

Pharmacy

Sample Three-Year Course Plan for Common Prerequisites

Fall Term	Winter Term	Spring Term
CH 221 (4) CH 227 (2) MATH 111 (4) WR 121 (4) (14 Credits)	CH 222 (4) CH 228 (2) MATH 112 (4) WR 122 or 123 (4) BI 211 ⁴ (4) (18 Credits)	CH 223 (4) CH 229 (2) MATH 251 (4) BI 212 ⁴ (4) (14 Credits)
BI 214 ⁴ (4) CH 331 (4) EC 201 (4) CHEM 337 (3) (15 Credits)	CH 335 (4) BI 322 (4) CH 338 (3) MATH 243 (4) (15 Credits)	CH 336 (4) BI 330 (3) BI 331 (2) PEC 241 ² (2) Arts & Letters Elec. ³ (4) (15 Credits)
HPHY 313 ⁵ (3) HPHY 316 ⁵ (2) PHYS 201 (4) PHYS 204 (2) AC Course ³ (4) (15 Credits)	HPHY 314 ⁵ (3) HPHY 317 ⁵ (2) PHYS 202 (4) PHYS 205 (2) IC Course ³ (4) (15 Credits)	PHYS 203 (4) PHYS 206 (2) PSY 201 (4) CPSY 410 ¹ (3) IP Course ³ (4) (17 Credits)

1. This course satisfies OSU's Interpersonal Communication requirement.
2. This course is for CPR certification. Course can also be taken through the Red Cross.
3. These courses are not required for admission, but can be used to finish a bachelor's degree in the second year of pharmacy school. AC, IC, and IP are multicultural course categories.
4. These biology courses can be substituted for the BIO 251-253 sequence, however BI 251-253 must be taken before or concurrently with organic chemistry (CH 331-338).
5. Student may substitute one year of biochemistry (CH 461-463) in place of human physiology.

More information can be found at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy website: www.aacp.org.

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Pre-Pharmacy Education at the University of Oregon 2006-2007

What is Pharmacy?

Pharmacists play a vital role in the health care system through the medicine and information they provide. A pharmacist's responsibilities include a range of care for patients, from dispensing medications to monitoring patient health and progress to maximize their response to the medication. Pharmacists also educate consumers and patients on the use of prescriptions and over-the-counter medications, and advise physicians, nurses, and other health professionals on drug decisions. Pharmacists also provide expertise about the composition of drugs, including their chemical, biological, and physical properties and their manufacture and use.

What are the occupational options for pharmacists?

The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) posts a link on its website to the Pfizer Guide to Careers in Pharmacy (<http://www.pfizercareerguides.com/pdfs/pharmacy.pdf>). This guide has detailed descriptions for a number of practice areas that include: academics and research, drugstore chains, critical care, home care, hospices, hospital staff, industry, nuclear pharmacy, nutrition support, oncology, operating rooms, pediatrics, poison control, psychiatry, public health, and veterinary pharmacy.

What is the job outlook for pharmacists?

According to the AACP, "The demand for trained pharmacy professionals has exploded in recent years due to the rapid growth of the health care and pharmaceutical industries. Most pharmacy graduates can expect to receive multiple job offers at the time of graduation..." They list the results of a survey by Drug Topics magazine from 2003 which says, "Of the six practice settings studied, health maintenance organization pharmacists were the highest paid (\$89,247), while independent pharmacists were the lowest paid (\$76,724). The average yearly salaries for pharmacists employed in other settings were \$81,978 (hospital), \$84,565 (chain), \$87,561 (discount store/mass-merchandiser), and \$87,589 (supermarket).

What are the education requirements?

Students must earn a Pharm.D. degree to become a pharmacist. At the end of the Pharm.D. program students will take the NAPLEX (North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination) in order to earn their license. Pharm.D. programs require at least 2 years of prerequisite study, although the majority of colleges admit students with 3 years or more of college study. Some schools require or give preference to those who earn a baccalaureate (B.A./

B.S.) degree prior to admission. Pharm.D. programs are typically 3-4 years in length.

What are the admission requirements?

Admission requirements vary from school to school. Students are advised to view the Pharmacy School Admission Requirements (PSAR) online at www.aacp.org or to go to the individual school websites. It is highly recommended that you consult with the pharmacy adviser when planning prerequisite study. Schools typically require coursework in biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, mathematics, and English. Many schools require microbiology, anatomy and physiology, and physics, as well as various courses in social sciences and/or arts and humanities. The program plan included in this pamphlet covers the prerequisites required for application to Oregon State University.

Are there additional requirements?

Approximately half of the pharmacy schools require the PCAT (Pharmacy College Admission Test). It is administered three times per year and includes subtests on the basic principles of biology and chemistry, quantitative ability, verbal ability, and reading comprehension. The test also includes an essay section to evaluate critical thinking skills. OSU does NOT require the PCAT. Some schools require letters of recommendation from applicants. Letters from science faculty are recommended, as well as a letter from a pharmacist if students have experience in the field.

How do I apply?

Approximately half of the pharmacy schools use the PharmCAS application service (www.pharmcas.org). This is a centralized application service that allows students to submit a single application and one set of official transcripts to multiple Pharm.D. programs. Students applying to non-participating schools should contact the individual programs for application materials.

Pre-Pharmacy Club

The pharmacy club is designed to help students achieve their goals related to any area of the pharmacy field, including but not limited to careers such as pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmaceutical sales representatives. This club is always open to new members who are taking pre-pharmacy courses or anyone who is interested in learning more about this field. E-mail: prepharm@uoregon.edu