

A Guide for Students Interested in:
-D.D.M. Doctor of Dental Medicine
-D.D.S.: Doctor of Dental Surgery

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Admission requirements vary by program and institution. In general, most U.S. dental schools will expect applicants to take the Dental Admission Test (DAT) and to successfully complete the following outlined courses. To find school-specific requirements, visit their websites or the American Dental Association (ADA) website. In general, it is recommended that applicants complete prerequisite courses at an accredited 4-year institution.

Up to date information regarding the current DAT is available at <http://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/dental-admission-test>. The DAT is administered through Prometric Test Centers in the U.S. and its territories (Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands), and Canada. Testing appointments are available year-round. Individuals must wait 90 days between testing attempts. Examinees who have tested three or more times must apply for permission to take the test again. Some students find that it is helpful to take a preparation course for the DAT.

Minimum Course Requirements for Dental School

- 2 semesters of Biology
- 4 semesters of Chemistry (2- Inorganic, 2- Organic)
- 2 semesters of Math
- 2 semesters of Physics
- 2 semesters of English (1- Boston Course, 1- Other ENGL course)

Detailed Coursework Guide

Courses that fulfill PLAN Requirements/ Key Content Areas are in parenthesis:

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| ○ Social/Historical (SH) | ○ Scientific Inquiry (SCI) |
| ○ Aesthetic, Literary & Artistic (ALA) | ○ Quantitative Literacy (QL) |
| ○ Global Cultural (GC) | |

Required Coursework for Admissions & DAT Preparation

	# of Semesters	Simmons Courses to Satisfy Prerequisites
Biology	2 semesters	BIOL 113: General Biology or BIOL 115: Advanced General Biology (both SCI) BIOL 222: Animal Physiology (SCI)
General Chemistry: Enrollment in CHEM113 or 115 is dependent on placement exam score or Chemistry department recommendation.	2 semesters	CHEM 111: Introductory Chemistry, CHEM 113: Principles of Chemistry or CHEM 115: Advanced General Chemistry (all SCI) (CHEM 113 or 115 recommended) CHEM 216: Quantitative Analysis (SCI)
Organic Chemistry	2 semesters	CHEM 224: Organic Chemistry I (SCI) CHEM 225: Organic Chemistry II (SCI)

Mathematics: Requirements vary greatly. Some schools recommend Calculus & Stats, while others require 2 "math" courses.	2-3 semesters	MATH 120: Calculus I (QL, prerequisite for PHYS 112) MATH 121: Calculus II (QL, prerequisite for PHYS 113) MATH 118: Introductory Statistics (QL)
Biochemistry	1 semester	CHEM 345: Biochemistry or CHEM 223: Introduction to Biochemistry (SCI)
College Physics	2 semesters	PHYS 110 & 111: Introductory Physics I & II (SCI) OR PHYS 112 & 113: Fundamentals of Physics I & II (SCI) (recommended)
English Composition: BOS 101 fills one semester	2 semesters	ENGL or COMM: choose a writing intensive course (often fills ALA KCA)
Studio Art Some dental schools recommend at least one studio arts course where students work with their hands (e.g. Ceramics, Sculpture).	1 semester	See catalog for course listings. Suggestions include: ART 119 It is often acceptable to take this course at a community college.

Strongly Recommended Coursework

Additional Sciences Refer to schools of interest to see if any additional sciences are required or recommended. There are many other science courses offered at Simmons that may be helpful as a Pre-Dental student. This list is just a sampling. Please consult with your advisors for more suggestions.	BIOL 218: Zoology BIOL 221: Microbiology (many schools require) BIOL 225: Cell Biology (many schools require) CHEM 331: Thermodynamics & Kinetics CHEM 347: Adv. Topics in Biochemistry HON 303: HIV/AIDS Intersect. Sci. & Soc. NUTR 111: Nutrition Science PSYC 201: Biological Psychology
All courses fulfill SCI KCA →	
Additional Social Sciences & Humanities Refer to schools of interest to see if any additional social science or humanities courses are required or recommended. There are many additional courses offered at Simmons. Please consult with advisors for more suggestions.	MGMT 120: Introduction to Health Systems (SH) NUTR 111: Nutrition Science (SCI) or NUTR 112: Fundamentals of Nutrition Science NUTR 150: International Nutrition Issues (GC) PHIL 130: Ethics (GC) PHIL 131: Biomedical Ethics (SH) PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychology PSYC 232: Health Psychology PSYC 239: Psychology of Aging PSYC 244: Drugs & Behavior ECON 100: Principles of Microeconomics (SH) ECON 101: Principles of Macroeconomics (SH) SOCI 101: Introduction to Sociology (SH) SOCI 210: Body Politics (SH) SOCI 232: Race, Gender & Health (GC) SOCI 241: Health, Illness & Society (SH) SOCI 275: Birth & Death (GC) SOCI 245: Global Health (SH) SOCI 344: Health Systems & Policy

General Timeline

This timeline is an example of how you *may* wish to take courses. Timing of these courses may change due to your major/minor requirements, placement exam results, academic performance or availability. In addition to these courses, you must take classes required by Simmons and your major(s)/minor(s). Develop an academic plan with your advisors based on the courses above that is tailored to *your* needs. The sample timeline below does not include language or specific major requirements. It is only a sample of the Pre-Dental course sequence with notes about the Simmons PLAN. *Visit Simmons' bulletin to view the descriptions and availability of each course:* <http://courses.simmons.edu> Refer to the Simmons Course Catalog to find PLAN and major requirements, course prerequisites, descriptions of each course.

This schedule is designed to prepare you to take the DAT in the late-spring/early-summer of your junior year. The exam should be taken in the calendar year prior to which you plan to enter dental school (for example, if you are applying in 2020 for entrance to in fall 2021, you should take the DAT exam in spring/summer 2020).

