

Pre-PT Scheduling and Timelines – 2023 and Beyond

Scheduling of Graduate School Prerequisites. Scheduling of the core science coursework for the pre-physical therapy track is shown in Table 1. This plan shows the minimum science coursework for students not majoring in one of the sciences on a pre-PT track. (Remember, students must check the admission requirements of the PT schools to which they are likely to apply so as not to overlook any admission requirements specific to those schools!) **Students participating in one of the Accelerated Special Consideration Programs for PT must follow their program option’s checklist and suggested schedule.**

A student’s actual scheduling of these courses depends on factors such as a student’s initial mathematics placement and the availability of required courses for the student’s academic major.

When arranging their course schedules, pre-PT students must plan ahead and review the published lists of Mercer University course offerings; this is important because not all of the required courses for a student’s major and/or the pre-PT track will be offered every semester, and a one-semester delay could turn into a one-year delay in starting PT school due to complications involving prerequisites.

Math Placement. To enroll in the chemistry and physics course sequences, a student must demonstrate a minimum mathematics competency that is equivalent to pre-calculus (MAT 133) or above; this competency may be demonstrated by a math index of 980 or higher, through credit for MAT 133 (college, AP, or CLEP), or through a score of 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/> and <http://cla.mercer.edu/math/resources/placement.cfm>).

Course Load. The PT school curriculum is quite rigorous, so admission committees will look to an applicant’s ability to carry a full academic load as s/he completes the undergraduate studies as an indicator of how well he or she might handle the graduate school curriculum. Unless there are extenuating circumstances that prevent him/her from doing so (e.g., employment, family circumstances), a pre-PT student is expected to take 15 to 17 hours each semester.

Table 1. Suggested Scheduling of Science Prerequisites for PT School - Non-Science Majors

Year	Fall	Spring	Summer
1	CHM 111	CHM 112	Optional: Summer courses
2	BIO 171 PHY 141?	BIO 172 if required PHY 142?	
3	BIO 131 PHY 141?	BIO 132 PHY 142?	Take GRE; Prepare for PTCAS
4	Take GRE; Submit PTCAS		
5	DPT		

Note that all non-science requirements must be added to this framework of sciences