Mathematics

Undergraduate Major M Undergraduate Minor m

Study a subject that is both beautiful and practical.
If you enjoy problem solving, abstract thinking, and structural beauty, this may be the right field for you. Mathematics can be studied by itself or in conjunction with other fields, such as: the biological and life sciences, physical sciences, engineering and social sciences.

The UW-La Crosse Department of Mathematics & Statistics serves a diverse group of students. The department nurtures all liberal arts students, giving students a solid foundation from which to study both the natural and social sciences and providing the tools needed in professional programs. The program is also dedicated to cultivating mathematics and statistics majors.

Math vs statistics
Mathematics is the science and art of pattern and idea. Statistics is the science of collecting, analyzing and making inferences from data. There is no area that does not require some form of mathematical or statistical thought. It is an integral part of the liberal arts education and is the foundation for many areas of study.

Careers in mathematics
Demand continues to be strong for the mathematically-trained person. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of math occupations is projected to grow 28% from 2014 to 2024, which will result in about 42,900 new jobs. Growth is anticipated as businesses and government agencies continue to emphasize the use of big data, which math occupations can analyze.

Graduates have found numerous job opportunities that use their knowledge and competencies in a wide variety of careers. UWL math education majors are sought after to fill a huge need for quality math teachers across the country. Many statistics and applied math majors go on to jobs in industry as analysts, statisticians, and actuaries while others go on to professional programs, such as law, medicine and health professions or business.

Positions
- Mathematics or statistics professor
- Software engineer
- Actuary
- Plant manager
- Statistician
- Loan officer
- Mathematics teacher
- Marketing specialist
- Software developer
- Programmer
- Data analyst
- Supplier quality/component engineer
- Manager of manufacturing process engineering

Further education
With degrees from UWL’s program, students have gone to a variety of graduate programs.
- Mathematics
- Applied mathematics
- Statistics
- Engineering
- Computer science

My math professors at UWL instilled in me the importance of perseverance, curiosity, and confidence, often through tough love and by pushing me to reach beyond my self-prescribed boundaries.

Haley Klundt
What distinguishes UWL's Mathematics program?

- **Small class sizes**
  Class sizes are small; calculus classes are typically 25 to 30 students and upper level classes are typically 10 to 20 students.

- **Faculty are excellent teacher-scholars**
  Faculty in the department are involved in research in areas of algebra, analysis, topology and geometry, statistics, applied mathematics, numerical analysis, education, and combinatorics and graph theory. This research is widely published in prestigious research journals and many faculty have received numerous grants.

- **Mathematics and Statistics Club**
  A student run Mathematics and Statistics Club meets at various times during each semester. Activities include: talks by students and invited speakers, picnics, travel to conferences and friendly sporting contests with other clubs or faculty.

- **Research opportunities**
  Many students participate in undergraduate research projects that result in publications and presentations at national conferences. The department has several research fellowships that provide funding for research.

- **Modeling contests**
  Students can participate in local, regional and international mathematics or statistics modeling contests.

- **Connect to study and socialize**
  The Mathematics and Statistics Resource Room is located within the department. This room is a place for math majors to study and socialize. There are also computers available for use.

- **Tutoring opportunities**
  Math majors can work from 5-15 hours a week as a tutor in the Murphy Learning Center or as a peer teaching assistant.

- **Internship and part-time job opportunities**
  Students can obtain internships and part-time jobs with local business and engineering firms, public utilities, and medical and governmental research institutions.

- **Strong complement to elementary education**
  The department also has an adviser who works closely with elementary education students who wish to minor in mathematics; a mathematics minor is a strong complement to an elementary education major.

- **Strong complement to STEM and Social Science fields**
  A major or minor in Mathematics or Statistics works well in conjunction with almost any program at UWL, especially those in STEM (Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Computer Science) and the Social Sciences (Psychology, Sociology, Political Science, and Economics).