



TCNJ THE COLLEGE OF
NEW JERSEY

PLACEMENT & ASSESSMENT

2024
SPRING



PLACEMENT AND TESTING HIGHLIGHTS

As a student enrolling at The College of New Jersey, you may be required to take some placement tests or meet departmental assessments to ensure appropriate course placement in first-year courses that will match your knowledge and skills. Please familiarize yourself thoroughly with the information on placement tests and assessment requirements in this booklet.

Please note: You will not be able to log in to the pertinent placement and assessment exams until your admissions deposit has been processed. Please submit the admission deposit as directed in the Admissions letter as soon as possible.

The Language Placement Test in French, German, Italian, and Spanish should be taken from your home computer or other remote computer locale beginning December 18, 2023, through January 12, 2024.

[Language Placement Test](#)

The Writing Placement Test will be accessed through Canvas Writing Placement space and will be open from December 18, 2023, through January 12, 2024.

The Mathematics Placement Test should be taken from your home computer or other remote computer locale and will be open December 18, 2023, through January 12, 2024.

The test may be accessed from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics website: <https://mathstat.tcnj.edu/tcnj-mathematics-placement-exam/>

Placement Test For American Sign Language
is Administered On Campus

Contact Melanie Phillips at mphillip@tcnj.edu

WRITING EXEMPTION AND PLACEMENT EXAM

WRITING EXEMPTION AND PLACEMENT

The College of New Jersey values the importance of writing in all disciplines and seeks to enable students to develop identities as confident writers who can communicate clearly and effectively to an array of audiences for a range of purposes. The College has, therefore, developed a curriculum in which all TCNJ students are required to take at least three writing-intensive courses during their tenure at The College.

These include First Year Seminar (FYS) taken in the first year; a mid-level writing-intensive course in either the sophomore or junior year; and a senior-level writing-intensive capstone course in the major in the senior year. Note that some transfer students are exempted from the First Seminar.

In addition, entering students may also be required to take FYW 102: Academic Writing to help better prepare them for the demands of their writing-intensive requirements.

What is FYW 102: Academic Writing?

FYW 102 is a writing instruction course focused on academic argumentation and is designed to prepare students to successfully meet the demands of the writing-intensive curriculum at TCNJ.

For more details, see <http://writing.tcnj.edu/sample-page/wri-101-wri-102-course-descriptions/>

The score on the Writing Placement test will determine placement in FYW 102.

How do I sign up to take the Writing Placement test?

Each student will be placed into a Canvas Writing Placement space (canvas.tcnj.edu) and will be able to access the test there. Students will be notified through a course invitation email from notifications@instructure.com, alerting them that they now have access to the Canvas Writing Placement space from December 18, 2023, through January 12, 2024. Students will have two hours to complete the test, which consists of reading an essay and writing a response to the prompt. The test will automatically close after the allotted time.

Academic Integrity

Please review the TCNJ policy on Academic Integrity (Links to an external site.). The policy notes: “Plagiarism occurs when a student submits as their own the work of others. . . This includes but is not limited to copying from a fellow student, copying from an internet source, and copying from a book or other published work.” For Writing Placement purposes, using any artificial intelligence (AI) tool, including Chat GPT, is considered a violation of that policy. It is our assumption that you will write this essay alone. If you receive help, you are violating the Academic Integrity policy, and we are obliged to bring this violation to the Academic Integrity office. It is in your best interest to submit an essay that most accurately represents your writing ability, so that we can place you in the class that best suits your readiness for the writing tasks you can expect.

How do I prepare for the test?

The test involves reading a short article and writing in response to a prompt based on that article. Consult the following rubric for how essays are scored: <https://writing.tcnj.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/175/2022/04/SCORING-GUIDE-for-Writing-Placement-2022-23.pdf>

All essays are scored holistically by at least two Writing faculty using this 6-point rubric. Essays scoring 4-6 will gain the student’s exemption from FYW 102. Essays scoring 3 place the student into FYW 102, which is taken in the first semester. Essays scoring 2 or 1 indicate the need for additional assistance, as early as the Fall semester while taking First Year Writing (FYW 102). These students will be enrolled in a .5-unit writing studio course FYW 101: Writing Studio where students work on the writing assigned in FYW 102.

