

Taking Honors Finite Math / Brief Calculus for College Credit

1) Deciding if getting college credit is right for you

You can choose to take Honors Finite Math / Brief Calculus for college credit by dual-enrolling in the Rio Salado courses MAT217 Finite Mathematics for Business Analysis and MAT212 Brief Calculus. This is optional and only if you want college credit in addition to high school credit for this course. Each student's situation is different – here are some things to consider:

- Will taking this college course benefit me in college? There are two main reasons why you might want to take this course for college credit:
 - My major includes finite math or brief calculus: You can try searching your college's website to locate majors you are considering. Usually, you can find a 'course listing' or 'major map' that lists courses required, and you can see what math courses are required. If you need finite mathematics, or a calculus course which isn't the full Calc 1 – Calc 2 sequence, there is a potential that brief calculus may directly apply to your major. If you don't take it this year for college credit, you would need to take the same course over again in college.
 - To possibly avoid a math placement test in college: Many colleges won't allow students to register for a math class until they take the college's math placement exam. If you, for example, are an engineering major, needing multiple math courses beginning with Calc 1, brief calculus wouldn't fulfill any requirements in your major, but if you don't take it for college credit now, you'll likely have to take the college math placement test. If you happen to score low, you may be required to take a course like precalculus before they let you take Calc 1 for your major. But if you have a C or better in brief calculus on your Rio Salado transcript, the college may allow you to register for Calc 1 without needing to pass their math placement test.
- Will my college accept Rio Salado dual-enrollment credit? Not all colleges accept everything, and it can even vary between majors within a college. The best way to determine this is to contact the freshman advisor for your college(s) and ask them directly by phone or email. Dual-enrollment is the same as taking any other community college course and then transferring it to your college/university.
- Cost: MAT217 and MAT212 are each 3-semester classes and if you are taking this course for college credit you must enroll in both classes, so you must pay tuition for 6 credit hours. This is usually around \$510. Payment plans are available and tuition assistance is available for students with financial need situations.
- How it works: Students who wish to earn college credit enroll in MAT217 and MAT212 at the beginning of the school year. At the end of the year when both semesters are complete, I use my Rio Salado login to enter semester grades for these two classes which then appear on your Rio Salado Community College transcript. When you move on to college/university, you send your Rio Salado transcript to your college/university when you enroll.

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2) Students must take the Accuplacer Test

In order to take Honors Finite Math / Brief Calculus for college credit, you must take Rio Salado's Advanced Algebra & Functions Next Generation Accuplacer exam and score 276 or higher (or you can also have taken the prerequisite course, Precalculus, for Rio Salado credit last year and received C or better both semester to qualify). It is not required that you take the Accuplacer exam if you are only taking Honors Finite Math/Brief Calculus for high school credit.

Where can I take the Accuplacer Test?

- You can take the Accuplacer test at any of Maricopa Community College testing centers. More information can be found here: www.riosalado.edu/testing/placement/Pages/placementtest.aspx
- Rio Salado is planning to offer the Accuplacer at a special testing session on Desert Vista's campus, after school, on Sept. 11, 2019. Please let your math teacher know if you plan to take the Accuplacer in this special testing session at DV.

Is there a fee for taking the Accuplacer or anything else required in order to take the test?

- There is no fee for taking the Accuplacer test.
- If you have never done so, you must register online with Rio Salado to obtain a student ID number, MEID (online login ID) and establish a password. There is no fee for registering as a student with Rio.
- On the day of the exam, you must bring a photo ID and know your login and password.

I took the Accuplacer before, but didn't score 276. Can I retake the Accuplacer?

- Yes. If your initial score on the Accuplacer is not high enough, Rio Salado permits one retest after a 24-hour waiting period. One additional retest (a 3rd attempt) is permitted no sooner than 3 months from the oldest valid score.
- **Retake exception:** This year only, for Honors Finite Math/Brief Calculus – If you have already taken the Accuplacer twice, and need a 3rd attempt before the final registration deadline of September 15, 2019, an 'early 3rd attempt' will be authorized if you use the EdReady online review/study system and score at least an 80%, demonstrating that you've spent significant time preparing. Take a screenshot of your progress screen showing your name and the 80%+ score on EdReady and send it to our Rio contact (on the other side of this page) in order to unlock your 3rd Accuplacer attempt.

