

## PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS COURSE INFORMATION

For more information, visit the Health Professions Handbook online at <http://www.advising.ufl.edu/>

Students planning on entering a post-baccalaureate health profession, such as medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, podiatry, optometry or chiropractic, should plan to complete the following courses **one year before graduation**. Some health professions do not require all of the courses, and some require more. **Keep in mind that requirements vary from school to school**, so students should investigate the requirements of the schools to which they plan to apply.

General Chemistry (2 options)		Organic Chemistry (2 options)	
CHM 1025		2 semester Organic Chemistry Sequence	
CHM 2045	CHM 2045	1 semester Organic Sequence w/ Bio-Organic *Doesn't satisfy some schools' prerequisite hours.	
CHM 2045L	OR CHM 2045L	CHM 2210	CHM 3217
CHM 2046	CHM 2046	CHM 2211	OR CHM 3218
CHM 2046L	CHM 2046L	CHM 2211L	CHM 2211L
General Physics (2 options)		Biochemistry (3 options)	
<b>Non-Calculus Based</b>	<b>Calculus Based</b>	BCH 4024	or CHM 4207
PHY 2053	PHY 2048	or BCH 3025	
PHY 2053L	OR PHY 2048L	*CHM 3217/3218 will fulfill this requirement for UF's medical school.	
PHY 2054	PHY 2049		
PHY 2054L	PHY 2049L		
Mathematics		Biology	English
At least 2 semesters of college level mathematics is strongly recommended. Some schools require at least one semester of calculus and some require statistics. <b>A few schools require 1 year of Calculus. You should check for individual school requirements.</b>		BSC 2010 BSC 2010 L BSC 2011 BSC 2011L	Many medical schools require 2 semesters of English. They normally do not specify courses, but any course with the words "writing," "composition," "English," or "literature" in the title should suffice.
MAC 2311 or MAC 3472 STA 2023			

### ADDITIONAL COURSE RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Preoptometry Students:

**Psychology:** PSY 2012, plus 1 additional psychology course

**Microbiology:** MCB 3020, MCB 3020L

**Statistics:** STA 2023

Also recommended are:

**Applied Human Anatomy:** PET 2320C

**Applied Human Physiology:** PET 2350C

#### Pre dental Students

Courses required by UF's College of Dentistry are in **ITALICS**

**Microbiology:** *MCB 3020-3020L – See pre-requisites under prevet*

**Psychology:** *PSY 2012*

**Genetics:** *PCB 3063 or AGR 3303 – See pre-requisites under prevet*

*or \*\*MCB 4304 or \*\*PCB 4522; MCB 3020 is a prerequisite*

*\*\*courses taken by Microbiology majors*

Also recommended are:

**Other Social/Behavioral Sciences**

**Immunology:** PCB 5235

#### Preveterinary Students:

**Intro to Animal Science:** ANS 3006C (requires BSC 2007 or other higher biological science)

**Principles of Animal Nutrition:** ANS 3440 (requires CHM 2045-2045L)

**Genetics:** PCB 3063 (requires CHM 2046-2046L, BSC 2011-2011L) or

AGR 3303 (requires basic course in biology, botany or zoology)

*or \*\*MCB 4304 or \*\*PCB 4522; MCB 3020 is a prerequisite*

*\*\*courses taken by Microbiology majors*

**Microbiology:** MCB 3020-3020L (requires a C or better in BSC 2010, 2011&CHM 2210 or 3217)

**Statistics:** STA 2023

Chemistry is the longest sequence of the preprofessional courses, since General Chemistry must be taken before Organic Chemistry, which must be taken before Biochemistry. Therefore, the General Chemistry sequence should be started as soon as possible. **Students are recommended to take chemistry and math in their first year.** In the second year, most students take biology and either organic chemistry or physics. Transfer students who do not complete the entire general chemistry sequence before transferring to UF should consult with a Chemistry advisor at UF before attempting to register for a general chemistry course.

### TAKING REQUIRED COURSES AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

It is **STRONGLY** recommended that a student complete most of his/her prerequisite courses at UF. In particular, students *should not split a sequence* of courses (such as general chemistry) between two institutions. In addition, a *few professional schools will not accept community college credit* for required courses. Also, taking many prerequisites at another school may appear to admissions committees that you are avoiding difficult classes at UF. If you must take courses at other institutions, remember to get approval from your college's advising office to do so.

## ELECTIVE COURSES

Most professional schools prefer candidates with broad educational backgrounds. In addition to a strong science background, professional school requires a solid foundation in basic verbal and quantitative skills. Nearly one-half of the MCAT focuses on writing skills and reading comprehension of non-scientific material. It is also advisable for preprofessional students to have more than the minimum number of science courses required for admission. Science majors will automatically meet this recommendation. They should choose electives from within the liberal arts. Non-science majors should select from upper level science courses, such as genetics, anatomy, physiology, etc.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE CREDIT

To maintain your knowledge and demonstrate your academic ability to professional schools, you should plan on taking courses in areas in which you have been granted AP or IB credit, especially in English and the sciences. It is recommended that you follow your IB or AP credit with higher level courses, although in some circumstances a student may choose to take a course for which he/she has earned AP or IB credit. If you have such credit, discuss your situation with an advisor.

