

I have taken different math classes to help me when it comes to future teaching. I studied discrete mathematics and geometry, as well as calculus, algebra, and statistics. While some of these classes went over topics I already knew like how discrete math went over precalculus concepts and algebra including topics I learned in high school. When I was first learning these subjects, I was frustrated because they were concepts I was struggling with understanding. I would question this for a while, why do I need to learn these if they are way too advanced for middle schoolers?

I understand that might be a stupid question, but when I was told the answer it made so much sense. I was told that I am learning the next level of math, I am learning high school math so that I can understand the next steps of the math I will be teaching. If a student asks why they need to learn a subject, I can explain to them that the topics they are learning right now will help them in high school math. When I realized this information, I reflected on my own schooling. I learned a lot about perimeter and area in middle school, and in high school, I learned about three-dimensional objects and volume. To learn about volume, I needed the foundations, I needed to know about area and multiplication.

Looking ahead to my future students' educations, I understand that some students will say that they don't like math or that they never want to do math again, but I will have the ability to explain to them that it will be helpful for their future and hopefully I can show them an example of more difficult math that they would learn in future math classes.

I am currently studying statistics and taking an independent learning contract for Euclidean and Non-Euclidean geometry and am planning to complete the courses at the end of the winter quarter around March 21st.