# FAQs about Math 093
## ~~the independent study algebra review course~~

*"Why might I consider taking/transferring to Math 093?"*
**Math 093 can be a safety net for students who find themselves in the wrong class or out of sync with a class's material for reasons such as**
- They are working hard in the math class but are not able to maintain the pace of the prescribed schedule.
- The course is too much of a review of a course they successfully completed recently.
- They have come into some personal challenges outside of class that have disrupted their learning in such a way that they may not be able to recover their previous standing in the course before the last day to W.
- They could benefit from a more focused, individualized review of algebra concepts based on their current needs and academic pathway.

*"What do I study in Math 093?"*
**The content of the Math 093 course is customized to meet your needs and goals.**
- Some Math 093 students review select material from a prerequisite course that they need to master before moving on to the next course.
- Some Math 093 students work through course material at a slower pace than a traditional class, so that they can better understand the topics.
- Some Math 093 students study content that span multiple courses to accelerate their learning and prepare for a higher-level course more quickly.
- Math 093 can offer practice and learning in Prealgebra, Beginning Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, Precalculus (with some trigonometry), Math Literacy, and Introduction to Statistics.

*"How do I study in Math 093?"*
**Math 093 students use ALEKS, an adaptive learning software.**
- ALEKS assesses where you are with your mathematical understanding and directs you to build on that knowledge with topics and content that are most accessible to you at the current moment.
- Frequent "knowledge checks" show your progress by "locking in" topics as mastered and having you review topics periodically as needed.
- Both 11-week and 6-week ALEKS licenses are available, depending on if you begin Math 093 in the first month of the quarter, or transfer into the course close to the last day to withdraw.
- Content is linked to a textbook as an additional resource for some topics; to view textbook-related videos, you can upgrade to an ALEKS 360 license.
- There are no required class meetings (in person or virtual), so students mostly work on their own at home or wherever they have a laptop/tablet device and a reliable internet connection to access ALEKS.

*"How do I earn my credits and grade in Math 093?"*
**Math 093 is a variable credit course, and earning credits and grades in the course can be customized in various ways.**
- Generally, students are expected to invest 15 hours in ALEKS for each credit of Math 093. So, students in 2 credits of Math 093 are expected to complete 30 or more hours in ALEKS to earn those credits, and students in 5 credits of Math 093 are expected to complete 75 or more hours in ALEKS to earn those credits.

- Letter grades are earned by making progress in the topics in ALEKS along with an appropriate hours investment in the software. Your unique benchmarks are customized based on your initial knowledge check results, your number of credits of Math 093, and your academic and algebra review goals for your Math 093 work.

### *"What supports do I have in Math 093?"*
**Math 093 students have access to the instructor and all the typical Academic Success Center supports to available to students in BC math classes.**
- The instructor builds a customized study plan for each student, including the benchmarks for earning credits and a grade in the course.
- The instructor holds weekly office hours for consultation, is available for individual appointments as needed, and sends a weekly progress report to each student.
- Students can access tutors at the Math Lab and the Academic Success Center.
- Students who are looking for more regular connections with a learning community in pre-college math can register for Math 084 along with Math 093.

### *"What happens after Math 093?"*
**The Math 093 instructor works individually with students to guide them to reasonable next steps in math/science classes based on their progress in Math 093 and their academic pathway and goals.**
- Because Math 093 is different for each student, no one is held accountable to "cover" or master a specific set of material, and thus *Math 093 does not fulfill the prerequisite for any higher math class or meet any graduation requirements*.
- What you learn and practice in Math 093 CAN support you in accessing a higher-level math class.
    - Students can place into a higher-level math class via a placement test through Testing Services.
    - Some students may make enough comprehensive progress to place into a higher-level math class by taking a departmental final exam administered via the Math 093 class/instructor.

### *"I'm interested in taking Math 093. How can I enroll?"*
**Math 093 enrollment begins with contacting the current instructor to ensure the course is appropriate for you, your needs, your goals, and to start developing the individualized study plan.**
- A permission code is required to register, so it's not possible to enroll without connecting with the instructor.
- If you're currently enrolled in a math course and are considering a transfer into Math 093, DO NOT DROP the course you started in. We'll use the "Schedule Adjustment Form" to change your course schedule. With this form, the late registration fee is waived.
- Math 093 is a "continuous enrollment" course, so students can enroll in this course as late as the 7th week of the quarter.

**To build a helpful study plan customized to your needs and ensure you have the supports in place to succeed in the course, your instructor will ask you some questions, such as:**
- Describe your math background in high school and in college so far, if you have that experience.
- How do you feel about math?
- Have you ever worked on math independently?
- Are you comfortable using a computer? Do you have access to reliable and convenient internet connection(s)?

- Will you be comfortable doing all your math learning online and communicating mostly via email/Zoom calls?
- What supports will you use/do you need to stay on track with the course requirements?
- What are you hoping to achieve by reviewing your math skills in Math 093, and how does Math 093 fit into your longer-term academic goals?  (In other words: What is your major area(s) of interest?  Do you know what degree you want to earn at BC?  How will Math 093 help you achieve these goals?)