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Getting Students on Track: experience with a newly developed self-paced online pre-calculus review course at The Catholic University of America.

Retention in STEM programs is a serious and complex issue. Many studies have shown that math competency and students’ first semester GPAs in college are significant factors in student success. Much media attention lately has also been given to remedial classes and their possible negative effects on student population diversity and retention. To address these issues the Mathematics Department at The Catholic University of America has developed a set of asynchronous, instructor-supported online pre-calculus review courses for incoming freshmen with low scores on an in-house placement test. Students who pass the online review are placed into Calculus I. Our self-paced online review serves the needs of a mid-size private university with a non-local student population. In this talk, we will discuss our experience from offering this set of courses for two years. Additionally, we will look at the factors which went into developing these courses, and a study of the results. (Received July 26, 2018)