Pre-Health at Binghamton University

We would like to familiarize you with pre-health advising at Binghamton University. Here are some frequently asked questions.

What does being a Binghamton University pre-health student mean?

Pre-Health is an umbrella term we use for students who wish to pursue one of the following health science graduate programs:

- Medicine [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/medicine.html]
- Dentistry [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/dentistry.html]
- Chiropractic [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/chiropractic.html]
- Dietetics and Nutrition [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/nutrition.html]
- Occupational Therapy [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/occupational-therapy.html]
- Optometry [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/optometry.html]
- Pharmacy [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/pharmacy.html]
- Physical Therapy [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/physical-therapy.html]
- Physician Assistant [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/physicians-assistant.html]
- Podiatry [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/podiatry.html]
- Veterinary Medicine [https://www.binghamton.edu/pre-health/curriculum/veterinary.html]

Is pre-health a major?

At Binghamton University, pre-health is not a major, and it isn’t something a student needs to “officially” declare with the University. Students self-identify as pre-health and complete the requirements for their intended profession. All pre-health students must choose a major offered by Binghamton University.

What courses do I need for entry into one of the pre-health professional schools?

Curriculum varies by profession, but most schools require:

- 1 year of Biological Science - BIOL 117 and 118
- 1 year of Inorganic Chemistry - CHEM 107 and 108 OR CHEM 111 and 341
  *Since it will not be offered in the spring semester, pre-health students are strongly encouraged to take CHEM 107 in the fall semester of their freshman year.
- 1 year of Organic Chemistry - CHEM 231, 332 and 335
- 1 year of Physics - PHYS 121 and 122
• 1 year of English - Any two courses in the English, Rhetoric, Creative Writing or Comparative Literature Departments

• Mathematics - Varies by program but most programs require 1-2 semesters of calculus or statistics.

**How do I avoid taking duplicate coursework?**

Don’t repeat coursework you already completed in high school. Please refer to the Advanced Placement chart and the Course to Course Equivalencies website to ensure you do not repeat courses that are equivalent to Binghamton courses.

[Advanced Placement Chart](http://www.binghamton.edu/harpur/advising/transfer/apcurrent.html)
[Course to Course Equivalencies Page](https://www.binghamton.edu/admissions/apply/transfer/coursework.html)

**What does a typical first semester schedule look like?**

Here are some sample schedules. Remember: Pre-health students are strongly encouraged to take CHEM 107 in the fall semester of the freshman year, since the course is only offered in fall semester. It is recommended that students do not take more than 2 math or science courses per semester.

Sample Schedule A:

1. CHEM 107
2. BIOL 117
3. GenEd non-science/ non-math
   = 16 credits

Sample Schedule B:

1. CHEM 107
2. MATH 224 (2 credits)
3. MATH 225 (2 credits)
4. GenEd non-science/ non-math
5. GenEd/C/J/W/ Elective non-science/ non-math
   =16 credits

Sample Schedule C:

1. CHEM 107
2. PSYC 111
3. GenEd non-science/ non-math
5. UNIV 101/ HARP 101  
=17-18 credits

Sample Schedule D: for students who scored a 5 on AP Chemistry or received credit for CHEM 107 & 108 from college transfer coursework:

1. CHEM 231  
2. BIOL 118  
3. GenEd non-science/ non-math  
4. UNIV 101 or HARP 101  
=13-14 credits

Need more information? We’re here to help!  
Harpur College advising associates are available between 2 and 8pm, 7 days a week by phone or email.  
607-777-3700  
harpfrsh@binghamton.edu  
*Advising associates will not be available on the following dates:  
July 3, 4, 7, 10, 21, 24 and 28. You’ll have an opportunity to meet the advising associates at the orientation sessions.