

Electronic Seminar on Mathematics Education

A Touch of Calculus: Shaking Up the Pre-Requisite Structure of College Mathematics

Rick Cleary, Babson College



Mathematics majors typically see no mathematics other than calculus until they complete a calculus sequence. This can be a major barrier to entry to the study of mathematics. But should it be? What could a "limited calculus" mathematics major look like? What would it be good for? At Babson College, we don't have a math major and we don't teach a calculus sequence; but we offer sophisticated elective courses in discrete math, linear algebra, probability, mathematics of finance and

many areas of statistics and operations research. Our students get good jobs in industry or go on to very strong graduate programs in business and other fields. We hope to encourage colleagues elsewhere to consider building mathematics pathways that prepare students for careers first and graduate study in math as the exception, rather than the other way around.

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Zoom link: <https://cornell.zoom.us/j/92078267146>, passcode esme

For more information on ESME: <http://math.mit.edu/seminars/esme/>