

Pre-Health Professions for Gabelli School of Business Students

Gabelli students interested in applying to health professions programs should notify their Dean and the Fordham College Rose Hill (FCRH) Dean for Pre-Health Professions Advising (ewatts1@fordham.edu) as soon as possible. Ideally, students would self-identify as interested in pre-health prior to/at the start of freshman year.

Required Order of Science Courses:

All of the sample curricula listed below are set up based on the following rules for the science coursework:

- General Chemistry before Organic Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry and Biology before Biochemistry

While a number of academic scenarios are listed, there are many possibilities that may still be considered. Gabelli students seeking to complete pre-health studies at FCRH may follow a different path through the science curriculum than FCRH students, to allow for completion of the business major. Each student will be advised based upon his or her level of success in both Gabelli and FCRH coursework. Students who successfully complete all pre-health coursework, with a grade of C or better, as well as non-academic recommendations listed below, will be formally supported by the FCRH Office of Pre-Health Professions Advising and the Committee on Health Professions in their application to health professions programs, provided they meet all published deadlines for committee support.

Before furiously registering for classes in the sciences, please take note of these non-academic recommendations. Work outside the classroom, demonstrated commitment to serving others and knowledge of clinical medicine is essential to every application.

Clinical Volunteering

- Students must have some type of significant clinical experience, which the FCRH Office of Pre-Health Advising may be able to assist in arranging. The ideal experience is long term (minimum of 2-3 semesters) vs. 1 semester or a summer or even a single week of many hours. This will help students be able to explain on a medical school application why, through real experience, they are pursuing this path. Without it, no application can be successful.

Research Experience

- Students may pursue research experience, which could be business related, humanities, social science or science. Gabelli students may want to carefully consider the type of research if they are applying from the business school, i.e. clinical/basic science might seem more of a direct correlation; however, we would never want a pre-health student to turn down a good opportunity, so there are no absolutes. Always double-check when in doubt.

Application Timeline

- There is no downside to taking a year between undergraduate and medical school - may help increase grades since courses will extend into senior year. Remember, the MCAT exam can only be taken when all pre-requisite coursework is complete. In addition, it allows for an additional 12 months of experiences. A good rule of thumb is to weigh carefully your options and do whatever will make you a stronger applicant. The difference between age 22 and age 23 is not significant to anyone involved in the admissions process except you.

Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT)

- The MCAT exam can only be taken after every prerequisite course has been completed. Offered over 20 times a year, the exam should be taken as early as possible and no later than July of the year in which an application is being submitted. Medical school applications open in June of the year prior to matriculation. For example, students wishing to enter medical school in 2018 would apply in summer 2017. Details on the MCAT exam can be found by accessing this link: <https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/>

Remember...

- It is not about rapidly progressing through the courses. These are foundation courses, and the knowledge you are required to master will continue to build. Full term courses are considered better indicators of academic achievement than summer session courses. If possible, students should try to avoid the following classes in summer, per medical school preference: General Chemistry 1 & 2, Organic Chemistry 1 & 2, Biology 1 & 2, and Biochemistry; however, with a strong academic history and consultation with a pre-health advisor, summer courses can be taken, as noted below. AP credit will not satisfy any of the medical school requirements.

Pre-Health Professions Curriculum and Coursework: Gabelli

The courses listed below constitute the minimum requirements for an application to health profession programs. Each pre-requisite course and lab must be passed with the grade of C or above:

- One year of general biology with lab (BISC 1403, 1404 1413, 1414)
- One year of general chemistry with lab (CHEM 1311, 1312, 1321, 1322, 1331, 1332)
- One year of organic chemistry with lab* (CHEM 2521, 2522, 2541, 2542)
- One year of general physics with lab (PHYS 1501, 1502, 1503, 1511, 1512) or (1601, 1602) or (1701, 1702)
- One year of English (satisfied by FCRH/GSB core requirements)

**General chemistry, including labs, must be successfully completed before enrollment in organic chemistry.*

Students should note that the biology and general chemistry foundation courses, plus all applicable labs (all listed above), must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in all upper division biology courses.

In addition, beginning with applications in summer 2015, for entrance to medical school in 2016, the following coursework is required to meet the changing competencies for entrance into medical school:

- One semester of biochemistry** (BISC 3521)
- One semester of psychology (PSYC 1200)
- One semester of sociology (SOC1 1100)
- One semester of statistics (MATH 1205, SOC1 2050, ECON 2140, PSYC 2000)

***Biology, general chemistry and organic chemistry plus all labs must be completed before enrollment in Biochemistry.*

All Pre-Health students, no matter what their primary fields of study, should learn the major concepts and skills of science and mathematics, and would be well served by taking additional upper-level science coursework to help prepare for standardized entrance exams. In addition, some health professional schools may require calculus as a prerequisite. It is the obligation of each student to investigate health professional schools' websites for school specific requirements.