Results will be emailed to students by January 19, 2024.

For additional details on the Writing Placement Test, please visit <http://writing.tcnj.edu/sample-page/wri-102-placement-exemptions/> or search for “FYW 102 Placement” from the TCNJ homepage (www.tcnj.edu). Please contact the Writing Program with any questions or concerns. The best method for reaching us is through email at writing@tcnj.edu or ringer@tcnj.edu.

Special Note to Transfer Students

You will be exempt from taking FYW 102 if, at your previous institution, you have taken a credit-bearing course (numbered 100 or above) in writing or composition which has been approved by TCNJ as equivalent to FYW 102 OR if you enter with an AA/AS degree from a New Jersey community college. If you did not take this course, you are required to take the Writing Placement test.

Nina Ringer
Director, Writing Program

LANGUAGE TESTING AND PLACEMENT

The Department of World Languages and Cultures at TCNJ offers courses in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish. The Classical Studies Program offers courses in Latin. American Sign Language is offered in the Education of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program, in the School of Education, Department of Special Education, Language & Literacy.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who needs to take a placement exam?

All students who wish to enroll in a French, German, Italian, or Spanish course need to take the placement exam **between** May 6, 2023, through May 21, 2023.

To enroll in Arabic, Chinese or Japanese, only students who have studied the language before, or already speak the language because they grew up speaking it, should contact the director of that program to determine their proficiency level. Students who have no background with the language do not need to take a placement test and can be enrolled in ARA 101, CHI 151 or JPN 151.

2. How do I take the placement exam?

For French, German, Italian, and Spanish, the test is [online at this link](#). The pre-test questions will direct you how to proceed. Students are allotted 40 minutes to complete the test.

Students who already speak one of these languages because they grew up in a home where that language was spoken should contact the director of that program to determine their proficiency level.

French: Dr. Ariane Pfenninger apfennin@tcnj.edu

German: Karen Fenner fennerk@tcnj.edu

Italian: Dr. Simona Wright simona@tcnj.edu

Spanish: Dr. Marimar Huguet-Jerez huguet@tcnj.edu

For Arabic, Chinese and Japanese, the program directors for those languages conduct the exam in person.

Arabic: World Languages and Cultures wlc@tcnj.edu

Chinese: Jia-Yan Mi mi@tcnj.edu

Japanese: Dr. Holly Didi-Ogren ogren@tcnj.edu

For American Sign Language, contact Melanie Phillips at mphillip@tcnj.edu.

For Latin, contact Cecilia Colbeth at colbeth@tcnj.edu to make an appointment.

3. Who is exempt from the placement exam?

Students who have received any of the following:

- 650 or higher on the College Board Subject Test
- 5 on an AP test in any of the languages covered by the online placement test (French, German, Italian, and Spanish)
- 7 on the International Baccalaureate Higher Level
- Intermediate Low or higher on the ACTFL Oral Proficiency exam

will have fulfilled their language requirement. Students who wish to take a language course still need to take a placement exam.

4. How long do I have to wait to get my score?

Your test score will display immediately after submitting your last answer. You will also get your score in email. Scores will post to PAWS overnight, at which time you'll be able to enroll in the appropriate course.

5. What happens if I earn an exemption score on the online test?

Students will be instructed to contact the Department of World Languages and Cultures office to validate their exemption score. These students should make an appointment by writing milesd@tcnj.edu.

