

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		
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		
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

<u>Semester 1</u> CHE 103 CRL 103 BIO 110 WRT 120 MAT 121	<u>Semester 2</u> CHE 104 CRL 104 BIO 111 WRT 2XX MAT 145
<u>Semester 3</u> CHE 231 CRL 231 PHY 130 BIO 210 General/Major Electives	<u>Semester 4</u> CHE 232 PHY 140 BIO 211 General/Major Electives
<u>Semester 5</u> CHE 476 BIO 259 General/Major Electives	<u>Semester 6</u> BIO 269 General/Major Electives
<u>Semester 7</u> General/Major Electives	<u>Semester 8</u> 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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