Possible Course Pathways for Gabelli Students:

Freshman Year:

7 required Gabelli courses [Finite, Calc, Ground Floor, Comp II, Macro, Micro, Stats I (Stats I also needed for Pre-health Coursework)], Bio 1 & 2 with labs, and Statistical Decision Making

Summer: Physics 1 & 2

Sophomore Year:

Business Core Cohorts in Fall and Spring, General Chemistry 1 & 2 with labs*

*Must receive permission to take General Chemistry in fall with Business Core Curriculum Cohort, resulting in Statistical Decision Making being taken early in Freshman Year

Junior Year:

Organic chemistry 1 & 2 with labs, Sociology, Psychology, Business Concentration coursework in Fall, Business Core Cohort in Spring

Summer: Biochemistry (if want to apply for med school during senior year)

Senior Year:

Biochemistry (if want to apply for med school after senior year; would require a year off after SR year to apply to med school) and completion of Business Concentration coursework in Fall/Spring with last Business Core Cohort in Spring

If the above does not occur, the following alternative options are available:

a)
Freshman Year Spring: Stats & Statistical Decision Making
Summer: Physics 1 & 2
Sophomore Year: Business Core Fall and Spring, General Chemistry 1 & 2, Stats 1 & Statistical Decision Making
Junior Year: Organic chemistry 1 & 2 & Bio 1 & 2
Senior Year: Biochemistry, Psychology, & Sociology
**would require a year off after SR year to apply to med school

b)
Freshman Year Spring: Stats, Statistical Decision Making & General Chemistry 1
Summer: General Chemistry 2
Sophomore Year: Business Core Fall and Spring, Organic chemistry 1 & 2
Junior Year: Physics 1 & 2 & Bio 1 & 2
Senior Year: Biochemistry, Psychology, & Sociology
**would require a year off after SR year to apply to med school

c)
Freshman Spring: Stats, Statistical Decision Making, & General Chemistry 1
Summer: General Chemistry 2 & Psychology/Sociology
Sophomore Year: Business Core Fall and Spring, Organic chemistry 1 & 2
Junior Year: Physics 1 & 2 & Bio 1 & 2, & Psychology/Sociology
Summer: Biochemistry & Psychology/Sociology
**would allow med school application in SR year

d) NO SCIENCE SO YEAR; PSYCHOLOGY OR SOC DURING SO YEAR INSTEAD:
Freshman Spring: Stats, Statistical Decision Making & General Chemistry 1
Summer: General Chemistry 2
Sophomore Year: Business Core Fall and Spring and Psychology OR Sociology AND clinical experience
Summer: Physics 1 & 2
Junior Year: Organic chemistry 1 & 2, Bio 1 & 2, and Sociology OR Psychology
Senior Year: Biochemistry
**would require a year off after SR year to apply to med school

e) NO SCIENCE SO YEAR; PSYCHOLOGY AND SOC DURING SO YEAR INSTEAD:
Freshman Spring: Stats, Statistical Decision Making, & General Chemistry 1
Summer: General Chemistry 2
Sophomore Year: Business Core Fall and Spring and Psychology OR Sociology AND clinical experience
Summer: Physics 1 & 2
Junior Year: Organic chemistry 1 & 2, Bio 1 & 2, and Psychology OR Sociology
Summer: Biochemistry
**would allow med school application in SR year

f) ONLY 1 SUMMER CLASS (only permitted if AP credit for Calculus, Macroeconomics, and/or Microeconomics is granted)
Freshman Year Spring: GSB requirements including Stats I, Statistical Decision Making, and General Chemistry 1 & 2
Sophomore Year: Business Core Fall and Spring, Bio 1 & 2 OR Organic Chemistry 1& 2
Junior Year: Organic Chemistry 1 & 2 Or Bio 1 & 2 AND Physics 1 & 2
Summer: Biochemistry (could take Senior year, but would result in required year off after SR year to apply to med school)
Senior Year: Psychology & Sociology

Note: in some of the above plans, the placement of the Psychology and Sociology requirements could be modified. Also, labs are required with associated classes even if not noted. In addition, most plans allow only a Business Concentration, not a Business Major. At least 2 summer classes are required to complete both Gabelli School and Pre-Health curriculum, unless AP credit for Calculus, Macroeconomics, and/or Microeconomics is granted. Finally, additional alternative options may be possible. Please consult with both the Gabelli Deans and FCRH Pre-Health Deans to select the plan that best works for you.