6. Placement and requirement information and policies

Academic Integrity

Please review the TCNJ policy on Academic Integrity. The policy notes: "Plagiarism occurs when a student submits as his own the work of others... This includes but is not limited to copying from a fellow student, copying

LANGUAGE TESTING AND PLACEMENT

from an internet source, and copying from a book or other published work.” It is our assumption that you will complete the language placement test alone without help from other people, internet translators, or other internet resources. If you receive help, you are violating the Academic Integrity policy; and we are obliged to bring this violation to an Academic Integrity officer. It is in your best interest to accurately demonstrate your current language proficiency so that we can place you in the class that most closely matches your proficiency level.

Transfer Students

Transfer students who wish to transfer language credits or who will continue studying a language at TCNJ must take the placement test in that language. Students will receive transfer credit for the levels they place out of.

Transfer students who enter with an Associate of Arts or an Associate of Science from a New Jersey community college are exempted from all College Core requirements, including the language proficiency requirement. However, students whose majors require language courses above the 103 level (such as International Studies, Spanish/Spanish Education, or World Languages and Linguistics) will need to take the placement exam to start or continue their language studies to fulfill the level required by their major.

Four or More Years of Prior Language Study

Students who have completed four or more years of study (or its equivalent) in high school in French, German, Italian, or Spanish **will not** receive credit for 101 if they place into it. In this case we recommend that you fulfill your language requirement with a different language.

Drs. Holly Didi-Ogren and Marimar Huguet-Jerez,

Chairs of World Languages and Cultures **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE**

All students majoring in Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing or those planning to pursue the Deaf Studies minor or those who wish to meet the college requirement for language credit by taking the ASL course sequence will be required to sign up for the test if they have previously taken sign language classes or if they have heritage signing skills. Students are advised that those unfamiliar with ASL will be placed in ASL 101: American Sign Language One. Entry into higher level ASL classes is dependent on the placement test score. Students may not register for ASL 102 or higher without having taken the placement test.

Students who have been assessed on the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) do not need to take the ASL Placement Test or ASL classes if a proficiency of Intermediate or higher was earned. Students must give the Department of Special Education, Language and Literacy an official copy of the SLPI score.

Please contact Melanie Phillips at mphillip@tcnj.edu to make an appointment.

MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT



MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT

Many students will choose to take calculus, economics, or another course with a mathematics prerequisite at TCNJ. The College of New Jersey is deeply interested in student success in mathematics, and college-level algebra, precalculus, and calculus courses are more rigorous than the corresponding courses taught in most high schools. For this reason, we have developed a placement system designed to identify the initial math course in which you are most likely to succeed. Even if you have had a calculus course in high school, we may require you to begin with another course to ensure your success when you take our calculus sequence.

Students interested in taking Calculus A may first need to complete Intermediate Algebra (MAT095) and/or Precalculus (MAT120). All students with majors in the Schools of Science and Engineering will take a first course in this sequence. Students interested in taking Calculus for Business and the Social Sciences may first need to complete Intermediate Algebra and/or either Introduction to Functions (MAT119) or Precalculus. Students interested in taking an Economics course may first need to complete Intermediate Algebra. All students entering TCNJ as “Undeclared” will be required to complete mathematics placement in case they later need one of these courses.

Students have two options for placement:

Option 1) *Students may submit official SAT or ACT mathematics scores for placement purposes.*

If we use your scores for placement, you will be placed as follows:

- Students with an SAT math score of 630 or above or with an ACT math score of 28 or above who have taken four years of high school math including Algebra II, Geometry, and Trigonometry will be placed in Calculus.
- Students with a math SAT score between 550 and 620 or an ACT math score between 24 and 27 and at least two years of high school math including Algebra and Geometry will be placed in Precalculus or Introduction to Functions.
- Students with a math SAT score below 550 or a math ACT score below 24 will be placed in Intermediate Algebra.

Students wishing to use standardized test scores for placement purposes must have official scores sent from the testing company to TCNJ. Scores should be requested in early May.

