Departments and Programs in the College of Science

Biochemistry & Biophysics
Biology
Chemistry
Environmental Sciences
Geosciences
Mathematics
Microbiology
Molecular & Cellular Biology*
Physics
Pre-professional Programs in Health Sciences
Professional Science Masters*
Science & Mathematics Education*
Statistics*
Zoology

*graduate program only

Preparing for Dental School
The College of Science at OSU offers a pre-dental program in which students fulfill the requirements for admission to the OHSU School of Dentistry or to other dental schools.

Two choices are available:

1. A four-year major in one of the sciences, such as biology, botany, microbiology, or zoology, and a bachelor's degree from OSU before entering dental school. Choosing one of these majors offers students other employment options, should their plans for dental school change.

2. A four-year major in general science with an option in pre-dentistry leads to a B.S. or B.A. degree.

Prospective dental students at OSU have access to a group of knowledgeable advisors who are ready to help with many decisions. Entering students are encouraged to take a pre-dental orientation course that offers career-related information not available through regular classes.

The head of the OHSU Dental School Admissions Committee, practicing dentists, and dental students participate in this seminar.

The Pre-dental Society, an active student club, provides a supportive network for students interested in a career in dentistry. A preceptorship program is available to students who want the opportunity to observe a practicing dentist at work. Although admission to dental school is competitive, in recent years nearly all applicants who completed the OSU program were admitted. OSU has an outstanding placement record and an excellent relationship with the dental schools.

Career Opportunities
The U.S. Department of Labor projects employment of dentists to grow about as fast as average for all occupations through 2014. Most jobs will result from the need to replace the large number of dentists expected to retire. Job prospects should be good as new dentists take over established practices or start their own. Demand for dental care should grow substantially because of the aging population, but dental hygienists and dental assistants are more likely to handle the routine services.

**General Science/Pre-dentistry**

**Course of Study**

Students should see a pre-dentistry advisor early to discuss an appropriate study plan. The curriculum includes year long sequences in general and organic chemistry, biology, and physics. Also recommended are additional courses in mathematics, biochemistry, embryology, and genetics to provide a stronger scientific background for future work in dental school. Courses involving laboratory work are particularly good preparation. Students will also have the opportunity to choose a number of electives in science as well as in humanities and social sciences.

Graduation requirements from OSU also include 48 credits of baccalaureate core (BC) courses, consisting of writing/speech (9 cr.), mathematics (3 cr.), fitness (3 cr.), physical and biological sciences (12 cr.), western culture/cultural diversity/literature & arts/social processes/difference, power and discrimination (15 cr.), and contemporary global issues/science, technology and society (6 cr.).

**Sample Curriculum**

An official graduation checklist may be obtained from an advisor.

Graduation in pre-dentistry requires a total of 40 credits of upper division science. Additional laboratory work in chemistry, microbiology, or zoology is helpful preparation for dental school. Business and art courses are also recommended.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freshman Year</th>
<th>credits</th>
<th>Sophomore Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Chemistry</td>
<td>CH 221, 222, 223</td>
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<td>Organic Chemistry</td>
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<td>Calculus</td>
<td>MTH 251</td>
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<td>Biology</td>
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<td>Pre-dentistry orientation</td>
<td>BI 107</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cell and Molecular Biology</td>
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<td>BC: Writing I</td>
<td>WR 121</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Principles of Statistics or Intro to Statistical Methods or MTH 268</td>
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<td>BC and electives</td>
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<td>BC and electives</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Biochemistry</td>
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<td>Cell Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genetics</td>
<td>BI 311</td>
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<td>Embryology</td>
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<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology</td>
<td>Z 331, 332, 333, 341, 342, 343</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>BC: Writing intensive course (history of science)</td>
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<td>General Physics</td>
<td>PH 201, 202, 203</td>
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<td>BC and electives</td>
<td>20</td>
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