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# Different Teaching Formats

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## LENS PROJECT

### *Introduce myself and my faculty position at JCCC*

LEARNING COMES FIRST AT JCCC. We are about *student success*. Students may ask you for advice on courses outside your department, or you may notice a student whose math skills are weak. Math is a challenging subject for many; today I would like to make you aware of the many different formats, besides Lecture / Demonstration, in which we offer math courses here to meet the various needs of our students.

Since today you are my “students”, I am going to ask you to do some role playing to illustrate. Actors, if you would note the number on your script; I will acknowledge you when it is your turn. If you would stand and first identify yourself before saying your lines. I will take other questions or comments at the end.

{ Now they tell me all *teachers are hams...* }

### [ HAND OUT ROLE CARDS / SCRIPTS ]

**VIVIAN:** Most students are accustomed to the traditional Lecture / Demonstration format.

**DARLA DONTCHANGE :** And it works for me! Well, maybe sometimes I have trouble keeping up --- they go so fast.

**VIVIAN:** Most 3-credit hour courses are typically offered one, two or three times a week. We also schedule 5 sessions per week in Fundamentals of Math, Elementary, Intermediate, and College Algebra. So the same material is taught at a slower pace.

**TINA TOOFAST:** That is still too fast for me! It takes me longer to learn some concepts than others, so I *wish* I could spend more time on the parts that I find harder to learn and less time on those I find easier to learn.

**VIVIAN:** The Math Department grants your wish! Some courses, such as Fundamentals of Math, Elementary, Intermediate, and College Algebra, Trigonometry and Business Math , are offered Self-Paced. This means you have up to one year to complete a one semester course, and you are given an opportunity to retake unit exams twice. You take Unit Exams in the Testing Center whenever you are ready. The disadvantage is that these are also Independent study. Not in the usual sense of studying concepts outside the normal realm, but in that there is only one required face-to-face meeting. You would study the same content and are assigned an instructor with whom you could meet individually as often as desired, but otherwise you are on your own. However, most Self-Paced courses have supplemental Computer Assisted Instruction.

**CADE CANTCOMPUTE:** Exactly what is Computer Assisted Instruction? Do you have to be a computer whiz to use it?

**VIVIAN:** The programs are generally very user-friendly. Computer Assisted Instruction means in addition to the textbook, software is utilized in teaching. The professor's role is to supplement the instruction and work with the students individually. This method is employed, not only in Self-paced, but also Face-to-Face and Online for many of the same courses.

**HEATHER HOMESTAY:** Isn't Online self-paced? Or at least I would never have to come to campus, right? Saves on gas!

**VIVIAN:** Actually, most Online courses are *not* self-paced, but have deadlines, must be completed in one semester, and may not have retakes on exams. However, sometimes a student would come to campus for an online class just to take exams at the Testing Center.

Incidentally, Calculus for Biology and Medicine is a hybrid course: most of the instruction is online, but there are compulsory weekly Face-to-Face class meetings also.

So if you want to save on gas, or make fewer trips to campus: either take a course that meets once a week, or Online, or Self-Paced, or as Late Start. (12 weeks).

**LISA LASTMINUTE:** Late start? You mean I can enroll later in the semester? And start on the course later?

**VIVIAN:** Yes, you may! Late start is great for those who have limited time to devote to class. You can enroll until class starts. It is also useful if you find that the class in which you had enrolled is too difficult; if you need to drop back a level, you still have time to complete a class in the current semester. Incidentally, one can enroll at any time in self-paced courses.

**ROCHELLE RUSHING:** I am in a rush to get my nursing degree, but I have to review Algebra...it's been years!

**VIVIAN:** Fundamentals of Math and Elementary Algebra are offered online as a Combo course: You take both courses in *one* semester, one following the other, for 6 credit hours.

Another Combo course combines Elementary Algebra and Intermediate Algebra; it is offered Online and Face to Face.

**DIANA DOUBTICAN:** No matter how it is presented, I need to learn *HOW TO LEARN MATH!*

**VIVIAN:**

I suggest for you to take your math with a learning strategy course. In a LEARNING COMMUNITY, you earn 4 credit hours: 3 for Math and 1 for Learning Strategies for Math. The course is team taught by a Learning Strategy professor and a Math professor.











The focus is on student success; students learn in different ways, have different needs or life circumstances. [HANDOUTS] I have summarized the different formats and listed, according to this fall's schedule, math courses and how they are offered. Hopefully, you will find it useful. I will award participation points to my "students" and would be happy to entertain any questions or comments.

## SUMMARY OF FORMATS FOR MATH COURSES








**Note: many are combined in single course**

<b>FORMAT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>
Face-to-Face	In classroom with professor	Opportunity for immediate feedback on questions, attendance necessary
Lecture / Demonstration	Professor uses white board, etc.,	Sometimes difficult to keep up; steps written out
Computer Assisted Instruction	Software instructs and professor supplements, works individually	Computer limitations and intimidation; additional method in same course
Late Start	Starts later in semester; can enroll later	If find class too difficult, can drop back, still complete a course in a semester
Online	All or most instruction over internet; usually have deadlines and exams may need to be taken on campus	Schedule more flexible, limited attendance requirements; delayed interaction with professor for questions
Self-Paced (Independent Study )	Work on own pace up to one year to complete; only 1 required meeting. Retakes on unit exams; enroll anytime	Can meet individually with assigned instructor; easy to procrastinate. Flexible.
Combo	Combination of two courses in one semester	Twice as fast; useful if need review
Learning Community	Math course and Learning Strategies for Math team taught	Helpful for those who struggle with learning math in particular
Varied meeting times 0 – 5 per week	Online usually won't meet with professor in person; 5 sessions for 3 credit hour course	Fewer times useful for hectic schedule; extended number of weekly sessions allows for slower pace
Hybrid	Combines Face-to-Face with online	Now only for Calculus for Biology and Medicine

## FORMAT for MATH COURSES

<b>FUNDAMENTALS OF MATH</b>	
<b>ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA</b>	
<b>INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA</b>	
<b>COLLEGE ALGEBRA</b>	
<b>GEOMETRY</b>	
<b>BUSINESS MATH</b>	
<b>TRIGONOMETRY</b>	
<b>STATISTICS</b>	
<b>BUSINESS AND APPLIED CALCULUS</b>	
<b>CALCULUS</b>	

## LEGEND

	<b>Computer Assisted Instruction</b>
	<b>Online</b>
	<b>Learning Community</b>
	<b>Combo (Combination)</b>
	<b>Late Start or Extended Days</b>
	<b>Self-Paced</b>
	<b>Face – to - Face</b>

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