

UW Course Catalog Search with SWS

Web Services,
where have you been all my life?

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In the beginning...

- Registrar's office has long wanted some kind of datastore for course data.
- Huge barriers to making that a reality
 - Information is "locked up" in static pages
 - Database hosting/maintenance/access questions
 - Prioritization with other projects
 - ...and of course, paying for it

A “solution” is found

- Happily, there was something that worked... sorta
- Our friend Google
 - Simple to set up
 - Nothing to maintain
 - Everything’s perfect, right?
 - Try it out

Web Results 11 - 20 of about 66 for math [definition]. (0.03 seconds)

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY
... discrete **mathematics**, database design, algorithms and data structures, imperative programming, markup languages, and end-user programming tools. ...
www.washington.edu/students/crscat/imt.html - [Cached](#) - [Similar](#)

APPLIED MATHEMATICS
Introduction to MATLAB routines for numerical programming, computation, and visualization. Prerequisite: either MATH 125, Q SCI 292, MATH 128, or MATH 135. ...
www.washington.edu/students/crscat/appmath.html - [Cached](#) - [Similar](#)

STATISTICS
Prerequisite: either 2.0 in MATH 395 or 2.0 in STAT 395. Prerequisite: some Fourier theory and linear algebra; **Math** or STAT 390, ECON or STAT 481, ...
www.washington.edu/students/crscat/stat.html - [Cached](#) - [Similar](#)

MATHEMATICS 14th Result for a “math” search?!
Open only to students [1] in the Educational Opportunity Program or [2] admitted with an entrance deficiency in **mathematics**. Offered: AWSp. ...
www.washington.edu/students/crscat/math.html - [Cached](#) - [Similar](#)

Serendipity strikes

- iPhone application brings the Student Web Services (SWS) into the fast lane
- Registrar's office helps vet the data
- $1 + 1 = 11\dots$
 - "Hey, couldn't we use this info another way?"
 - "Yes. Yes we can."
- We can re-build the Course Catalog search with web services!

If we build it, they will come.

- All the ingredients were there:
 - Clear need for an improved process
 - Public course search form ([link](#))
 - Public course details ([link](#))
 - Public curriculum list ([link](#))
 - 1 halfway-decent web developer
 - Roughly 3 days' time
 - Combine and mix thoroughly, bake at 375° to get...

A fresh-baked approach to Course Catalog search

W UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON [Search](#) | [Directories](#) | [Reference Tools](#)

[UW Home](#) > [UWIN](#) > [Student Guide](#)

Course Catalog Search *(Beta*)*

I'm looking for courses whose...

Title contains: [» Advanced search](#)

106 course results found

Searching for courses whose title contains "math" (displaying 10 results, starting from number 11)
[Show all descriptions](#)

MATHEMATICAL BIOLOGY: STOCHASTIC MODELS

AMATH 523 - MATHEMATICAL BIOLOGY: STOCHASTIC MODELS (5)
Focuses on stochastic modeling and analysis of biological and medical systems. Biological topics include biochemistry, population genetics, genomics, population and community ecology, and neuroscience. Mathematical topics include generating functions, the Poisson process, Markov processes and master equations, branching processes, and elementary diffusion theory.

MATHEMATICAL BIOLOGY: SPATIOTEMPORAL MODELS AMATH 524

Has it already been five minutes?!

- In a word: this was amazing!
- Serendipity struck
 - web services enabled a solution to a years-old problem essentially as a side-effect of another problem
- Things can only get better
 - As more resources come online, this tool and others will improve and get (even) easier

Last word

This is what it's all about, people:

The SWS enabled a single developer to write a new course catalog for the University in about three days. **Wow.**

- Questions or comments: sbush@uw.edu
- Incredible job, OIM! Thanks for making this possible