

Academic Preparation for Graduate School for AA

Minimum Required Coursework for Admission to AA Programs. All 13 AA programs in the U.S. require the completion of a bachelor's degree in any discipline plus the completion of at least a one year of general chemistry, one or more semesters of organic chemistry, one semester of biochemistry, one year of general biology, one year of general physics (algebra-based or calculus-based), one semester each of calculus and statistics, and at least one semester of human anatomy and physiology. The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences equivalents of these courses are shown in the table below. Other admission requirements and recommendations vary by program; pre-AA students must investigate the different programs available and make themselves aware of the particular requirements for the programs in which they are interested.

General chemistry	CHM 111 and CHM 112 (8 hr)
Organic chemistry	CHM 221 and 222 (8 hr)
General biology	BIO 171 and 172 (8 hr)
General physics	PHY 141 and 142 or 161 and 162 (8 hr)
Biochemistry	BMB 465 (3 hr; pre-reqs = CHM 222, BIO 260, and BIO 280)
Human Anatomy and Physiology	BIO 131 (and 132; 8 hr)
Statistics	STA 126 (3 hr)
Calculus	MAT 191 (4 hr)

Academic Majors and Minors for Pre-AA Students. All AA programs require applicants to complete a bachelor's degree before they matriculate, with a preference for "pre-medical majors". Because pre-AA students must complete the requirements for their degree as well as the required courses for admission to his/her preferred AA programs, it would be a good idea to choose a major that they are truly interested in, but that overlaps well with the AA school admission pre-requisites. Examples of suitable majors are Biology, Neuroscience, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, and Public Health.

Chemistry Minor: While pre-anesthesiologist assistant is not an academic major or minor, those students who complete 16 credit hours in chemistry (with 6 or more hr in courses numbered 200 or higher in residence at Mercer) fulfill the Mercer University College of Liberal Arts & Sciences requirements for a minor in chemistry.

Biology Minor: UNDER REVIEW.

The Importance of Mathematics to the Pre-AA Track. To enroll in the first semester of general chemistry (CHM 111), a student must demonstrate a minimum mathematics competency that is equivalent to pre-calculus (MAT 133) or above. This competency may be demonstrated through a "math index" (calculated upon entry as a first-year student using the high school GPA and math score on the SAT or ACT) of 980 or higher; college credit for MAT 133 (transfer, AP, or CLEP), or by scoring 15 or higher on the math placement test.

Information about the math placement test can be found online here: <http://aas.mercer.edu/for-students/placement-exams/>.

CLEP Exam for Pre-calculus. A student who scores 50% or higher on the CLEP pre-calculus exam may submit his or her test official transcript to the Mercer registrar and receive MAT 133 credit. Information about the CLEP pre-calculus exam can be found here: <http://clep.collegeboard.org/exam/precalculus>.