



**SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS**

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**FAITH BRINGS US TOGETHER.
INGENUITY SETS US APART.**

TO: All New and Transfer Students
FROM: Dr. Larry Anderson, Chair, Dept. of Mathematics
SUBJECT: Required Calculators in Mathematics

In order to provide the best possible experience in the learning of mathematics, we use technology extensively in the classroom. Textbooks help us in this by including graphical and numerical methods of problem solving as well as algebraic or analytical methods.

- To enable you to perform to your best potential with this approach, we require that you have any version of either the TI-89 or TI Voyage 200 graphing calculator. The calculator will be an asset not only in mathematics, but also in science, engineering, technology, and business. You will use it in your job after graduation as well. The two calculators work identically for all of the mathematics used in our courses. The TI-83, TI-84, and TI-86 are not acceptable for use in our mathematics classes.
- The differences are the following. The Voyage 200 has a larger nonstandard size, has a qwerty keyboard, and has a geometry package (which we do not use). The TI-89 is the cheaper of the two.
- One of the two required TI calculators will be expected and used in all freshman and sophomore level mathematics courses (College Algebra through Differential Equations) as well as many upper level courses. The HP-49G calculator also supports a computer algebra system similar to the TI calculators, but the professors in mathematics classes will only be using a TI calculator.
- TI has a new calculator, the TI-Nspire CAS. The professors in mathematics classes will not be using this calculator this year. However, if you purchase the TI-Nspire, it must be the CAS version. Be aware that the professors will only be giving very limited direction with this calculator.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

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We look forward to seeing you this fall. More about calculators online at:

http://www.letu.edu/opencms/export/sites/default/Academics/Arts-Science/math/Calculator_Requirement.pdf

http://www.letu.edu/opencms/opencms/Academics/Arts-Science/math/Using_Technology.html