<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course titles and descriptions</th>
<th>Requirements for Bach degree in math</th>
<th>Type of term (semesters, quarters, etc.)</th>
<th>Number of units (credits, or hours, or whatever) needed for graduation (all courses, not just math)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Have descriptions, which includes titles</td>
<td>No Bach deg in math available till 1923</td>
<td>Semester system can be deduced</td>
<td>Not needed. No bach deg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1915</td>
<td>Have descriptions, which includes titles</td>
<td>No Bach deg in math available till 1923</td>
<td>Semester system can be deduced</td>
<td>Not needed. No bach deg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>Have descriptions, which includes titles</td>
<td>First yr you can earn a bachelors of science in mathematics. Specified math crses: 615 in class hrs + 995 prep hours in 4 years. 41 - 66.33 after div. by 15 weeks per term. 41+66.33 = 107.33 units. No rules about math electives. Thesis needed but its units not given.</td>
<td>Semesters acc. to Ri Romano</td>
<td>Ri Romano says: &quot;in 1925 the unit system was not in use as we know it. The requirements were phrased in terms of total hours of class time and preparation. However, I have taken those numbers and divided by the number of weeks in the term to give an estimate of what the unit requirement would have been. 392 units, including physical training and military training.&quot; WM Note: catalog says there are 15 weeks in a term.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Specified math: 143 units (class + prep). Elective + Thesis: 36.</td>
<td>Semester system can be deduced</td>
<td>Ri Romano makes same comment as in 1935 except &quot;381 units&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Pure&amp;Applied Math option: 162 specified units (class + prep) in math. No rules on math electives. 11 units of thesis. Industri Stat option: 135 specified + 11 units for thesis.</td>
<td>Semester system can be deduced</td>
<td>Ri Romano makes same comment as in 1935 except &quot;381 units&quot;.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some of this information comes from emails from MIT Registrar Ri Romano. Some from email and phone calls with Prof. Gil Strang of MIT.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course titles</th>
<th>Requirements for Bach degree in math (just math courses)</th>
<th>Type of term (semesters, quarters, etc.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>114 units (class + prep) specified crses. 11 Thesis</td>
<td>Semester system according to Prof. Strang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>Program 1: 72 units if calculus has been mastered, 96 if not. Program 2: 84 units if calculus has been mastered, 108 if not.</td>
<td>Semester system according to Prof. Strang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>108 assuming calc has been mastered. 132 otherwise.</td>
<td>Semester system according to Prof. Strang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3 options: general math, applied math, theoretical math. All 108 units assuming calculus has been mastered, 132 if not.</td>
<td>Semester system according to Prof. Strang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>108 units if calculus has been mastered for each of 3 options: general math, applied math, theoretical math. If calc needs to be taken, 132. Mathematics with computer science option: 162 or 165 if calc has been mastered, 186 or 189 if calc. needs to be taken.</td>
<td>Semester system according to Prof. Strang</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This was 180 dep't. units + GIR. Ri Romano says GIR could be between 174 and 210 units. Altogether between 354 and 390 units average 372.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>2007-2008</th>
<th>yes</th>
<th>4 options: General Math, Applied Math, Theoretical math, Math and CS. If calculus has been mastered: Gen Math and Theoretical 96 un.; App math 108 un.; Math &amp; CS 108 un in math, 48 in CS. If calculus must be taken, add 24 units to all these numbers.</th>
<th>In 2007-08 this was 180 beyond GIR units + GIR. The only way I (WM) could find to fulfill GIR was 180 units, so 180+180 = 360 is a reasonable estimate.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course titles</strong></td>
<td><strong>Semester system according to Prof. Strang</strong></td>
<td><strong>Type of term (semesters, quarters, etc.)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Number of units (credits, or hours, or whatever) needed for graduation (all courses, not just math)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics with computer science option: 162 or 165 if calc has been mastered, 186 or 189 with calc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>
Hi Walter  Let me respond quickly to your first 2 questions

U= undergrad and G=grad is correct

4-0-8 == 4 hrs class  0 hrs lab  8 hrs homework  per week

this is 12 unit course  (advanced math is almost all 3 0 9)

REST means that the course counts in some specific requirement (I should know!)

