

## Revisions to Math Requirement for Biology Majors

The Biology Department has recently made a change in our policy regarding the math requirement for the biology major. This will affect all biology B.S. majors, beginning with the Class of 2008. There is no change in the biology B.A. math requirements, which remains Calculus I only.

The **NEW** requirement is that majors in the B.S. program will need to complete calculus through Calculus II. Students can satisfy this requirement with either the MT100-101 or the MT 102-103 sequence. MT105 can also be taken for Calculus II. Advanced Placement (AP) exam credit can be used in the place of Boston College math courses, as follows:

### Calculus I equivalency:

4 or 5 on the AB Calculus exam

3, 4 or 5 on the BC Calculus exam

### Calculus II equivalency

4 or 5 on the BC Calculus exam

Students are advised to carefully consider the advanced placement option, particularly if their high school preparation is not strong. Additional advice on calculus advanced placement is available on the Math Department Web site:

<http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/math/advise/>

You should also note that you will no longer be able to use Bioinformatics (BI-420) or Biostatistics (BI-230) in order to satisfy your math requirement. Instead, you will need to use only calculus courses to complete this requirement. Nonetheless, the Department strongly encourages students to enroll in statistics and bioinformatics courses as electives (students should note that Bioinformatics will count as an upper-division elective). Statistics is critical for the understanding of experimental data, and bioinformatics is a rapidly growing field within biology. The Department currently offers a concentration in bioinformatics, and it expects to offer a minor in this interdisciplinary field in the near future.

If you have any questions about this change, please feel free to contact Kristen Adrien by phone at (617) 552-1076 or by email at [adrien@bc.edu](mailto:adrien@bc.edu).

Thank you and best wishes.