

PRE-PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT

Undergraduate Credit Required	Bachelor's degree
Entrance Exam	GRE and or MCAT (depending on schools)
Professional Schooling Required	22-24 month including 1 year of class and 10 to 12 months of clinical work; Master Degree rewarded
Local Professional Schools	Drexel University
Professional Organization Websites	American Association of Pathologists' Assistants http://www.pathassist.org/
Major	Students can major in any subject at WCU for Pre-Pathology Assistant. The most common majors that align with pathology assistant school pre-requisites are Biology: Cell and Molecular Biology, Biology: Integrative Concentration, and Chemistry: Chem-Bio.
Role of a Pathology Assistant	Provide anatomical and pathology services under the supervision of a pathologist (a physician— either an MD or DO). A Pathologists' assistant's duties include dissection and preparation of specimens, obtaining clinical histories, preparing tissues for histologic processing, photographing pertinent gross specimens, performing postmortem exams, conferring with physicians, administrative, supervisory, and teaching duties.

REQUIRED AND SUGGESTED ELECTIVES FOR WCU UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

The following course recommendations are general requirements for PA programs. For the specific requirements of your school of choice and whether AP/IB credit is accepted, please refer to that school's admissions website or contact those schools for a list of entrance requirements.

PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Biological Sciences with labs (min. 2 courses)

BIO 110 General Biology I, BIO 111 General Biology II, BIO 211 Cell Biology, BIO 215 Botany, BIO 217 Zoology

Course	Term	Grade

Genetics (required by some schools)

Course	Term	Grade
BIO 210		

Microbiology

Course	Term	Grade
BIO 214		

General Chemistry with lab

Course	Term	Grade
CHE 103 & CRL 103		
CHE 104 & CRL 104		

Organic Chemistry with lab

Course	Term	Grade
CHE 231 & CRL 231		
CHE 232 & CRL 232		

Biochemistry (1 course)

Course	Term	Grade
CHE 476		

Anatomy and Physiology (2 courses)

Course	Term	Grade
BIO 259		
BIO 269		

English Composition (3 to 6 hrs)

Course	Term	Grade
WRT 120		
WRT 2XX		

Calculus and Statistics (please contact school for specific admissions requirement)

Course	Term	Grade
MAT 121		
MAT 145		

Physics with lab (recommended)

Course	Term	Grade
PHY 130 or 170		
PHY 140 or 180		

Course Plan of Pre-Pathology Assistant Requirements

Semester 1

CHE 103
CRL 103
BIO 110
WRT 120
MAT 121

Semester 3

CHE 231
CRL 231
PHY 130
BIO 210
General/Major Electives

Semester 5

CHE 476
BIO 259
General/Major Electives

Semester 7

General/Major Electives

Semester 2

CHE 104
CRL 104
BIO 111
WRT 2XX
MAT 145

Semester 4

CHE 232
PHY 140
BIO 211
General/Major Electives

Semester 6

BIO 269
General/Major Electives

Semester 8

General/Major Electives

SUGGESTED ELECTIVES

BIO 428. Animal Histology

BIO 480. Light Microscopy

BIO 314. Pathogenic Microbiology

BIO 465. Immunology

CHE 477. Biochemistry 2

CHL 232. Organic Chemistry Lab II

* Does not count as a Biology major elective

BEYOND ACADEMICS

Pre-Pathology Assistant students are encouraged to participate in experiences such as leadership roles, volunteer work, research, and shadowing, which will help prepare them for pathology assistant school and the medical profession. Such experiences demonstrate a commitment to and knowledge of the profession. All students are **STRONGLY** encouraged to **shadow medical professionals, volunteering with health providers**, get involved with research and pursue internships. Additionally, involvement with clubs such as Pre-Med Club, and Minorities in Medicine, will help students to learn more about the medical profession. Activities beyond the classroom play a significant role in a student's application to a professional school program.

APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

Application is made directly with the schools you would like to attend. Early application is recommended as many programs take only a handful of students. Schools will then contact you to verify receipt of your application and inform you of any additional materials they require to complete your application.

ENTRANCE EXAM

The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required for most programs: ets.org/gre.



Director, Pre-Medical Program – Dr. Teresa Donze-Reiner

WCU does not discriminate based upon any protected status.

Please see www.wcupa.edu/admin/social.equity/

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Pre-Medical Office
Schmucker Science South 117
West Chester, PA 19383
610-436-2978
pmcd@wcupa.edu