Similarly HUM  HASSD ... are requirements in humanities

Now we also have CI requirements (communication intensive -- 2
courses must have this indication, to show experience with writing/speaking)

One expert here is Joanne Jonsson  jonsson@math.mit.edu

Then the Registrar's office would be an official source you could ask

Hope this is helpful

Gil

Prof. Gilbert Strang
Hello Professor Meyer,

1. Was MIT on the semester system (as opposed to quarters say) in 1925? (I have verified that it was in other years of interest in our survey, but I am not sure of 1925.)

   MIT was on a trimester system in 1924-25 but went to semesters in 1925-26.

2. How many total units (in all courses of all types) were required for a mathematics major to earn a Bachelor's Degree in 1925, 1935, 1945?

   in 1925 the unit system was not in use as we know it. The requirements were phrased in terms of total hours of class time and preparation. However, I have taken those numbers and divided by the number of weeks in the term to give an estimate of what the unit requirement would have been.

   1925 -- 392 units
   1935 -- 381 units
   1945 -- 381 units

   these figures include physical training and military service requirements.

3. How many total units did the General Institute Requirements comprise in 1995?

   the GIRs are phrased in terms of subjects, with the exception of the LAB requirement which is defined at 12 units. In 1995, the science core - 2 physics, 2 calculus, 1 chemistry, 1 biology - was satisfied with all 12 unit subjects. The 8-subject Humanities requirement may have been satisfied with 9 or 12 unit subjects
(usually some of each). The 2-subject REST (restricted electives in science and technology) requirement may have been satisfied with subjects ranging between 9 and 15 units. Thus, the total GIRs may have been worth between 174 and 210 units. I would estimate the average to be 204.

I hope that helps. Please let me know if you need any more information.

ri

Ri Romano
Associate Registrar, MIT

-----Original Message-----
From: Walter Meyer [mailto:meyer@panther.adelphi.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2007 4:09 PM
To: Ri Romano
Subject: MIT History

Hi Associate Registrar Romano,

Recently you dug up a missing fact for the Cajori Two Project (carried out for the Mathematical Association of America and attempting to outline a century of math curricula at leading institutions.)

There are a few more stray bits of data we need. Can you help us again? (By the way, I am pretty sure this is the last request we will need to direct to you.)

The questions are:

1. Was MIT on the semester system (as opposed to quarters say) in 1925? (I have verified that it was in other years of interest in our survey, but I am not sure of 1925.)
2. How many total units (in all courses of all types) were required for a mathematics major to earn a Bachelor's Degree in 1925, 1935, 1945?

3. How many total units did the General Institute Requirements comprise in 1995?

Thank you for your help.

Professor Walter Meyer

On Nov 20, 2007, at 4:22 PM, Ri Romano wrote:

hello Professor Meyer,

Jen forwarded your question to me.

The first Bachelor of Science degrees in Mathematics were awarded by the Institute in 1923. Three were awarded that year. The first Master of Science in Mathematics was awarded in 1919. The first Doctoral degrees in Mathematics were awarded in 1927.

I hope that helps. Please let me know if I can supply any further information.

Ri

Ri Romano
Associate Registrar, MIT

-----Original Message-----
From: Walter Meyer [mailto:meyer@panther.adelphi.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2007 3:27 PM
Prof Meyer,
I am not sure in the early 1900's if the unit requirement was 120 for graduation. I am pretty sure in the late 40 and 50's it was 120 based on transcripts that I have reviewed for students who graduated. It may take me a while to research this but if you want to go with 120 as the general rule for the semester system, then I am happy.

Have a good weekend.
Karen Denton

Walter Meyer wrote:
Hi Ms. Denton,

Thank you so much for your reply and especially for being so prompt. There is one aspect of your reply I don't understand. It seems to me that before 1965, in the years I inquired about, it was always the semester system with 120 credits needed. So I am not sure what else you have to research. No doubt I am misunderstanding something.

Once, again, many thanks,

Prof. Walter Meyer

On Feb 29, 2008, at 4:11 PM, Karen wrote:
Your email was forwarded to me for response. My answers are under the question.
Karen Denton
Assistant Registrar

-------- Original Message --------
Subject: Re: [Fwd: historical information]
Date: Fri, 29 Feb 2008 12:58:48 -0800
From: Karen <kjed@berkeley.edu>
To: orreg@berkeley.edu
Reference <1667.169.229.148.170.1204310876.squirrel@calmail.berkeley.edu>