Committee on Educational Policy
Policy on Course Prerequisites

When applicable, prerequisites are listed in this catalog within the course description for each course. As a general rule, courses that meet General Education Requirements do not require a prerequisite.

Prerequisites may be courses which a student must have completed, levels of competence, or the standing a student must have achieved before enrolling for a specific course. For example, Discrete Mathematics (MATH 22) requires a prerequisite of Linear Algebra (MATH 12), meaning that the student may not enroll in Discrete Mathematics until successfully completing MATH 12. Similarly, a prerequisite may be "sophomore standing" (LITE 152) or as general as "ability to use algebra to solve problems" (CHEM 1) or "a college course in literature" (LITE 170C). A placement examination may be required as a prerequisite to enrollment (MUSC 30A).

Prerequisites may also include a specified academic major, or a level of expertise, e.g., "conversational Spanish with the ability to read and write in the language and experience in introductory social science courses" (LAST 194), or concurrent enrollment in a co-requisite course.

Questions concerning prerequisites should be referred to the instructor of the course. Students who have not met all prerequisites may be excluded from the course, or the instructor may waive the prerequisite based on demonstrated competence or equivalent academic experience.

Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy on April 30, 1991