## CHOOSING A MAJOR

UF does not have a "Pre-med", "Pre-vet" or "Pre-dent" major. No one major is better than any other when applying to a health profession program. You should explore various majors and choose one based on your interests and ability. **Also, you should choose a major that offers you an alternative career as a back up plan.** You may change your mind about going to medical school, dental school, etc., or you may not be accepted (approximately 50% of applicants actually gain acceptance to professional schools). In either case, make sure you earn a Bachelor's degree in something that interests you. For more information on choosing a major and exploring alternate career options, visit the Career Resource Center in the J. Wayne Reitz Union or on-line at <http://www.crc.ufl.edu>.

## UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Accounting	392-0155	Agricultural & Life Sciences	392-1963
Business Administration	392-0165	Building Construction	273-1150
Design, Construction & Planning	392-4836	Education	392-0721
Engineering	392-0944	Fine Arts	392-0207
Forest Resources & Conversation	846-0850	Health & Human Performance	392-0578
Public Health & Health Professions	273-6631	Journalism & Communications	392-1124
Liberal Arts & Sciences	392-1521	Natural Resources & Environment	392-9230
Nursing	273-6400	Pharmacy	273-6400

## GETTING EXPERIENCE

It is extremely important to get health care experience **early on** in your undergraduate education. You may do so by shadowing a health care professional and volunteering in a hospital, clinic, hospice, or other health-care facility. Keep in mind that opportunity for patient interaction is important. Pre-vet students should try to gain experience working with large and small animals. Consider joining student organizations that may assist you in locating sites, such as PSO (Professional Service Organization) and Premed AMSA (American Medical Student Association) or AED (Medical School Honor Society).

## PRE-HEALTH LISTSERV

UF has set up a Pre-Med Email Listserv so that pre-health students can receive important announcements. All pre-health students are invited to join. Email messages sent to the list are forwarded to everyone who has subscribed to the list. Updates on pre-health workshops and other news are also announced on the list. To subscribe, go to the following web page, <http://www.advising.ufl.edu/prehealth/premedlistserv.html>

## MORE INFO

**All pre-health students should read the Health Professions Handbook**, located online at <http://www.advising.ufl.edu/prehealth>, under pre-health students. Catalogs for many health profession programs are located in the Office of Health and Legal Professions Advising (OHLPA) Library on the second floor of the Academic Advising Center (open 8:00-12:00 and 1:00-5:00, Monday through Friday). Also, each fall semester there are a series of Health Professions Information Sessions for first-year and sophomore students who wish to learn more about requirements, effective study skills, and suggestions for making themselves competitive. During the spring semester, Application Workshops are held for students who are applying to health profession programs that year. An Interview Workshop is held for these students the following fall. Dates for upcoming workshops can be obtained by calling 392-1521 x 204, or by visiting the following website: <http://www.advising.ufl.edu/prehealth>

## QUESTIONS or CONCERNS?

OHLPA has put together a Pre-Health Handbook at <http://www.advising.ufl.edu/prehealth>. The handbook contains a great deal of useful information and will address many of your basic concerns about preparing for professional schools. We encourage you to read the handbook prior to making an appointment to see an advisor, so that more complex questions can be addressed during your appointment. We also encourage you to attend a pre-health workshop to help you get a good start on your academic career here at UF as pre-health student. If you have already read the Health Professions Handbook and have attended an information workshop, and you still have questions, you may then make an appointment to see a Pre-Health Professions Advisor by calling 392-1521 x 204. You may also send general questions via email to: [advisor@advising.ufl.edu](mailto:advisor@advising.ufl.edu)

## APPOINTMENT POLICY –OHLPA Pre-Health

Students may arrange to meet a pre-health advisor by appointment. Appointments are scheduled at 30 minute intervals with a 10 minute grace period. If you arrive more than 10 minutes late, you must reschedule the appointment. If you cannot make your scheduled appointment, please call the office at least 24 hours in advance. If you do not show up for an appointment, it will be recorded as a "no-show." If you no show or cancel an appointment two consecutive times, you will lose your appointment privileges for the current term. You may continue to seek advising via walk-in hours.

Students also have the option to see a pre-health advisor during walk-in hours at the Academic Advising Center. Walk-in times for pre-health advising is subject to the pre-health advisor's availability. Please call the front desk at 392-1521 x 100 to find out when a pre-health advisor will be available for walk-ins. During walk-in hours, pre-health advisors see general advisees as well as pre-health students on a first come, first served basis.