

Review of Library Resources

New Course Proposal: MATH 114: Mathematical Modeling

For the 2010-2011 budget year, the combined Mathematics and Computer Science materials allocation is \$5,989.85; this amount is used to purchase new monographs and media in the various mathematical topics taught at Saint Mary's College.

The following is a sample of book titles selected from the whole collection that are related to the stated topics of interest to the course (i.e., stochastic processes, inter/extrapolation, queuing theory).

- *Topics in Mathematical Modeling* / Tung (2007)
- *Mathematical Modeling: A Case Studies Approach* (part of the Student Mathematical Library series) / Illner (2005)
- *A First Course in Mathematical Modeling* / Giordano (1997)
- *Reality Rules: Picturing the World in Mathematics* / Casti (1992)
- *Mathematics in Nature: Modeling Patterns in the Real World* / Adam (2003)

Our book collection increased in size and scope with the addition of the e-brary database of over 40,000 full text academic monographs. There are currently 248 titles that include "mathematical modeling" as a key subject heading.

Expanding the available materials all the more, the Library provides access to over 18 million unique book titles from all subject areas through our participation in the Link+ consortium and offers Interlibrary loan for journal articles and harder to find books.

As Library policy, we do not actively purchase textbooks. Though, through donations, we maintain a modest circulating collection of various mathematics textbooks that offer various approaches to a subject. If not already in our collection, the textbook for this course would not be purchased; however, individual teaching faculty are encouraged to place a personal copy in our Reserve collection for the benefit of his/her students during the semester.

As with most courses in Mathematics, this proposal does not outline requirements for research beyond the textbook, thus Library instruction is not impacted. As always, reference librarians are available to assist students on a one-on-one basis as needed during our normal 67.5 hours of drop-in reference service, or by appointment.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Vital
Assistant Librarian
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