## **Brock University**

### Department of Mathematics

#### **Mathematics Skills Test Instruction Booklet**

# Note: Read all instructions and then proceed with activating your account to gain access to the Practice Test

## **Content of the Mathematics Skills Test**

There are three major areas of high school mathematics content that the Mathematics Skills test covers:

- **Algebra** (equations of lines, factoring, simplifying expressions, solving equations and inequalities, absolute value and long division of polynomials)
- Functions and Modeling (domains, compositions, transformations, symmetry, inverses, roots, parabolas, and modeling)
- Transcendental Functions (exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions)

## **Preparing for the Mathematics Skills Test**

The first step to prepare yourself for the test is to activate your Möbius account. Please click on the link that corresponds to the class you are registered in:

Math 1P01 (Fall 2020 Term): <u>https://lms.brocku.ca/x/X5mzmb</u> Math 1P05 (Fall 2020 Term): <u>https://lms.brocku.ca/x/AaDHmu</u>

You use your Brock account login and password for Möbius. You **MUST** activate your account prior to taking the Skills Test. For an alternative activation method, please <u>see here</u>.

**PLEASE NOTE:** You can only log in to Möbius using Sakai OR using the appropriate link above. Do not attempt to log in directly to Möbius as it will not recognize your username and password.

A Möbius. Practice Test will be available to you after you register in the course to help prepare you to:

- enter answers using Möbius and its corresponding notation
- give some insight into the types of questions you may be asked during the Skills Test.

The Practice Test will have the same two-hour time limit as the actual test and cover the same mathematical topics. Each time you attempt the Practice Test, a new test is randomly generated, so **you are encouraged to make multiple attempts.** However, you are **strongly encouraged to** <u>carefully review</u> <u>each practice attempt</u> and then thoroughly go through the <u>review materials</u> **after completing each test**, **particularly those that cover areas where you may have struggled.** Please note that the practice test is not exhaustive, so there may be questions asked by the Mathematics Skills Test (MST) that are not on the Practice Test.

You must first familiarize yourself with the Möbius software by taking the Readiness Test, which is a basic orientation of Möbius and Möbius syntax (A summary Möbius notation is <u>available at this link</u> and

examples of <u>more advanced notation here</u>). A **grade of 16 or highe**r on the **Readiness Test is required** before you can access the Practice Test.

# **Taking the Mathematics Skills Test**

The Test will open at 9:00 AM on Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and be available in Möbius through Sakai. Students registered in Math 1P01 (Fall 2020), Math 1P05 (Fall 2020) and Math 1P05 (Winter 2020) must activate their account and successfully complete the Mathematics Skills Test with a grade of 14 or higher (70%) before 4:00 PM, Friday, September 4th, 2020.

Important Note: You must verify that you can login to the system prior to making attempt at the test. It is a student's responsibility to ensure that their account is verified and that they have sufficient time to successfully complete the test before the deadline.

# **Completing the Mathematics Skills Test**

If you fail to obtain 70% on the Skills Test, time permitting you will have two more opportunities to successfully complete the test. If you do not successfully pass the test, you will deregistered from the course after the drop date. Students who are unable to pass the test are strongly urged to take Math 1P20: Introduction to Mathematics as it is a preparatory course for Math 1P01/1P05. Students who have a grade of 80% or higher in Math 1P20 are exempt from future Skills Tests. Regardless of whether students have 80% in Math 1P20 or not, students are eligible to take the Mathematics Skills Test in future offerings of the test (e.g. January 2021 and August 2021).

You may wish to check out:

- 1. Our list of Review Material Links
- 2. Frequently Asked Questions
- 3. How to Review your Practice Tests
- 4. Guide to Entering Answers into Möbius
- 5. Möbius Syntax Guide Summary
- 6. Examples of Complicated Möbius Syntax