Pre-Dental Studies at Winthrop University

Pre-Dental students at Winthrop University select a major in one of the academic departments. Because of the large number of undergraduate biology and chemistry courses required by dental schools, most students choose to major in Biology or Chemistry. Students should maintain a grade-point-average above 3.5 (out of 4.0), and take a sequence of courses designed to prepare them to take the DAT in the spring of their junior year, as shown in the schedule below.

Because S.C. has one state-supported dental school, all S.C. resident students should apply to the College of Dental Medicine at M.U.S.C., whether or not they plan to apply to out-of-state public or private schools. The requirements vary slightly from school to school, but the following are recommended by M.U.S.C:

**Fall**
- Principles of Biology [BIOL 203 & 204]
- Freshman Chemistry I [CHEM 105]
- Pre-Calculus Math or Calculus I (See Note 2) [MATH 151 or 105]
- Freshman Writing I [WRIT 101]
- Critical Issues Symposium [ACAD 101]
- Foreign Language I
- Freshman Seminar in Biology [BIOL 202]

**Spring**
- Botany or Zoology [BIOL 205 or 206]
- Freshman Chemistry II [CHEM 106,108]
- Calculus I or Statistics [MATH 105 or 141]
- The Human Experience [HMXP 102]
- Foreign Language II

**Freshman Year:** (See Note 1)

**Sophomore Year:**

**Fall**
- Botany or Zoology [BIOL 205 or 206]
- Organic Chemistry I [CHEM 301]
- Critical Thinking, Reading & Writing [CRTW 201]
  - Elective
  - Elective

**Spring**
- Scientific Process in Biology [BIOL 300]
- Organic Chemistry II [CHEM 302,304]
- Biology Area Elective (see Note 3)
- Microbiology [BIOL 310] is suggested
  - Elective
  - Elective

**Junior Year:**

**Fall**
- Biology Area Elective
- Genetics [BIOL 317] is suggested
- Physics I [PHYS 201 or 211]
- Human Anatomy [BIOL 307]
- Biochemistry with Lab
  - Elective
  - Elective

**Spring**
- Human Physiology [BIOL 308]
- Physics II [PHYS 202 or 212]
- Microbiology (BIOL 310) or
  - Cell Biology (BIOL 315)
  - Elective
  - Elective
- Take DAT in Spring or Summer

**NOTES:**
1. Student-athletes are encouraged to plan "light" and "heavy" semesters according to needs of their particular sport. This is especially important during the sophomore year.
2. Calculus and statistics meet or exceed the requirements of most dental schools. A minimum of six hours of college mathematics is required for the biology major.
3. It is recommended that only very strong students "double up" with Biology 300 and another biology course; Organic Chemistry and Biology 300 together constitute a heavy course load.
4. AP credit toward the biology major is available for a 4 or a 5 on the AP exam. A score of three receives three hours' credit toward graduation, but does not count toward the biology major.

Use these guidelines to develop an appropriate program of study in consultation with your advisor.

For further information contact:

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