I heard that you can register for Rio classes without passing the Accuplacer, is this true?

- You cannot register this year for Honors Finite Math/Brief Calculus for college credit without taking and passing the Accuplacer test.
- Rio Salado does allow students registering for 100-level classes to use 'multiple measures' such as High School GPA in place of Accuplacer, but this does not apply to 200-level classes such as MAT217/MAT212.
- Last year, a special exemption was made which applied to this course, but this exemption is not available this year.

How can I study for the Accuplacer before taking the exam?

- Use the EdReady online study system: <https://riosalado.edready.org> . This free study resource includes assessments to help you determine what you need to study and to focus on reviewing only those topics you need to review. Please plan to spend significant time on the edready site preparing before attempting Accuplacer a 2nd time.
- You can also come to before/after school tutoring with the math teachers at DV in the DV math office but use the EdReady system to determine what you need to review first.

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3) *The Registration Process*

Rio Salado MAT217/MAT212

Full instructions are included on the Rio Salado Enrollment Flyer; below is an overview of what is required along with some hints and specifics for this course. MAT212 Brief Calculus is a prerequisite for MAT217 Finite Math, but we teach them together. Rio Salado requires students to enroll in both courses at the same time, at the beginning of the year, but their online enrollment system won't allow students to enroll in MAT217 until they've completed MAT212 as a prerequisite. To get around this, when you enroll in MAT217 and MAT212, you'll need to contact Rio directly to request an override of the prerequisite in order to complete the registration process.

Registration Overview (we suggest starting this process as soon as possible):

1. **Register as a student with Rio Salado** (if you have not done so previously). This is done online and you are assigned a student MEID login and student number.
2. **Complete the additional steps for getting admitted** to Rio Salado if not done previously. These include providing photocopies of identification documentation to Rio Salado and providing proof of residency to establish your status as 'in-state' for tuition purposes.
3. **Take the 'Advanced Algebra & Functions Next Generation' Accuplacer exam** (or use your online Rio Salado account to verify your score). The passing score is 276 for this class.
4. **If you don't score at least 276 – study using the online EdReady system and retake the Accuplacer.** After substantial review, you can take the Accuplacer a 2nd time. If you need a 3rd attempt, you will need to complete and score at least 80% on the EdReady online system in order to unlock a 3rd attempt before the registration deadline. Rio Salado is currently planning to offer Accuplacer testing after school at DV on September 11, 2019, but you can test at any time at one of Rio Salado's testing centers.
5. **Register/Enroll for your particular course sections online.** Once you have passed the Accuplacer test, register for classes online through the Rio Salado website for **both** MAT217 and MAT212. The system will allow you to add MAT212, but not MAT217 initially.
Here are the course codes for Mr. Felling's classes this year:
Period 0 – MAT212: 29739, MAT217: 29754
Period 1 – MAT212: 29740, MAT217: 29755
Period 3 – MAT212: 29748, MAT217: 30535
6. **Request a pre-requisite override.** To complete the online registration, you'll need to email or call our Rio Salado representative so they can override the prerequisite to register for MAT217.
7. **Pay the Rio Salado tuition.** This is done directly with Rio Salado online through your account. If you have financial need, there are payment plans and tuition assistance available – if you need this, please talk to your counselor (the registration process is slightly different and may have earlier deadlines). It is important to pay promptly – there is a payment deadline and Rio will drop you from the courses if not paid before the payment deadline.

Rio Salado will be on the DV campus August 29 and August 30 to help student complete the enrollment process. It is a good goal to try to complete as much of the enrollment process as possible by August 29.

Problems or questions? Please email or call our DV or Rio Salado Dual-Enrollment Contacts:

Helen Hale (DV counseling)
hhale@tuhsd.k12.az.us
(480) 760-7900

??? (Rio Salado)
????@riosalado.edu
(480) 517-????

Rio Salado Dual Enrollment office: (480) 517-8080
Rio Salado Admissions & Records: (480) 517-8540
Rio Salado Cashiers office: (480) 517-8330