Almost anyone can be successful in the field of math. There’s a lot of hard work on the path to success but the work does pay off.

In the world of math, there are endless possibilities. Careers at every end of the spectrum involve math.

Employers are searching for math students. They value and highly reward the skills and work ethics math students acquire throughout their studies.

Why Major in Math?

Majoring in Math? Wondering if you should? This is for you.

(From a SWOSU Math Major)
Who Majors in Math?

Think you have to be a nerd to be successful at math?

Think again.

Personality has little to do with defining who is best suited as a math major. The defining characteristic that separates a successful math major from others is a person’s work ethic. Slacking costs a student dearly and hard work is essential for success. Many people think that in order to succeed at math they need to be naturally gifted with the skills math demands. This is not true. The only skills needed are the will to achieve, and an open mind.

Math naturally develops skills such as:

- Critical thinking
- Problem solving
- Analytical thinking
- Quantitative reasoning
- The ability to manipulate precise and intricate ideas
- Constructing logical arguments and exposing illogical arguments
- Communication
- Time management
- Teamwork
- Independence

Careers Options

Boring desk jobs out of the question? No problem!

Majoring in mathematics opens up a whole world full of career opportunities. Careers with roots in math range from animators to engineers, from biologists to physicians, from astronauts to cryptologists, and from forensic analysts to political scientists. In fact just being a professional mathematician is quite rewarding!

Examples of math career fields include:

- Actuarial Science
- Architecture
- Budget Analysis
- Cryptology
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Climatology
- Economics
- Foreign Exchange Trading
- Market Research Analysis
- Mathematical Physics
- National Security Analysis

For the entire list and a detailed description of each, visit www.whenwilliusemath.com

Career Lifestyles

Hard work does pay off.

Employers of every different type prize math majors. They value the skills that the study of math instills in students.

Employers of math majors include:

- Wall Street
- Biotech companies
- Computer companies
- CIA
- FBI
- NSA
- NASA
- Airlines
- Consulting firms
- Brokerage firms
- Investment banks

Math careers also rank at the top of the scale in best occupations based upon stress, physical demands, hiring outlook, compensation, and work environment. The annual salary for the top 10% of operations research analysts was $88,000, the top 10% of actuaries received $124,000, and the top 10% of statisticians received $87,000.