

# **Pre-Professional Health Studies and Transfer Programs**

One of the most rapidly expanding career fields today is that of the health sciences. At Eastern Oregon University students planning to enter a professional program in the health care field take their foundation courses through the pre-professional sequences. The liberal arts general education curriculum offered at EOU ensures students develop the strong foundational competencies required by the professional schools. EOU prepares the pre-professional student through academic groundwork and development, which encompasses the major field of study, the mastery of specific scientific principles, and advanced coursework.

There is no “best” major to gain entry into the professional school that requires a degree, although many EOU students complete a biology or chemistry-biochemistry degree as they encompass many of the prerequisite courses. Admission committees welcome majors outside of the sciences, but students need to be aware of the potential for an additional time commitment for completion of the prerequisite coursework. A major choice should be guided primarily by a student’s own intellectual interests and aptitudes and they find to be interesting, challenging and satisfying. Most students perform better in a major that captures their interests.

Depending upon the academic area, the College of STM-HS offers coursework paralleling requirements of universities from which degrees in those areas are offered. Upon completion of pre-professional coursework at EOU, students may then transfer to institutions offering the undergraduate, advanced degree, or training program. Although not an exhaustive list, following are health care fields typically pursued by EOU students.

## **HEALTH SCIENCES**

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### **PRE-DENTISTRY**

The pre-dentistry curriculum prepares students for the Dental Admission Test (DAT) and entrance into dental school. Although some dental schools do not require a baccalaureate degree (BA/BS) for admission, it is highly recommended that students plan to complete a bachelor’s degree prior to matriculation. Typically, students choose to follow a degree program in biology or chemistry-biochemistry, although other majors may be pursued. Typical prerequisite courses include completion of one-year sequences of general biology with lab, general chemistry with lab, organic chemistry with lab, physics with lab, anatomy and physiology with lab, in addition to biochemistry courses with lab, and English composition. Students are strongly encouraged to obtain prerequisite information from the schools to which they will be applying and to work closely with their EOU pre-dentistry advisor when selecting appropriate coursework to meet the prerequisite requirements. Admission to dental school is highly competitive, requiring high academic achievement and involvement in co-curricular activities such as internships, research and volunteering.

### **PRE-LAW**

Gaining entrance to law school normally requires completion of a bachelor’s degree. While the title of the degree completed typically is not important to law school admission, the development of certain skills and the attainment of a suitable and broad base of knowledge is very important to being accepted to law school. At EOU, pre-law students are closely advised in their selection of a degree program and, equally important, in their selection of courses that will give them a suitable background for making successful application to law school. Admittance to law school is highly competitive. Because the first-year program can vary significantly, based upon the student’s own personal goal, no typical program is given but is worked out with the program advisor. First-year students should attempt, in scheduling, to work toward completing their general education requirements.

### **PRE-MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY**

The pre-medical technology curriculum at EOU prepares students for admission into accredited programs at hospitals and universities. Medical technologists are prepared to enter the medical laboratory science profession and to pursue career opportunities in various laboratory settings or in preparation for graduate school. Two possible options exist for students interested in medical technology. Students can complete three years of prerequisite coursework at EOU and then transfer to a university or medical school program for an additional 12 months of training. These students normally receive a Bachelor of Science degree directly from the medical technology program into which they transfer. Students can also complete a Bachelor of Science degree at EOU and then transfer to either a university or a hospital-based program for the final 12-15

months of training. Since hospital programs cannot grant degrees, students must have a Bachelor of Science degree prior to entering these programs.

Typical prerequisite coursework includes one-year sequences of general biology with lab, general chemistry with lab, organic chemistry with lab, in addition to courses in general microbiology, immunology, college level mathematics and English composition. A medical terminology course is highly recommended. Students are strongly encouraged to obtain prerequisite information from the schools to which they will be applying and to work closely with their EOU pre-medical technology advisor when selecting appropriate coursework to meet requirements.

