PLACEMENT EXAMS

Quantitative Reasoning Assessment Exam
Entering GS undergraduate students may take the Quantitative
Reasoning (QR) Assessment Exam prior to or during Orientation week
unless they have scored, within the past eight years, a minimum of 600
on the Math SAT or a minimum of a 27 on the math subsection of the
ACT. The QR Exam lasts one hour, and students are permitted to use a
calculator. For more information, see Placement Exams.

Math Placement Exam
Undergraduates and Postbac Premed students needing to assess their
math skills should take the Math Placement Exam. The exam consists
of two parts: Part I will place students into College Algebra and Analytic
Geometry, and Part II will place students into Calculus I. Students
must pass Part I to be eligible to take Part II. For more information,
see Placement Exams.

Chemistry Placement Exam
The Chemistry Placement Exam tests basic knowledge of chemistry
required for enrollment in General Chemistry I. Postbac Premed students
who have not taken a college-level chemistry course, or who received
a grade below B- in a college-level chemistry course, should take the
Chemistry Placement Exam before enrolling in General Chemistry I. For
more information, see Placement Exams.

Language Placement Exam
GS undergraduate students may fulfill the foreign language requirement
or ascertain their level of language proficiency via a language placement
exam within one year of matriculating at GS.

Foreign language placement exams are usually given at the beginning
of each semester by departments offering foreign languages. A list of
these exams is printed in the Orientation schedule. Students may also
contact individual departments for information about placement exams.
(Some language departments do not have regularly scheduled placement
exams; students should contact these departments to arrange for a
special placement examination.)

Students must demonstrate proficiency equivalent to the second
semester of intermediate-level language study to complete the language
core requirement.

If a placement exam is not available in a language in which a student
has expertise, that student should notify their GS advisor during the
first semester after matriculation and the advisor will attempt to make
arrangements for an appropriate assessment or placement exam.

Students who pursue language study as part of a Columbia-approved
study abroad program and wish to use that language to fulfill the GS
language requirement may need to take a placement exam upon their
return from study abroad. Students should consult with the GS Study
Abroad Advisor for details. For language requirements see Study Abroad.

Music Humanities Exemption Exam
The Music Humanities Exemption Exam is offered on the first Friday
of the fall semester by the Music Department (621 Dodge Hall). The
exemption exam must be taken within the first year of matriculation;
dergraduate students who begin in the fall term must take the exam
in the fall; those who begin in spring semester should take the exam the
following fall term. Students are not allowed to take the exemption exam
after their first year of matriculation. Students may take the exam only
once; if they do not pass the exam, they must enroll in a course approved
to count towards the Music Humanities core requirement.