BIOLOGY MAJOR - Pre-Pharmacy Planner

NOTE: Students completing the requirements listed on the Biology Major Planner AND the courses below will meet the prerequisites of most pharmacy school in the U.S. (OSU in particular). Students following this checklist will NOT receive a Pre-Pharmacy Option and these courses are not tracked in MyDegrees. The information below is subject to change.

Pre-Pharmacy Required and Recommended Courses

Courses listed below can be applied to the category requirement listed in parentheses or taken in addition to this requirement (listed in the MyDegrees checklist in Online Services -> MyOSU). **Students must check prerequisites at every school they plan to apply to for up to date information on their particular requirements.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Recommended Courses:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Recommended:</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHAR 201 Pre-Pharmacy Orientation (1 CR, Winter, Spring?)</td>
<td><strong>Chemistry Minor</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PHAR 210 Medical Terminology (2 CR, All Terms)</td>
<td>CH 324 Quantitative Analysis (4 CR) OR CH 390 Environmental Chemistry (3 CR) are good choices to complete the chemistry minor. These credits count toward the Upper Division Science course in the biology major (Track III).</td>
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<td><strong>Required Science Coursework:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Social Science</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>BI 331, 332 &amp; 333 Anatomy &amp; Physiology Lecture</td>
<td>Many schools require additional coursework in the social sciences (ANTH, PSY, SOC). Please refer to specific schools for more detail.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(3 credits each, Fall, Winter, Spring, Respectively)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BI 341, 342, &amp; 343 Anatomy &amp; Physiology Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2 credits each, Fall, Winter, Spring, Respectively)</td>
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<td><strong>Note:</strong> The anatomy and physiology series may fulfill the physiology and Organismal biology major requirements for pre-pharmacy students who are viable professional school candidates—see your advisor for more information</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other Required Coursework:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Online and Study Abroad Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PSY 201 or PSY 202 Introduction to Psychology (3)</td>
<td>Some pharmacy schools will not accept online science courses (especially those with online labs) or classes from study abroad programs. Although specific professional courses should not be done abroad, study abroad is a great opportunity and very feasible for pre-pharmacy students. If you are interested in study abroad, begin a dialogue with your advisor as early as possible, even during your first year. You can work with an advisor on how to schedule and apply study abroad courses to your degree. Students should, under no circumstances, take specific professional school prerequisite courses online.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>(social processes and institutions)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 201 Microeconomics OR Econ 202 Macroeconomics (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>(social processes and institutions) (ECON 201 preferred)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Note:</strong> AEC 250 will meet the prerequisite requirement for economics for the OSU College of Pharmacy. However, the course does not meet the requirement for many other pharmacy schools. It is important to check the pre-requisites of all schools that you plan to apply to.</td>
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Campus Resources

**Pre-Pharmacy Society**

Join the facebook group: “OSU Pre-Pharmacy Society”.

The advisor for pre-pharmacy society is Lauren Corwin. For more information on how you can get involved, or to join pre-pharmacy society, please send an e-mail to osuprepharmacsociety@gmail.com

**Pre-Pharmacy Advising**

Make an appointment with your pre-pharmacy advisor here: [http://ib.oregonstate.edu/advising/appointments](http://ib.oregonstate.edu/advising/appointments)

**Pharmacy Guide, OSU College of Science**

FAQ’s about pharmacy, and additional resources. [https://www.science.oregonstate.edu/Prehealth](https://www.science.oregonstate.edu/Prehealth)
As with any career choice, it is important to determine your motivation to pursue pharmacy and to assess your fit for your eventual job duties. Experience in the field of pharmacy and other healthcare experiences are an important part of your self-exploration, and can also boost your credentials for pharmacy school. How you get involved should be driven by your desires and interests. In the past, students have worked in pharmacies as clerks or technicians, interviewed pharmacists, shadowed pharmacists (in several contexts), worked in hospitals, and completed volunteer and enrichment opportunities within the discipline.

**Pharmacy Shadowing**

Shadowing a pharmacist is an important step in deciding if pharmacy is right for you. You may also interview pharmacists to get a better sense of what they do. You should seek out the opportunity to shadow and interview pharmacists in several settings and across specialties.

Students can arrange to shadow a physician at Samaritan Health Services by utilizing the career services center handshake.

http://career.oregonstate.edu/students/handshake

**Note:** Students can also shadow most types of health professionals by using the career services center.

**Internships and Volunteering**

See the medical and health professions and pharmacy sections of the internships list at:

http://ib.oregonstate.edu/professional/internship-research/intern-volunteer-list

**International Internship**

International experiences prepare you to work with diverse populations, improve language and communication skills, and increase your clinical experience. See the IB guide here:

http://ib.oregonstate.edu/professional/international

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**Oregon State Pharmacy Technician Licensing**

Students in Oregon may apply for a provisional pharmacy technician license, that allows you to work as a pharmacy tech for up to two years (expires in June, after at least one year). To become a certified pharmacy technician, you must pass a national licensing exam.


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**Research Experience**

Research experience is absolutely required to apply form a PharmD/PhD program. Plan to get as much undergraduate research experience as possible if you are interested in this route (drug development and discovery, pharm research).

**Admissions Test**

Some schools require the Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT), though OSU College of Pharmacy does not. Visit:

www.pcatweb.info

**References**

You should establish relationships with professors (especially in prerequisite courses) and pharmacy professionals throughout your time as an undergraduate. Schools generally require a minimum of three (3) letters of evaluation. Your references should be able to speak about you as an individual, and discuss your academic strengths, acumen for pharmacy, character, and professionalism.

**Leadership**

Pharmacy schools value leadership experiences. There are a variety of ways to gain leadership skills as an undergraduate, including officer roles in student clubs, coordination for organizations (i.e. non-profits and volunteer opportunities), or being a peer mentor for a department or college. What you do is more important that what your title is—be creative. You may also take leadership classes or earn a leadership minor.

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**Additional Resources**

- American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
  http://www.aacp.org/resources/student/Pages/default.aspx
- American Pharmacist Association
  http://www.aphanet.com
- Explore Health Careers
  http://www.explorehealthcareers.org
- National Community Pharmacists Association
  http://www.ashp.org
- Pharmacy for Me
  http://www.pharmacyforme.org
- Pharmacy College Application System
  http://www.pharmcas.org
- OSU College of Pharmacy
  http://pharmacy.oregonstate.edu