

Advising Course Plan - Biology Major - Medical School Interest

Plan #1 - Students Interested in Medical School (MD, DO)

It is our experience that most incoming freshmen are not prepared for more than one lab science course the first semester. This plan was developed with that in mind and indicates an effective way to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and to complete the typical premedical requirements without taking two lab sciences in year 1.

First Year		
Fall		Units
BIOL 142P	Introductory Biology: Animal and Plant Physiology	1
FSEM 100	First Year Seminar	1
MATH 151 ¹	Mathematics for Life Sciences	1
BIOL 100	Current Perspectives Biology	0.0
General Education requirement		1
PRHP 101	Introduction to the Health Professions	0.0
Term Units		4
Spring		
BIOL 141P	Introductory Biology: Biochemistry, Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics	1
General Education requirement		1
General Education requirement		1
Elective		1
Term Units		4
Second Year		
Fall		
BIOL 243Q	Biostatistics	1
CHEM 141P	General Chemistry I	1
PSYC 101S ²	Introduction to Psychology	1
General Education requirement		1
Term Units		4
Spring		
BIOL 244	Introductory Biology III: Ecology and Evolution	1
CHEM 142P	General Chemistry II	1
SOCI 101S ²	Understanding Society: An Introduction to Sociology	1
General Education requirement		1
Term Units		4
Third Year		
Fall		
BIOL 300 or 400 level course		1
CHEM 201	Organic Chemistry I	1
PHYS 121P	College Physics I	1
Junior Seminar ³		1
Term Units		4
Spring		
Elective		1
CHEM 301	Organic Chemistry II	1
PHYS 122P	College Physics II	1
BIOL 497	Research Proposal	0.5
CHEM 204	Biochemistry I	1
PRHP 102	Applying to Health Professions	0.0
Term Units		4.5
Summer		

If you intend to start MD or DO school the fall after you graduate. During the summer between third year and fourth year you should take the MCAT (after proper preparation; a prep course is offered on campus) and apply to medical schools (via online services AMCAS and/or AACOMAS).

Term Units		0
Fourth Year		
Fall		
BIOL 300 or 400 level course ⁵		1
BIOL 498	Senior Project I	1
BIOL 300 or 400 level course		1
Elective		.5
Term Units		3.5
Spring		
BIOL 300 or 400 level course		1
BIOL 499	Senior Project II	0.5 to 1
Elective		1
Elective ⁴		1
Term Units		3.5 to 4

Total Unit: 31.5 to 32

¹ The timing of the Math course is not critical; it can be taken at a later time. Some students may place into, and wish to take MATH 130 or MATH 141Q.

² PSYC 101S and/or SOCI 101S can be taken any time before the MCAT.

³ The Junior Seminar can be taken in the spring instead of the fall.

⁴ During the spring of the third year or fourth year, you will need to take another 0.5 or 1 unit course to average 4 units per semester.

⁵ You should consider taking CHEM 304 in the spring of the fourth year.

Plan #2 - Students Interested in Medical School (MD, DO)

This plan indicates an effective way to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and to complete the typical premedical requirements.

The plan also presents a way to be prepared to take the MCAT after the 3rd year by taking all courses on that exam before the end of that year. *This path includes 2 lab sciences the first semester so is only for highly motivated students with strong backgrounds in high school Biology, Chemistry, and Math and/or a math SAT score # 650.*

First Year		
Fall		Units
BIOL 142P	Introductory Biology: Animal and Plant Physiology	1
CHEM 141P	General Chemistry I	1
MATH 151 ¹	Mathematics for Life Sciences	1
FSEM 100	First Year Seminar	1
BIOL 100	Current Perspectives Biology	0.0
Term Units		4
Spring		
BIOL 141P	Introductory Biology: Biochemistry, Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics	1
CHEM 142P	General Chemistry II	1
General Education requirement		1
General Education requirement		1
PRHP 101	Introduction to the Health Professions	0.0
Term Units		4
Second Year		
Fall		
BIOL 243Q	Biostatistics	1
CHEM 201	Organic Chemistry I	1

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PHYS 121P ³	College Physics I	1
PSYC 101S	Introduction to Psychology	1

Term Units **4**

Spring

BIOL 244	Introductory Biology III: Ecology and Evolution	1
CHEM 301	Organic Chemistry II	1
PHYS 122P ³	College Physics II	1
SOCI 101S	Understanding Society: An Introduction to Sociology	1

Term Units **4**

Third Year

Fall

BIOL 300 or 400 level course		1
Elective		1
General Education requirement		1
Junior Seminar ⁴		1
PRHP 102	Applying to Health Professions	0.0

Term Units **4**

Spring

BIOL 300 or 400 level course		1
BIOL 497	Research Proposal	0.5
General Education requirement		1
CHEM 204	Biochemistry I	1
Elective ^{5,6}		1

Term Units **4.5**

Summer

During the summer between third year and fourth year you should take the MCAT (after proper preparation; a prep course is offered on campus) and apply to medical schools (online service).

Term Units **0**

Fourth Year

Fall

BIOL 300 or 400 level course		1
BIOL 498	Senior Project I	1
Elective		1
Elective		1

Term Units **4**

Spring

BIOL 300 or 400 level course		1
BIOL 499	Senior Project II	1
Elective		.5
Elective		1

Term Units **3.5**

Total Unit: 32

¹ The timing of the Math course is not critical; it can be taken at a later time. Some students may place into, and wish to take MATH 130 or MATH 141Q.

² The Math courses can be put off until later if needed.

³ Physics could be taken in third year.

⁴ The Junior Seminar can be taken in the spring instead of the fall.

⁵ During the spring of the third year or fourth year, you will need to take another 0.5 or 1 unit course to average 4 units per semester.

⁶ You should consider taking CHEM 304 in the spring of third year.