Mathematics Initial Writing Assessment

The Mathematics Initial Writing Assessment is required by the Department of Mathematics & Statistics as part of the application process. This response should be submitted within two weeks of your application and thoughtful consideration should be given to the writing process and chosen topic. Students whose writing skills are not deemed strong enough will be required to take a one-unit writing course offered by the School of Education through Regional and Continuing Education for an additional fee to help improve their academic writing skills before or during the first term of the program.

1. Review the Writing Rubric so that you are aware of the expectations that will be used in assessing your academic writing skills.

2. Include your name and the program name, MS in Mathematics Education, at the top of your paper.

3. Available topics for your paper:
   a. Describe the impact of the Common Core State Standards on K-12 education in the U.S. and your classroom.
   b. Discuss the purpose of mathematics as a core content area and its relevance to society.
   c. Discuss the impact/role of tracking by responding to the prompt, “All 9th graders should take the same math class.”

4. Select one of the listed mathematics education topics above and write a three-to-five page paper that addresses your chosen topic (plus an additional page for references).

5. You should have at least three different and appropriate references.

6. The paper should be double-spaced.

7. The paper should be in a Word document.

8. Use APA formatting (American Psychological Association, OWL Purdue).

9. Once you receive your Chico State ID number from the Office of Graduate Studies, click here to submit your initial writing assessment to the Department of Mathematics & Statistics’ MS in Mathematics Education program. Note: you will need your Chico State ID to login. Additional instructions for submitting your writing sample may be found here.

10. Your application for the MS in Mathematics Education cannot be processed until the writing assessment has been received and reviewed.