	Fall	Spring	Summer
Year 1 PLAN Requirements: Boston Course, fall, 4 cr. Simmons: Explore, fall, 2 cr. Leadership Course, spring, 4 cr.	Boston Course (BOS 101) Simmons Explore (SIM 101, 1 cr.) General Chemistry I (CHEM 111/113/115) General Biology (BIOL 113/115)	Quantitative Analysis (CHEM 216) Microbiology (BIO 221) Calculus I (MATH 120)	<i>Exposure to Dentistry</i> <i>Community Service or Other Activities</i>
Year 2 PLAN Requirements: Learning Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 courses, 3 cr. each • 1 integrated seminar, 2 cr. Simmons: Experience, spring, 1 cr.	Organic Chemistry I (CHEM224) Animal Physiology (BIOL 222) <i>Learning Community:</i> Physics I (PHYS 112) AND Calculus II (MATH 121)	Organic Chemistry II (CHEM 225) Cell Biology (BIOL 225) Physics II (PHYS 111 or 113)	<i>Continue Service</i> <i>Research</i>
Year 3 PLAN Requirements for years 3 & 4: 3D- Design Across Diverse Disciplines Capstone Simmons: Excel, 1 cr.	Biochemistry (CHEM 345) <i>DAT Preparation</i>	<i>DAT Preparation</i>	<i>DAT Exam by May/June</i> <i>Apply by June/July</i> <i>Secondary Applications</i>
Year 4	Additional Course Requirements <i>School Interviews</i>	Additional Course Requirements <i>School Interviews</i>	<i>Take a break before Dental School begins</i>
Additional Required or Suggested Coursework: These courses depend on your major, completion of prerequisites and requirements for prospective medical schools	MATH 118: Introductory Statistics (QL) Social Sciences Studio Art ENGL: choose a writing intensive course (ALA) <i>Required Language, 2 courses in the same language</i> <i>Required Remaining Global Cultural (GC) Key Content Area</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The QL, ALA, SH and SCI requirements will likely be fulfilled with the above Pre-Health courses. • Please discuss any questions or uncertainties with your advisors. 		

Notes for Specific Majors When Combined with Pre-Dental

Any undergraduate major is appropriate for dental school assuming the applicant has completed the basic requirements. Nonetheless, the majority of students applying to pre-professional school have undergraduate majors in the sciences. It is very important to do well in science and mathematics courses.

Major	Notes
Biochemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-year Biochemistry majors should take MATH 120 & 121* (or higher). • Calculus prepares students for PHYS 112 & 113 in sophomore year. • First-year, first semester students should take some level of Calculus*, CHEM 111/113/115 and BIOL 113 (unless they have AP credit to fill any of these courses). • Biochemistry majors will likely take language later in their academic plan or during a summer. • BIOL 113 is a pre-requisite for BIOL 221, which Biochemistry students take in the spring of their first-year. • CHEM 111/113/115 is a prerequisite for CHEM 216, which is taken in the second semester.
Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-year Biology majors should take CHEM 111/113/115 and BIOL 113 (unless they have AP credit to fill any of these courses). As a third course, students may choose language, a Math course* or a Key Content Area (KCA) course. • BIOL 113 is a pre-requisite for BIOL 218, which Biology students generally take in the spring of their first-year. • CHEM 111/113/115 is a prerequisite for CHEM 216, which is taken in the second semester.
Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-year, first semester students should likely take some level of Calculus* and CHEM 113/115. As a third course, Chemistry students may choose language, BIOL 113 or a Key Content Area (KCA) course. BIOL 113 is a pre-requisite for later BIOL courses needed for Pre-Health. • First-year Chemistry majors should take MATH 120 & 121 (or higher)*. Chemistry majors will need MATH 220 by the end of junior year. • Calculus prepares students for PHYS 112 & 113 in sophomore year*.
Neuroscience & Behavior (either track)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-year, first semester N&B students may want to take PSYC 101, BIOL 113 and CHEM 111/113/115 (unless they have AP credit to fill any of these courses). Student may also choose to take PSYC 101 or BIOL 113 in the spring of first year. As an alternate first semester course, N&B students may instead choose language, a Calculus course*, Statistics or a Key Content Area (KCA) course. • PSYC 101 is a pre-req for PSYC 201 and 203, which N&B students take in their sophomore year. BIOL 113 is a pre-req for later BIOL courses needed for the Neurobiology track and Pre-Health. • CHEM 111/113/115 is a prerequisite for CHEM 216, which is taken in the second semester.
Public Health (either track)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-year, first semester Public Health students should take CHEM 111/113/115. In the spring, students are encouraged to take BIOL 104. • During the first year, either semester, students should take SOCI 241 and BIOL 113. Public Health students also have room to begin their language, a Calculus course*, Statistics or a Key Content Area (KCA) course. • SOCI 245 (sophomore year) will fulfill the Global Cultural KCA. • CHEM 111/113/115 is a prerequisite for CHEM 216, which is taken in the second semester.
Non-science majors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May want or need to take summer courses. • Highly encouraged to begin Pre-Health requirements as early as possible • Taking additional science electives can help boost the BCPM GPA. When students only take the required prerequisites, each course counts more in the science GPA because there are fewer courses included in that GPA. • Students should plan to take CHEM 111/113/115 to start the Chemistry sequence.

**If students plan to take the PHYS 112/MATH 121 Learning Community in the fall of their sophomore year, they should take MATH 120 in their first year and hold off taking MATH 121 until their sophomore year. This LC is not required of Pre-Health students, however students may find it to be an efficient opportunity to fill the LC requirement.*