH 113. A Chemistry placement score of 110 indicates that you should start with CHEM 110.
A 5-digit Mathematics placement score indicates a borderline placement; for example, a Math placement score of 11213 means that you placed somewhere on the borderline between MATH 112 and MATH 113. You might have a good sense of which course is more appropriate for you, but if you don't you may want to talk to a member of the Math faculty. You can send email to Professor Eric Barth (Eric.Barth@kzoo.edu), call the department and talk to a faculty member (269-337-7100), or talk to them once you are on campus during Orientation and adjust your schedule at that point.

If you have a Mathematics placement score of 214, you have placed out of MATH 113 (Calculus II). Your next math course could be 214 (Calculus III), 240 (Linear Algebra), or any math course that has 113 as the pre-requisite.

If you have a borderline placement, the registration system will automatically allow you to register for the lower course; if you want to register in the higher course, just call or email the Registrar's Office (269-337-7204, regist@kzoo.edu) and we will adjust the system to allow you register in the higher course.

If you did not take the placement exam in Math or Chemistry, but received a 4 or 5 on the associated Advanced Placement test, your next course should be:

- Calc AB 4 or 5: Your next course should be MATH 113.
- Calc BC 4 or 5: You have placed out of MATH 113, so your next course could be MATH 214, 240, or any math course that has 113 as the pre-requisite.
- CHEM 4 or 5: Your next course should be CHEM 120 (offered Winter or Spring).

*Keep in mind that the course you placed into might not be offered in fall quarter. If you place into MATH-110 – be aware that it is only offered in the Fall term each year.*