

Academic
Clinical



Preparation for
Laboratory

Technology Programs

Students should research the admission requirements for the certificate or degree programs to which they intend to apply early in their academic career, and they should schedule their undergraduate classes based on the requirements of the programs in which they are interested. ***Each student is ultimately responsible for knowing and fulfilling the admission requirements of the programs to which they intend to apply.***

Most Laboratory Science Technology graduate programs require the following classes:

- 1 semester of human anatomy and physiology (BIO 131);
- 1 semester of statistics (STA 126 or PSY 306);
- 2 semesters of general chemistry with laboratory (CHM 111 and 112; *note that the prerequisite for this class is MAT 133 credit or placement in MAT 191*)
- 2 semesters of general biology with laboratory (BIO 171 and 172);
- 1 semester of microbiology (BIO 303; *note that BIO 172 and BIO 280 are prerequisites for this course*)
- 1 semester of organic chemistry (CHM 221; *note that CHM 112 is a prerequisite for this course*), or 1 semester of biochemistry with laboratory (BMB 465; *note that the prerequisites for this class are CHM 222 with a C or better and BIO 172*).

Because admission requirements may vary, students are urged to investigate the graduate programs available and identify their preferred programs early.

Suitable Majors and Minors for Pre-Laboratory Science Technology Students. The Bachelor of Science degrees in Biology, Chemistry, or Biochemistry and Molecular Biology offered by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences fit well with this chosen field, but students are urged to investigate certificate and graduate programs to identify their targets to see what each prefers before choosing a major field of study. Students whose target schools do not prefer a degree in Biology may major in any discipline they chose, but they must also complete the required courses for admission to their preferred programs. Before officially declaring a major, therefore, a student should create a personalized 4-year plan (4YP) that includes all required coursework to see how well the two programs fit together. Students need to be aware that extra semesters might be required for degree programs that do not fit well with these prerequisite classes. Students will also want to plan to take the courses not available at Mercer at another institution.

Chemistry and Biology Minors. Students who complete 16 credit hours in chemistry (with 6 or more hrs 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. Students who complete 18 credit hours in biology (with 10 or more hours at the 200-level or higher, with at least 6 hr in courses numbered 300 or higher in residence at Mercer) fulfill the CLAS' requirements for a minor in biology.

The Importance of Mathematics to Laboratory Science & Technology. To enroll in the first semester of general chemistry (CHM 111) and general biology (BIO 171), 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>.