### **PRE-MEDICINE**

The curriculum in pre-medicine is designed to prepare students for the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) entrance into medical school after four years of undergraduate education. A bachelor's degree (B.A./B.S.) is required prior to matriculation to medical school. No particular major is preferred, but a degree in biology or chemistry-biochemistry encompasses many of the prerequisite courses. The program is obviously flexible and can be adapted to an individual's needs and interests. Students must excel in whatever field is chosen because admission is very competitive and high academic achievement is a must. Although they do not require students to follow any precise degree program, medical schools do have specific entrance requirements. Typical prerequisite coursework includes one-year sequences of general biology with lab, general chemistry with lab, organic chemistry with lab and physics with lab. In addition, courses in genetics, mathematics, humanities, psychology, sociology and English composition are required. Students should plan to enroll in the clinical observation courses to obtain shadowing hours required by some medical schools. Students are strongly encouraged to obtain prerequisite information from schools to which they will be applying and to work closely with their EOU pre-medical advisor when selecting appropriate coursework to meet the prerequisite requirements. Admission to medical school is highly competitive requiring high academic achievement and involvement in co-curricular activities such as internships, research and volunteering.

### **PRE-NURSING**

Nursing programs within the state of Oregon require that students take a series of prerequisite courses in order to meet admission criteria. A variety of nursing programs exists for pre-nursing students to consider. EOU students typically complete prerequisite coursework as required by Oregon Health & Science University School of Nursing (OHSU-SON) in order to be eligible for admission to the OHSU-SON La Grande campus, or other OHSU-SON branch campuses. EOU students apply to OHSU-SON while in progress of completing their prerequisite coursework. Completion of prerequisites does not guarantee admission to the OHSU-SON baccalaureate degree program. The pre-nursing program is a one-year curriculum consisting of anatomy and physiology with lab, in addition to courses such as nutrition, mathematics, English composition, social science, human development, humanities, and electives to ensure a total of 45 prerequisite credits are completed prior to matriculation into the

OHSU-SON program. Additionally, completion of a chemistry and microbiology course is strongly recommended. For information about the baccalaureate degree program in Nursing on the EOU campus, see Oregon Health & Science University Nursing, in this catalog.

Students wishing to apply to other Oregon nursing programs are highly recommended to obtain prerequisite information from the schools to which they will be applying. Students should be aware that prerequisite requirements for other nursing programs may differ from those of OHSU and require a longer length of time to complete. In addition, students should be aware of the different application periods.

Students are strongly encouraged to work closely with the pre-nursing advisor when choosing appropriate coursework. Admission to a nursing school is competitive, requiring high academic achievement.

### **PRE-OPTOMETRY**

A full curriculum of pre-professional courses is offered at Eastern Oregon University for those seeking admission to a school of optometry to complete a Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree. Typically students will complete one of the science degrees, but other degrees are accepted by professional optometry schools. Typical prerequisite coursework includes one-year sequences of general chemistry with lab, anatomy and physiology with lab, and general physics with lab, in addition to courses such as biochemistry with lab, microbiology with lab, calculus, statistics, general psychology, and English composition. Prerequisite coursework serves as preparation for the Optometry Admission Test (OAT) required for applicants seeking admission to optometry schools. Some optometry schools require observation experience under the supervision of an optometrist. Students are strongly encouraged to work closely with their pre-optometry advisor when selecting appropriate coursework. Admission is highly competitive. The majority of students admitted to optometry schools have above average scholastic standing, earned high pre-admission examination scores, demonstrated a good general knowledge of the profession, been active in co-curricular campus and community activities that develop leadership qualities and have a carefully prepared application. Students are strongly encouraged to work closely with the pre-optometry advisor when choosing appropriate coursework. Admission to an optometry school is competitive, requiring high academic achievement.

### **PRE-PHARMACY**

EOU offers a pre-pharmacy curriculum which prepares students for entrance into pharmacy school. Although some pharmacy schools do not require a baccalaureate (B.A./B.S.) degree for admission, it is highly recommended that students plan to complete a bachelor's degree prior to matriculation. EOU coursework prepares students for the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT), which is an admission requirement for many pre-pharmacy schools. Prerequisite coursework typically includes one-year sequences of general biology with lab, anatomy and physiology with lab, general chemistry with lab, organic chemistry with lab, and general physics with lab, in addition to courses in cell structure

and function, microbiology with lab, calculus, statistics, public speaking, general economics, general psychology, and English composition. In addition, students should plan to enroll in the clinical observation courses to obtain shadowing hours as pharmacy schools encourage or require applicants to have volunteer or paid experience working with patients in a pharmacy or health-related setting (hospital, nursing home, etc.). Ongoing work or volunteer experience in a pharmacy setting may be an important factor in the admissions process. Students are strongly encouraged to work closely with their pre-pharmacy advisor when selecting appropriate coursework. Admission to pharmacy schools is highly competitive. Involvement in co-curricular activities such as internships, research and volunteering is recommended.

