

Mathematics across the Community College Curriculum

The goal of Mathematics across the Community College Curriculum (MAC3) <http://www.mac3.amatyc.org/index.htm> is to create a mathematically literate society that ensures a workforce equipped to compete in a technologically advanced global economy. Training math and non-math faculty will accomplish this across the disciplines to create, evaluate and modify projects that incorporate mathematics. As a result, community college students throughout the nation will be offered opportunities to deepen and reinforce the mathematics they have learned in their math classes, apply it in context, and understand its greater importance and application in their lives. The American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges is the lead institution. <http://www.amatyc.org/>

The project's workshops make mathematical literacy a more welcome and indispensable part of the two-year college curriculum in the United States. In the workshops, math and non-math faculty across the disciplines create, evaluate and modify projects that incorporate mathematics across disciplines. Half-day regional workshops, four-day summer or winter institutes and traveling workshops support faculty, nationwide, in integrating mathematics into their curricula. The project heightens awareness among two-year college faculty of the important role two-year colleges play in creating a numerate society. It also creates and disseminates exemplary projects and courses that integrate mathematics into all disciplines and offers a support system for community colleges integrating math across the disciplines. Here are some projects <http://www.mac3.amatyc.org/projects.htm> completed by MAC3.

Over the last five years, instructors from high schools and colleges have attended workshops about how to integrate mathematics into lesson plans for as many as 26 different subjects. As a result, students have learned and applied mathematics in classes including art history, biology, physics and English. The Mathematics across the Curriculum project has influenced classes at numerous colleges including Edmonds Community College, with anthropology students studying how other cultures use complex mathematics, art students creating geometric designs and American government students using ratios and percentages to analyze statistics. Survey results of more than 500 of these students show an increase in students' confidence with math and ability to use mathematics to solve everyday problems after taking a Mathematics across the Curriculum course.

The American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges is in partnership with Edmonds Community College, Seattle Central Community College, and Miami Dade College.

Source: Mathematics Across the Community College Curriculum:

<http://www.mac3.amatyc.org/contact.htm>