A BRIEF GUIDE TO
PRE-HEALTH
AT CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

Pre-Dentistry
Pre-Ophthalmology
Pre-Physician's Assistant
Pre-Veterinary

Last updated 11/11/2019

For more information please contact Alexis Catanzarite, Pre-Health Advisor
alexis.catanzarite@case.edu
SO YOU WANT TO BE A DENTIST

Pre-Dentistry is a career interest developed together with a major and bachelor’s degree. Students prepare by mastering complex academic concepts learned through completing courses required for dental school admission, volunteering in the community and shadowing dentists, taking the Dental Admission Test (DAT), and applying for admission to dental schools.

COURSEWORK

Required by all dental schools and for the DAT:
- General Biology (BIOL 214, 215, 216)
- General Chemistry (CHEM 105, 106, 113)
- Organic Chemistry (CHEM 223 & 233, 224 & 234)

Required and/or strongly recommended by some:
- Anatomy (BIOL 346)
- Physiology (BIOL 340)
- Genetics (BIOL 326)
- Cell Biology (BIOL 325)

Required by all dental schools, but not for the DAT:
- General Physics (PHYS 115, 116)

Note:
- BME majors will take EBME 201 & 202 in lieu of BIOL 216
- ENGR majors will take CHEM 111 & ENGR 145 in lieu of CHEM 105 & CHEM 106
- ENGR, and some Math, and Phys. Sciences majors will take PHYS 121 & 122 in lieu of PHYS 115 & 116

EXAMPLE SCHEDULE*

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*Specific science courses and semester taken may vary depending on your major

These courses will satisfy admissions requirements for most dental schools, but requirements vary.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Succeed academically.
- Attend SI sessions.
- Study regularly. Go to office hours. Ask for help when you need it!

Make valuable connections.
- Meet with your Pre-Health Advisor. Get to know your instructors. Join student organizations.

Get experience.
- Shadow a dentist over your breaks.
- Volunteer during the fall and spring.

Schedule an appointment with the Pre-Health Advisor through Handshake!

Alexis Catanzarite
Pre-Health Advisor
alexis.catanzarite@case.edu
SO YOU WANT TO BE AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

Pre-Occupational Therapy is a career interest developed together with a major and bachelor’s degree. Students prepare by mastering complex academic concepts learned through completing courses required for OT school admission, shadowing and getting direct patient care experience, taking the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), and applying for admission to OT schools.

**COURSEWORK**

Required by most OT schools:
- General Biology (BIOL 214, 215, 216)
- Anatomy (BIOL 346) and Physiology (BIOL 340)
- Psychology (PSCL 101)
- Abnormal Psychology (PSCL 321)
- General Physics (PHYS 115)
- Ethics (BETH 271)
- Statistics (STAT 201, ANTH 319, PSCL 282, OPRE 207)

Required and/or strongly recommended by some:
- Medical Terminology (CLSC 295)
- Child Psychology (PSCL 230)
- Human Development (not offered at CWRU)

*Note:*
- BME majors will take EBME 201 & 202 in lieu of BIOL 216
- Many OT schools require labs for Anatomy and/or Physiology, which we don’t offer at CWRU; many students elect to take those at another four-year institution over the summer

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Succeed academically.
- Attend SI sessions.
- Study regularly. Go to office hours. Ask for help when you need it!

Make valuable connections.
- Meet with your Pre-Health Advisor. Get to know your instructors. Join student organizations.

Get experience. Shadow an OT over your breaks. Consider getting your CNA for patient care experience.

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SO YOU WANT TO BE AN OPTOMETERIST

Pre-Optometry is a career interest developed together with a major and bachelor's degree. Students prepare by mastering complex academic concepts learned through completing courses required for optometry school admission, volunteering and shadowing optometrists, taking the Optometry Admission Test (OAT), and applying for admission to optometry schools.

COURSEWORK

Required by most optometry schools:
- General Biology (BIOL 214, 215, 216)
- General Chemistry (CHEM 105, 106, 113)
- Organic Chemistry (CHEM 223 & 233, 224 & 234)
- General Physics (PHYS 115, 116)
- Biochemistry (BIOC 307 or CHEM 328)
- Psychology (PSCL 101)
- Statistics (STAT 201, ANTH 319, PSCL 282, OPRE 207)

Required and/or strongly recommended by some:
- Anatomy (BIOL 346) and Physiology (BIOL 340)

Note:
- BME majors will take EBME 201 & 202 in lieu of BIOL 216
- ENGR majors will take CHEM 111 & ENGR 145 in lieu of CHEM 105 & CHEM 106
- ENGR, and some Math, and Phys. Sciences majors will take PHYS 121 & 122 in lieu of PHYS 115 & 116

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These courses will satisfy admissions requirements for most optometry schools, but requirements vary.

