**Frequently Asked Questions about the Applied Mathematics Specialization**

1. *When does the Applied Mathematics Specialization become official?*
The specialization is approved by the college, but will not be official for students until the Fall Semester.
2. *How does a student officially choose the Applied Mathematics Specialization?*
A student will file a Change of Major form (there is a line for change of specializations) as when any other major is declared. Since the specialization isn't official until the Fall 2012 semester, these forms cannot be filed until then.  If a student wants to declare an Applied Mathematics Specialization now, they can fill out the form, turn it in at the department office, and the department will file the forms for the student when the specialization is officially on PAWS.
3. *Will a student changing their major to the Applied Mathematics Specialization have a new advisor?*
Students who are Mathematics majors (Mathematics Specialization) will keep the same advisor they have now. Students who are coming from other majors or specializations (such as Mathematics Secondary Education, Mathematics Education, and Statistics) will be assigned a new advisor. This advisor will be one of the Mathematics faculty, but not necessarily an applied mathematician.
4. *When should students make a choice between the Mathematics specialization and the Applied Mathematics specialization?*Students should be thinking about their choice of specialization during the fall semester of their sophomore year.  For most students, there is no difference in the plan of study between the Mathematics, Statistics, and Applied Mathematics specializations during their first three semesters. But students considering an Applied Mathematics specialization should take Differential Equations in the spring of their sophomore year. If a student has transfer or AP credits in mathematics, they should consider taking Differential Equations even earlier in their career. Students should also consider taking CSC 215 or CSC 250 as early as possible, and certainly by the end of their sophomore year.
5. *Who should students contact if they want more information?*
Students should speak to the Department Co-Chairs, Dr. Hagedorn and Dr. Liebars, first. They can also speak to Drs. Clark, Conjura, Gevertz, and Harris, faculty members who work in applied mathematics.

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