

Mathematics

Foundation For Your Future

Mr. Mitchell Manting
Retired VP of Enterprise Information Security
Cingular Wireless

*Presentation given on February 6, 2008
at Mercer University*

Topics

- The Value of Mathematics as a major
- Math Related Job Opportunities (non-teaching)
- Enhancing your Marketability
- Preparing for your Job Search

Questions

- Who are already Math Majors?
- Who are considering majoring in Math?
- Why do you like Math?
- What skills do you think you are developing as a math major?
- Who has decided on initial career? What?

- Why I liked Math
- Why did I major in Math?
- What career thoughts did I have as I graduated from Florida Southern?

Food for Thought

- People will change jobs on average 10+ times.
- You will likely make 3+ career changes.
- Why?
- What should that mean to you regarding your education?

Food for Thought

- Focus on developing transferrable skills.
- What does that mean? Why is that important?
- Nurture your desire to learn. Why?
- Become passionate about achieving results. Why?

Value of Math Training

What Skills are developed?

- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Data Analysis
- Generating Solutions
- Pattern Recognition
- Determining relevant/extraneous data
- Logical Reasoning

Value of Math

What Skills are Developed

- Computational skills
- Discipline
- Learning/Applying difficult and complex concepts

Do Employers value these skills?

Why?

*A Personal Story.....

Job Opportunities

- www.kpmg-campus.com/careerops/matchingmajors.shtml
- www.att.com/gen/careers?pid=33
- www.usajobs.gov
- www.math.vt.edu/people/alumni/ecprofiles/

(Melissa O'conner)

- <http://math.nku.edu/pages/about/profiles/>

(Brooke Phillips)

Job Opportunities

- http://www.swarthmore.edu/NatSci/math_stat/

(Alumni, Elizabeth Gardner Luzar)

Enhancing Your Marketability

- Coursework
 - Pure and Applied Math (Statistics/Probability)
 - Information Technology (Overview/Programming)
 - Second major or field of emphasis (Science, Economics, Accounting, Business)
 - Technical Writing
 - Graduate Degree (MBA?)
 - Good GPA!! WHY?

Enhance Your Marketability

- Develop 'Soft' Skills
 - Public Speaking
 - Extracurricular activities (Teamwork emphasis)
 - Leadership (Student Govt., Clubs, Athletics)
- Summer Internship
 - Learn if you like the field
 - Practical experience
 - Develop a network

Preparing for your Job Search

- *Know Yourself (Skills, Interests, Values)
- Set Your Goals.
- Prepare your resume. Be clear what you know, what you've achieved and how that relates to the desired job.
- Prepare for the job interview.

What Else?

- Utilize available resources
 - Internet
 - American Mathematical Society
 - Mathematical Association of America
 - USAJOBS
 - U.S. Department of Labor
 - Mercer
 - Career Services
 - Academic and Advising Services

QUESTIONS????

Final Thoughts

- *Math provides a foundation for many careers!
- Strive to become and remain a Continuous Learner.
- Embrace hard work and be passionate about achieving results.