

*Office of Academic and Advising Services*

**Majors for Students on Pre-Health Professions Tracks**

***In General…***

* **Pre-professional tracks are not majors or minors.** Most pre-professional students earn a bachelor’s degree in an academic discipline as they prepare for graduate or professional school.
* **Most professional schools do not require a specific major or bachelor’s degree** (i.e., most medical schools do not require students to major in Biology and most law schools do not require their applicants to major in Political Science).
* **In most cases the choice of major and minor depends solely on personal preference**. Because a successful pre-professional student must demonstrate a superior level of motivation and exceptional academic performance, the chosen academic major should interest the student sufficiently to catalyze such performance. In addition, if a student changes his/her mind about attending a particular pre-professional school, then a major in an area that s/he enjoys will lead to employment opportunities that are fulfilling and rewarding.
* **Pre-professional students are encouraged to develop a “back-up plan”** to employ if they do not gain acceptance to the professional school of their choice; pre-professional students should realize that professional schools are very selective and competition for seats is high.

**The Chemistry Minor**

Note that students who complete four courses in chemistry totaling 16 credit hours (as described in the University Catalog) fulfill the Mercer University College of Liberal Arts & Sciences requirements for a minor in chemistry (CHM 111, 112, 221, 222).

**The Biology Minor**

Note that students who complete four courses in biology totaling 17 credit hours (as described in the University Catalog) fulfill the Mercer University College of Liberal Arts & Sciences requirements for a minor in biology (BIO 211, 212, BMB 465, and another 300- or 400-level course with lab)

**The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences’ *Bachelor of Science in Health Science* Degree**

Students who are accepted to one of Mercer University’s health-related professional schools after their third year of undergraduate study in the MU College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (CLAS) are eligible to receive the Bachelor of Science in Health Science degree after completion of their first year of graduate study. Requirements for this special degree include the completion of 90 hours of undergraduate credit, to include all CLAS general education requirements, the admissions requirements for their specific professional program, and work toward any CLAS major. The Bachelor of Science in Health Science will be awarded upon successful completion of one year of full-time, graduate-level coursework in one of the following Mercer programs: athletic training, pharmacy, physician assistant, or physical therapy. Note that this degree cannot be earned in combination with any other bachelor’s degree offered by the University.

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