Option 2) *Students who do not wish to submit SAT or ACT scores or who feel their placement based on SAT or ACT math scores is not accurate may take our math placement test.*

Information about the test is available on the Department of Mathematics and Statistics website:

<https://mathstat.tcnj.edu/tcnj-mathematics-placement-exam/>

MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT

Students who wish to enroll in a course other than that in which they are placed have several additional options:

- 1) Students who were not placed in calculus but who wish to enroll in Calculus
 - a) Pass a precalculus course at TCNJ prior to enrollment (for example in the summer)
 - b) Pass a transfer-equivalent precalculus course at another higher educational institution with a grade of at least C.

- 2) Students who were placed in algebra but who wish to enroll in Precalculus or Introduction to Functions must either
 - a) Pass MAT095: Intermediate Algebra at TCNJ prior to enrollment (for example in the summer)
 - b) Contact the chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics to request approval of an Intermediate Algebra or College Algebra course at another higher education institution for placement purposes prior to enrolling in the algebra course. If the chair pre-approves the course and if the student earns a grade of C or above, this course may be used for placement in MAT 119 or MAT 120. No transfer units will be earned.

Please note that transfer courses must be approved as equivalent to the corresponding TCNJ course. Courses listed as equivalent on the NJ transfer website are automatically approved. For approval of any other mathematics course, please contact the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at mathstat@tcnj.edu.

Students with AP Calculus Exam credit or IB Mathematics credit:

Depending on their score (see TCNJ's AP chart), students may receive credit for one or two semesters of Calculus. A student's own perception of strength in mathematics is an important factor when advising students about math placement. For example, students who receive AP or IB credit(s) for Calculus sometimes choose to forgo the credit and retake the class(es) at TCNJ because of the faster pace and increased rigor of TCNJ courses. Others choose to accept the AP or IB credit and do very well. This is a personal decision that can be discussed with an academic advisor. Students will receive notification from the Office of Records and Registration regarding the process for declining AP credit if they wish to retake MAT 127 or MAT 125.

All questions related to calculus placement should be directed to the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at mathstat@tcnj.edu. You can also visit the department's webpage at <https://mathstat.tcnj.edu/precalculus-and-calculus-placement-and-AP-credit/>

Drs. Su Weber, Chair, and Dave Reimer, Associate Chair, of Mathematics and Sciences



DOES YOUR MAJOR REQUIRE LANGUAGE AND/OR MATHEMATICS TESTING?

MATH	LANGUAGE	REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS & COMMUNICATION		
		Art Education
	Y	Art History and Visual Culture
		Visual Arts
	Y	Communication Studies
	Y	Journalism and Professional Writing
	Y	Interactive Multimedia
	Y	Music BA
	Y	Music Performance - Vocal
		Music Performance - Instrumental
		Music Teaching K-12
	*	Undeclared - Arts and Communication
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS		
Y		Accountancy
Y		Interdisciplinary Business
Y		Finance
Y		Marketing
Y		Management
Y	Y	Economics – Bachelor of Arts
Y		Economics – Bachelor of Science
Y	Y	Economics – 7 year Medical
Y	Y	Economics – Secondary Education
Y	Y	Economics – Urban Secondary Education
Y	*	Undeclared - Business
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION		
	*	Undeclared - Education
		SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY
	Y*	Speech Language Pathology and Audiology
		EDUCATION OF DEAF & HARD OF HEARING WITH:
	ASL	Art
Y	ASL	Biology
	ASL	English
	ASL	History
Y	ASL	Math
Y	ASL	iSTEM
	ASL	Music
	ASL	Psychology
	ASL	Sociology

