

ACTUARIAL MATH SPECIALIZATION A HIGH PROBABILITY FOR A SUCCESSFUL CAREER

Starting in fall 2015, the Department of Mathematics at Southern Illinois University Carbondale will offer a new specialization in actuarial mathematics within its existing Bachelor of Arts degree.

So what can an actuarial math specialization do for you?

Plenty, according to the Society of Actuaries, which describes an actuary's work as combining "the skills of a business executive, mathematician, (and) financial and investment manager." Most actuaries, male and female, find rewarding careers as risk-analysis calculators in the finance and insurance industries, with a smaller number employed as analysts in business, management or technical consulting services.

The numbers show that studying to become an actuary is a great career choice. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor, the growth rate for actuarial positions through the year 2018 is **21 percent** – a rate significantly higher than the average for other occupations. CNN Money, the Jobs Rated Almanac and U.S. News & World Report all give this career path high marks in the categories of employment outlook, growth opportunity, job security, salary and work environment.

And here's some more facts to consider: The career services site CareerCast.com released its list of the **12 best jobs** in 2014, with actuary being a top career choice. And the Illinois Department of Employment Statistics forecasts continued growth in the actuarial industry, with a predicted starting salary of **\$60,960**. That compares to a starting salary of \$20,400 across all occupations in the state.

SO WHY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE THE ACTUARIAL MATH PROGRAM AT SIU?

- Classes are kept small. You're not just a face in the crowd.
- We offer a rich program that will provide you with breadth and depth.
- Our program is flexible and can be tailored to your interests and career goals.
- We have funded research opportunities immediately available for math majors.

As a student majoring in mathematics at SIU, you will be in close contact with outstanding mathematics professors who are international leaders in their research areas and outstanding teachers committed to your learning.

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