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- Attend SI sessions.
- Study regularly. Go to office hours. Ask for help when you need it!

Make valuable connections.
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Get experience.
- Shadow an optometrist over your breaks.
- Volunteer during the fall and spring.

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Pre-Physical Therapy is a career interest developed together with a major and bachelor's degree. Students prepare by mastering complex academic concepts learned through completing courses required for PT school admission, volunteering in the community and shadowing, taking the Gradurate Record Examination (GRE), and applying for admission to PT schools.

**COURSEWORK**

Required by most PT schools:
- General Biology (BIOL 214, 215, 216)
- General Chemistry (CHEM 105, 106, 113)
- Anatomy (BIOL 346) and Physiology (BIOL 340)
- General Physics (PHYS 115 & 116)
- Psychology (PSCL 101)
- Statistics (STAT 201, ANTH 319, PSCL 282, OPRE 207)

Required and/or strongly recommended by some:
- Medical Terminology (CLSC 295)
- Additional Behavioral Science (ex: PSCL 230)

Note:
- BME majors will take EBME 201 & 202 in lieu of BIOL 216
- ENGR majors will take CHEM 111 & ENGR 145 in lieu of CHEM 105 & CHEM 106
- ENGR, and some Math, and Phys. Sciences majors will take PHYS 121 & 122 in lieu of PHYS 115 & 116

- Many PT schools require labs for Anatomy and/or Physiology, which we don’t offer at CWRU; many students elect to take those at another four-year institution over the summer

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- Make valuable connections. Meet with your Pre-Health Advisor. Get to know your instructors. Join student organizations.
- Get experience. Shadow a PT over your breaks. Volunteer during fall and spring semesters.

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Pre-Physician’s Assistant is a career interest developed together with a major and bachelor’s degree. Students prepare by mastering complex academic concepts learned through completing courses required for PA school admission, shadowing and getting direct patient care experience, taking the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), and applying for admission to PA schools.

### COURSEWORK

**Required by most PA schools:**
- General Biology (BIOL 214, 215, 216)
- General Chemistry (CHEM 105, 106, 113)
- Organic Chemistry (CHEM 223 & 233)
- Anatomy (BIOL 346)
- Physiology (BIOL 340)
- Microbiology (BIOL 343 & 344)

**Required and/or strongly recommended by some:**
- Medical Terminology (CLSC 295)
- Biochemistry (BIOC 307 or CHEM 328)

Note:
- BME majors will take EBME 201 & 202 in lieu of BIOL 216
- ENGR majors will take CHEM 111 & ENGR 145 in lieu of CHEM 105 & CHEM 106
- ENGR, and some Math, and Phys. Sciences majors will take PHYS 121 & 122 in lieu of PHYS 115 & 116
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- **Make valuable connections.** Meet with your Pre-Health Advisor. Get to know your instructors. Join student organizations.
- **Get experience.** Shadow a PA over your breaks. Get your CNA certification over a summer.

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Pre-Veterinary is a career interest developed together with a major and bachelor's degree. Students prepare by mastering complex academic concepts learned through completing courses required for veterinary school admission, volunteering in the community and shadowing veterinarians, taking the GRE, and applying for admission to veterinary schools.

**COURSEWORK**

**Required by most veterinary schools:**
- General Biology (BIOL 214, 215, 216)
- General Chemistry (CHEM 105, 106, 113)
- Organic Chemistry (CHEM 223 & 233, 224 & 234)
- Biochemistry (BIOC 307 or CHEM 328)
- General Physics (PHYS 115, 116)
- Statistics (STAT 201, ANTH 319, PSCL 282, OPRE 207)

**Required and/or strongly recommended by some:**
- Microbiology (BIOL 343 & 344)
- Genetics (BIOL 326)

**Other courses of interest available at CWRU:**
- Vertebrate Biology Lab (BIOL 223)
- Animal Behavior (BIOL 358)
- Mammalian Diversity and Evolution (BIOL 345)

**Note:**
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**Get experience.**
- Shadow a vet over your breaks.
- Volunteer during the fall and spring.

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