### **PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY**

The curriculum in pre-physical therapy is designed to prepare students for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and entrance into a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. Course prerequisites for admission vary significantly across DPT programs and it is recommended that students visit the institutional website courses required by each institution. The most commonly required prerequisite coursework typically includes one-year sequences of general biology with lab, general chemistry with lab, general physics with lab, anatomy and physiology with lab, in addition to statistics, general psychology, English composition, humanities and social science courses. Students are strongly encouraged to work closely with the pre-physical therapy advisor when selecting appropriate coursework. Admission to physical therapy schools is highly competitive based on scholastic standing. Involvement in co-curricular activities such as internships, research and volunteering is recommended.

### **PRE-PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT**

The pre-physician assistant curriculum at Eastern Oregon University is designed to meet the requirements for admission to a Physician Assistant educational program, as well as to place students in a position to complete a baccalaureate degree within four years. Students must obtain a BA/ BS degree prior to being accepted into most professional schools. Typical prerequisite coursework includes one-year sequences of general biology with lab, general chemistry with lab, anatomy and physiology with lab. Additional courses include microbiology with lab, upper division natural science coursework, college algebra or higher and statistics, general psychology, sociology, English composition and technical writing. Students should plan to enroll in the clinical observation courses to obtain shadowing hours to learn about the profession. Most professional schools require a minimum of six months to one-year in a responsible health care position (paid or volunteer). Students are strongly encouraged to obtain prerequisite requirements for the school to which they will be applying and to work closely with their pre-physician assistant advisor when selecting appropriate coursework. Admission to physician assistant programs is highly competitive, requiring high academic achievement. Involvement in co-curricular activities such as internships, research and volunteering is recommended.

### **PRE-VETERINARY MEDICINE**

The pre-veterinary medicine curriculum at EOU is designed to meet the requirements for admission to schools of veterinary medicine as well as to place students in a position to complete a baccalaureate degree within four years. Additionally, the curriculum is designed to prepare students for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) required by most school of veterinary medicine. Prerequisite coursework which includes one-year sequences in general chemistry with lab, general biology with lab, organic chemistry with lab, general physics with lab. Additional courses in biological sciences, biochemistry, genetics, mathematics, statistics, humanities and social sciences, communications, and English composition. Students are strongly encouraged to work closely with their pre-veterinary advisor when choosing appropriate coursework. Admission to veterinary schools is very competitive. Involvement in co-curricular activities such as internships, research and volunteering is recommended.

### **OSU TRANSFER PROGRAMS**

#### **AGRICULTURE SCIENCES AT EOU**

[agsci.oregonstate.edu/ag\\_program\\_eou/](http://agsci.oregonstate.edu/ag_program_eou/)

\*See Agriculture Science program, page 200

#### **FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

EOU offers two years of transferable course work in the area of fisheries and wildlife with most students then transferring to Oregon State University or another university offering the full degree program. Students interested in pursuing the Fish and Game Management option, however, should transfer after one year at EOU. Typical coursework includes one-year sequences of general biology with lab and general chemistry with lab, in addition to courses such as mathematics, statistics, speech, writing, and physical education. Additional courses within chemistry and/or physics may be required, depending upon the school to which a student will be transferring. Students are strongly encouraged to obtain prerequisite information from the schools to which they will be applying and to work closely with their EOU pre-fisheries and wildlife advisor when selecting appropriate coursework to meet the prerequisite requirements.

#### **FORESTRY**

EOU offers the first year of course work in forestry which can then be transferred to Oregon State University or another college offering the full degree program. In case of inadequate preparation, two years of coursework may be necessary. Typical prerequisite coursework includes an introductory course in forestry, plant taxonomy, and one year sequences of general biology with lab and general chemistry with lab. Prerequisites also include coursework in mathematics, economics, speech, writing, and physical education. Students are strongly encouraged to obtain prerequisite information from the schools to which they will be applying and to work closely with their EOU pre-forestry advisor when selecting appropriate coursework to meet the prerequisite requirements.