

Preparing yourself for your Newcastle University degree programme – Foundation Mathematics (module SFY0018)

We're delighted that you've made Newcastle University your first choice for starting a degree programme this Autumn. From what we know of you, you are well able to complete an interesting and worthwhile programme that should take you into employment at the end, or to further study. We're also well-aware that you have missed out on some teaching and learning in the past few years, and on top of all that, the grades awarded have been subject to unusual processes! The Preparatory section of module SFY0018 is designed to help you get ready for the more formal part of your degree when it starts in September/October.

Your degree involves a substantial amount of mathematical work, though it won't always be called 'Maths'. It might appear under headings like 'Thermodynamics', 'Mechanics', or 'Stress Analysis'. Your qualifications should be sufficient to undertake these modules, but it's quite likely that either you have some areas or topics you're less confident of, or that you've been away from study (either entirely, or from any mathematical work) for a year or two. And for many of you, it might be two years or more since you studied or used mathematics in any depth, so some revision of what you've done before will be very useful.

We want you to get the most out of your time here, and to understand and enjoy the course. For this reason, we're urging you to consider the material below, to see for yourself if there's areas worth a bit of extra study before you arrive, so you can get off to a flying start.

When you register for your degree programme, you will have access to the **Canvas** site, where you'll find materials and information about all your Modules (though Canvas calls them 'courses', each containing 'modules', which is confusing!). You'll see an extended version of this document, and more information about the module and your overall programme.

We look forward to seeing you this Autumn, and hope you have found this material useful.

Pre-registration material for Foundation Mathematics

On one of our web-pages, you'll find materials and links that you can use before registering on your degree programme to revise maths you've done before, and to look at any new topics that might be helpful. You can find this at:

<https://www.staff.ncl.ac.uk/johnappleby/> which contains this document and also:

- '*Diagnosis backup notes*' – a PDF of a set of notes on lots of very basic numeracy, algebra, trig, geometry, etc, designed to accompany a previous set of questions.
- '*SFY0001 Introductory Maths*' – a set of notes in PDF form from a previous introductory course.
- '*Maths revision booklet*' – several topic areas with questions covering much of GCSE and some A-level material. You are recommended to focus on sections 1, 2, 4, 5, but it's fine to look at any section. The other sections contain topics you'll be taught in your degree programme.
- '*SFY0001 text*' – notes from a previous version of an introductory course.

You might also like to look at on-line resources such as [BBC Bitesize maths](#) .

You are strongly recommended to do some revision of maths topics before you come!

Don't worry about individual topics you haven't covered, as we'll offer materials and support to help you with these. However, things you have done before are well-worth revising and practising – the better you are at these, the more you will cope with and enjoy the module and the whole programme!

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