Recommendations

B.S. Mathematics

To learn more about how you can make the most of your educational experiences within and beyond the classroom contact:
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PARTICIPATE

Community Service

Sites/experiences
Carolina Science Outreach (http://www.carolinascienceoutreach.org/), Dreher High School tutoring center (through the Gamecock Math Club/Pi Mu Epsilon mathematics honorary: http://www.math.sc.edu/~pme/), high school math contest, practice AP exam (help with organizing, setting up, and proctoring)

Why this is important
While the experiences listed here do have a mathematical theme, community service does not have to relate to a student’s major for it to be important. Gamecock Math Club is open to the entire USC community. Mathematics students are encouraged also to seek out additional community service opportunities not directly related to mathematics.

Global Learning

Timing for “study abroad”
Any time during a student’s undergraduate years.

Destinations
Budapest Semesters in Mathematics (http://budapestsemesters.com/), Math in Moscow (http://www.mccme.ru/mathinmoscow)

Opportunities
USC Study Abroad Office

Why this is important
The study abroad opportunities listed above provide mathematics students with excellent opportunities to become exposed to mathematical topics not available at USC. Other students who are ahead of the typical pace as far as MATH courses are concerned, can study abroad to develop a foundation in a second (or third) area (e.g., another language, culture, history, art, religion). It is also possible to take MATH courses abroad comparable to the ones offered at USC, but this needs to be more closely coordinated to ensure that students have the prerequisites expected at the other institution and that the course provides adequate preparation for the remaining MATH courses taken at USC.

Peer Leadership

Student organization(s)
Gamecock Math Club / Pi Mu Epsilon

Opportunities
MAA Math Jeopardy, Math Lab

Why this is important
Mathematics is difficult for many students. Sometimes learning from fellow students can help students overcome some of the psychological obstacles to being successful in mathematics. Most tutors will report that they learned as much from being a tutor as the students they were helping. This makes these opportunities particularly attractive to pre-service teachers.

Getting started
http://www.math.sc.edu/~pme
Facebook page: University of South Carolina Pi Mu Epsilon and Gamecock Math Club
Internships

Professional organizations
Mathematical Association of America, American Mathematics Society

Recommended work experiences
State Farm Summer Internship (most insurance companies have internships like this); Kennedy Space Center

Why this is important
Mathematics at USC does not require an internship or other professional experience. However, we do encourage students to seek mathematics-related work or research experiences in the summer. The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds a number of Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) at schools across the country. The MAA and AMS websites listed are the best sources for almost all of these opportunities. The specific mathematics prerequisites vary, but these are typically most appropriate for students after their second and third years in the undergraduate program. The USC Career Center is an excellent resource for information about summer internships.

Research

Sample research projects or topics
Research Experiences for Undergraduates, MASS Program at Penn State

Why this is important
Research opportunities are open to all students but are most appropriate for students thinking about pursuing graduate education in mathematics and a career as a research mathematician. These experiences can be an excellent way to get some first-hand exposure to graduate schools and their faculty.

LEAD

Career opportunities
Actuary, Consultant, Data Analyst, Financial Analyst, Teacher

Related graduate programs
Master of Science in Mathematics, Ph.D. in Mathematics, Master of Teaching in Secondary Education (with an emphasis in Mathematics)

Future career opportunities
The skills that mathematics students develop that are attractive to employers include critical thinking, problem-solving, quantitative analysis, and logical reasoning. While mathematics majors often find jobs that do not include “mathematics” in their title, it is their mathematical background that employers report as being very attractive (assuming the new employee is willing to learn the details of their employer’s business). Sometimes the jobs are closely related to the student’s cognate or minor, but it’s their mathematical background that makes them most attractive to employers.

The listed experiences are a sample of options for your major. See the USC Connect experiences database to search for more opportunities.
www.sc.edu/uscconnect/participate