

Preparing for Physician Assistant (PA) School: Coursework

Below is a list of BYU coursework that, generally, fulfills prerequisites for some physician assistant schools. This is not a comprehensive list.

Plan to attend Pre-Health 101 and Pre-Health 201 workshops to determine how to navigate the prerequisite complexity.

SAMPLE COURSES THAT MAY FULFILL PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK

CHEMISTRY

CHEM 105: General College Chemistry I (includes lab)	4.0 hrs
CHEM 106 & 107: General College Chemistry II & Lab (CHEM 111, 112, & 113, if required by your major)	3.0, 1.0 hrs
CHEM 351: Organic Chemistry I	3.0 hrs
CHEM 352 & 353: Organic Chemistry II & Lab (CHEM 354, if required by your major)	3.0, 2.0 hrs
CHEM 481: Biochemistry	3.0 hrs

BIOLOGY

Some programs want General Biology I & General Biology II (w/labs), BYU's equivalent is one of the following options:	
General Biology I options:	
CELL 120: Science of Biology (may need MMBIO 122)	3.0, 1.0 hrs
or	
MMBIO 121: General Biology: Health & Disease (may need MMBIO 122)	3.0, 1.0 hrs
or	
BIO 130: Biology (includes lab)	4.0 hrs
General Biology II options:	
MMBIO 240: Molecular Biology (may need MMBIO 241)	3.0, 1.0 hrs
and/or	
MMBIO 221: General Microbiology (may need MMBIO 222) (MMBIO 151, if required by your major)	3.0, 1.0 hrs
CELL 220: Human Anatomy (includes lab)	4.0 hrs
CELL 305: Human Physiology (may need CELL 363)	4.0, 1.0 hrs
or	
CELL 362: Advanced Physiology (may need CELL 363)	3.0, 1.0 hrs
PWS 340: Genetics	3.0 hrs
or	
PWS 275: Genetics and Reproduction	3.0 hrs

PSYCHOLOGY

PSYCH 111: Introduction to Psychological Science	3.0 hrs
PSYCH 220: Human Development: Lifespan	3.0 hrs
PSYCH 342: Psychopathology	3.0 hrs

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY

LATIN 123: Premedical Latin and Greek	2.0 hrs
or	
NURS 102: Nursing and Medical Terminology (independent study)	2.0 hrs

STATISTICS

STAT 121: Introduction to Statistical Data Analysis	3.0 hrs
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HELPFUL PRE-PA CLASSES

STDEV 170: Intro to Health Professions	1.0 hrs
Overview of health professions: medical, dental, and other specialties. Primary focus on guest lectures from various practitioners and clinicians.	
STDEV 274: Preview of Physician Assistant	1.0 hrs
Preview of the physician assistant profession and PA school application process. Guest presentations by practicing PAs, PA school representatives, and pre-health advisors.	
STDEV 470: Health Professions Application	2.0 hrs
Preparation for health professional school applications including medicine, dentistry, physical therapy, physician assistant, etc.; entire application process, including school identification and submission.	
NURS 505: IPE for Health Professions	1.0 hrs
The acquisition of knowledge of interprofessional education (IPE) and teamwork in the health professions. IPE will be explored from the perspectives of roles and responsibilities for collaborative practice.	
SOC 329: Medical Sociology	3.0 hrs
Social epidemiology, the sick role, sociocultural definitions of and responses to illness, and the organization of medical-health delivery systems.	
BIO 370: Bioethics	2.0 hrs
In-depth lecture and small group discussion of varied bioethical issues.	
PHIL 212R: Introduction to Medical Ethics	3.0 hrs
Exploration of key questions in medical ethics. Equips students to understand, evaluate, and effectively respond to arguments that seek to answer these questions as they formulate their own conclusions.	