

## What we offer for Pre-Actuaries

The Hope College Department of  
Mathematics offers

- Actuarial exam preparation  
courses
- Internship opportunities
- All of the Society of Actuaries  
certified Validation by Educa-  
tional Experience (VEE) courses
- Funding opportunities for exam  
costs and study materials



## Recommended Courses

### *Strongly recommended*

- Econ 211/212- Macro- and Micro-Economics
- Mgmt 371- Corporate Finance
- Econ 306- Econometrics

### *Recommended*

- Math 231/232- Multivariable Calculus
- Computer Sci. 160- Sci. Comp. Prog.

## More questions?

Talk with Professor Airat Bekmetjev  
of the Hope College Mathematics  
Department.

Airat Bekmetjev, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Mathematics

VanderWerf Hall 214

616-395-7525

[bekmetjev@hope.edu](mailto:bekmetjev@hope.edu)



## Hope College

### Department of Mathematics

27 Graves Place  
Holland, Michigan 49422-9000

Phone: 616-395-7530

Fax: 616-395-7123

<http://math.hope.edu>

*Hope College*

*Mathematics*

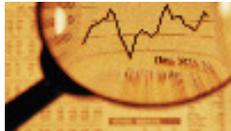
*Information*

*Hope College*  
*Department of Mathematics*

*Recommendations for the Pre-Actuary*

## What is Actuarial Science?

Actuarial science is a field of study that uses mathematical models to put a present dollar value on future risky events. Historically, most actuaries have worked in the insurance and pensions industries.



Today, actuaries are also involved in financial decision making for both individuals and companies. In its last five issues, the *Jobs Rated Almanac*<sup>1</sup> has rated actuary as one of the top four professions based on work environment, income, outlook, job security, stress and other factors. In particular, the actuarial profession is often called the “zero-unemployment” profession because typically the demand for actuaries has outpaced supply. Visit [www.beanactuary.org](http://www.beanactuary.org) for more information about the actuarial profession.

1. [Jobsratedalmanac:Thebestandworstjobs](#). Les Krantz. Sixth Edition. Barricade Books. 2002.

## Who becomes an actuary?

Actuaries are people who have very strong quantitative abilities, enjoy working in the business world, and who want to start their careers immediately after they attain their undergraduate degree (no post-graduate degree required). Again, visit [www.beanactuary.org](http://www.beanactuary.org) for more information

## Recommendations

Students must have passed the first of a series of certification exams before graduating in order to be competitive for jobs after graduation. Additionally, students who have completed Society of Actuaries certified Validation by Educational Experience (VEE) college courses, have had an internship in the actuarial field, and/or have completed subsequent actuarial certification exams are even more competitive for actuarial positions upon graduation.

### First Exam

Students should take Probability (Math 361) after taking at least the first two semesters of calculus. At the end of the course, students are ready to take the first actuarial certification examination.



## VEE Courses

Through the Department of Economics, Management and Accounting, we offer *all* of the Society of Actuaries VEE courses. These include Macro Economics (Econ 211), Micro Economics (Econ 212), Corporate Finance (Mgmt 371), and Econometrics (Econ 306).

## Internships

The Career Services Office offers connections to summer internships with firms in Grand Rapids, Chicago, Detroit and beyond. Students may also obtain semester long internships as part of the Chicago or Philadelphia semester programs. Students that pass their first exam will be competitive for most summer internships.

## Preparation for Subsequent Exams

The Hope College Mathematics Department offers independent study opportunities for students who have completed their first exam and are preparing for the second, third or fourth exams.

## Further Mathematics Study

While not required, pre-actuary students should also plan to take courses in applied statistics (Math 311/312) and multivariable calculus (Math 231/232).

## Funding

The Mathematics Department offers competitive awards to cover the cost of exam registration and study materials.