Pre-Physician Assistant Requirements

In addition to completing the IS core courses and all other university requirements in humanities, social sciences, and writing/communications, pre-PA students will complete the following required (or recommended) courses:

12 Semester Hours of Mathematics/Computer Science Courses, including
Math 123  Calculus I
Math 281  Introduction to Statistics (recommended by USD)

30 Semester Hours of Science Courses, including
Biol 151/151L  General Biology I and Lab
Biol 153/153L  General Biology II and Lab
Biol 221/221L  Human Anatomy and Lab
Biol 326/326L  Biomedical Physiology and Lab
Biol 331/331L  Microbiology and Lab
Biol 371/371L  Genetics and Lab (recommended)
Chem 112/112L  General Chemistry I and Lab
Chem 114/114L  General Chemistry II and Lab
Chem 316  Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry AND
Chem 220L  Experimental Organic Chemistry Lab
OR
Chem 326/326L  Organic Chemistry I and Lab
Chem 328/328L  Organic Chemistry II and Lab
Chem 464  Biochemistry I ~ pre-requisite is Chem 328 (required by USD)
Phys 111/111L  Introduction to Physics I and Lab AND
Phys 113/113L  Introduction to Physics II and Lab

Note: All IS specializations require a minimum of 12 semester hours in the natural sciences at the upper division.

An Additional 18 Semester Hours of Math, Computer Science, or Science

Recommended Support Courses
Human Nutrition  Available via Internet
Medical Terminology  Available via Internet from USD, SDSU, DSU and NSU
Psyc 101  General Psychology (required by USD)
Psyc 321  Human Development: Lifespan
Psyc 451  Psychology of Abnormal Behavior (required by USD)

Other upper division biology/chemistry courses as appropriate. Upper division biology and other science courses from BHSU, USD or SDSU may also be appropriate.

Students are encouraged to consult the admissions requirements of PA programs for application deadlines and to determine which elective courses will be most useful. Many PA programs may require two or more years of prior clinical experience, such as in nursing or military medic experience. Some programs may also require that the applicant take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). Info on the GRE can be found at www.ets.org/gre.

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