* Language Recommended

Y* Sign Language (ASL) Recommended

MATH	LANGUAGE	REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION		
		EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION WITH: OR ELEMENTARY EDUCATION WITH:
		African American Studies
		Art
Y		Biology
		English
		History
Y		Math
Y		iSTEM
		Music
		Psychology
		Sociology
	Y	Spanish
		Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies
		EARLY CHILDHOOD/SPECIAL EDUCATION WITH: OR SPECIAL EDUCATION WITH:
		Art
Y		Biology
		English
		History
Y		Math
Y		iSTEM
		Music
		Psychology
		Sociology
	Y	Spanish
		Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies
		URBAN EDUCATION/EARLY CHILDHOOD WITH: OR URBAN EDUCATION/ELEMENTARY EDUCATION WITH:
	Y	African American Studies
	Y	Art
Y	Y	Biology
	Y	English
	Y	History
Y	Y	Math
Y	Y	iSTEM
	Y	Music
	Y	Psychology
	Y	Sociology
	Y	Spanish
	Y	Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies

DOES YOUR MAJOR REQUIRE LANGUAGE AND/OR MATHEMATICS TESTING?

MATH	LANGUAGE	REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING		
Y		Biomedical Engineering
Y		Biomedical Engineering - 7 year Medical
Y		Civil Engineering
Y		Computer Engineering
Y		Electrical Engineering
Y		Mechanical Engineering
Y		Engineering Science
Y		Technology Pre-Engineering Education
Y		Undeclared - Engineering
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES		
	Y	African American Studies
	Y	Anthropology
	Y	Criminology
	Y	English
	Y	English Secondary Education
	Y	English Secondary Special Education
	Y	English Urban Secondary Education
Y	Y	English – 7 year Medical
	Y	History
	Y	History Secondary Education
		History Secondary Special Education
	Y	History Urban Secondary Education
Y	Y	History – 7 year Medical
	Y	International Studies
	Y	Philosophy
Y	Y	Philosophy – 7 year Medical
Y	Y	Political Science
	Y	Psychology
	Y	Sociology
	Y	Spanish
Y	Y	Spanish – 7 year Medical
	Y	World Languages and Linguistics
	Y	Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies
	*	Undeclared - Humanities & Social Science

MATH	LANGUAGE	REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR
SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCE		
		Kinesiology and Health Science
		Kinesiology and Health Science/Physical Therapy
		Nursing
	Y	Public Health
SCHOOL OF SCIENCE		
Y	Y	Biology
Y	Y	Biology Secondary Education
Y		Biology Secondary Special Education
Y	Y	Biology Urban Secondary Education
Y	Y	Biology - 7 year Medical
Y	Y	Biology/Physical Therapy
Y	Y	Biology/SUNY Optometry
Y	Y	Chemistry
Y	Y	Chemistry Secondary Education
Y	Y	Chemistry Urban Secondary Education
Y	Y	Chemistry - 7 year Medical
Y	Y	Computer Science
Y	Y	Computer Science - 7 year Medical
Y	Y	Mathematics
Y	Y	Mathematics Secondary Education
Y		Mathematics Secondary Special Education
Y	Y	Mathematics Urban Secondary Education
Y	Y	Mathematics – 7 year Medical
Y	Y	Physics
Y	Y	Physics Secondary Education
Y	Y	Physics Urban Secondary Education
Y	Y	Physics – 7 year Medical
Y	Y	Physics – Computational
THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY		
Y	Y	Undeclared General

* Language Recommended

PLACEMENT TEST REMINDERS

REMEMBER TO BRING:

Photo ID

EXAM ACCOMMODATIONS

Students who need to make arrangements for Alternative Testing accommodations or extended time must contact the Accessibility Resource Center via email at arc@tcnj.edu, prior to the test date.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Please have your AP test scores sent electronically from College Board directly to Office of Records & Registration at The College of New Jersey. If you should have any questions regarding Advanced Placement, please contact Christa Martin, at martichr@tcnj.edu or at (609) 771-2830. Further AP information can be viewed at <http://advisingresources.pages.tcnj.edu>.

Advanced Placement credit is awarded through the Office of Records & Registration.

DIRECTIONS AND CAMPUS MAP

Directions and Campus Map: Please refer to <http://tcnj.pages.tcnj.edu/about/campus-info/campus-map/> for our campus map and the link for directions to The College of New Jersey.