

Guide for Students Interested in:

- D.V.M.: Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

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Admission requirements vary by school. In general, most schools will expect applicants to take the GRE - General (accepted by most) or MCAT, gain many hours of animal & veterinary experience, and to complete the following courses. To learn more about the test, to register and to order study materials go to:

<http://www.gre.org/gendir.html>. To find school-specific requirements, visit institutional websites directly or go to <http://www.aavmc.org>. Veterinary school admission is very competitive because there are very few programs. The average applicant takes three application cycles to be admitted. Exposure to veterinary medicine and hands-on animal care experience is vital to build a competitive veterinary school application.

The Biology major is strongly recommended for Pre-Veterinary students. It can be difficult to fit other majors with the Pre-Vet requirements without summer courses.

Minimum Requirements

Biology

BIOL 113/115

BIOL 218

BIOL 221

BIOL 222

BIOL 225

BIOL 336

General Biology (113)/ Advanced General Biology (115)

Principles of Zoology

Microbiology

Animal Physiology

Cell Biology

Genetics

Chemistry

Enrollment in CHEM113/115 is dependent on placement exam score or department recommendation.

CHEM 111/113/115

Introductory Chemistry (111)/Principles of Chemistry (113)/

Introduction to Chemistry Research (115) – CHEM 113 or 115 is recommended

CHEM 216

Quantitative Analysis

CHEM 224

Organic Chemistry I

CHEM 225

Organic Chemistry II

CHEM 223 or 345

Intro to Biochemistry (223) or Biochemistry with Lab (345)

Math

MATH 120 or higher

Calculus I (Prerequisite for PHYS 112)

MATH 121

Calculus II (Prerequisite for PHYS 113)

MATH 118

Introductory Statistics

Physics

PHYS 110 & 111 **Introductory Physics I & II**

OR

PHYS 112 & 113 **Fundamentals of Physics I & II (recommended)**

English

ENGL courses

2 ENGL writing or literature courses; Most schools will accept the "Boston Course" as one semester of English. Take at least one other ENGL course(s).

Strongly Recommended Coursework (required for some)

NUTR 112
COMM 181
Social Sciences

Introduction to Nutrition Science
Public Speaking & Group Discussion

Some schools recommend courses in the social sciences (such as PSYC 101 & SOCI 101 or SOCI 241, which are required for Pre-Med student)

General Timeline

This timeline is an *example* of how you *may* wish to take courses. This is a plan generally appropriate for a science major who does not plan to take a gap year. 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-Vet course sequence with notes about the Simmons PLAN. Refer to the Simmons Course Catalog to find PLAN and major requirements, course prerequisites, descriptions of each course.

The GRE should be taken in the calendar year prior to which you plan to enter veterinary school (for example, if you are applying in 2020 for entrance to veterinary school in fall 2021, you should take the exam in spring/summer 2020). Some schools may also require the Biology GRE.

	Fall	Spring	Summer
Year 1	Boston Course (BOS 101) Simmons Explore (SIM 101, 1 cr.) Chemistry I (CHEM 111/113/115) Biology I (BIOL 113/115)	Leadership Course (LDR 101) Chemistry II (CHEM 216) Zoology (BIOL 218) Calculus 1 (MATH 120)	<i>Exposure to Veterinary Medicine</i> <i>Community Service</i>
Year 2 PLAN Requirements: Learning Community • 2 courses, 3 cr. each • 1 integrated seminar, 2 cr. Simmons: Experience , spring, 1 cr.	Organic Chemistry I (CHEM224) Animal Physiology (BIOL 222) Calculus II (MATH 121)	Organic Chemistry II (CHEM 225) Cell Biology (BIOL 225)	<i>Continue Service</i> <i>Research</i> <i>Hands-on animal/veterinary experience</i>
Year 3 PLAN Requirements for years 3 & 4: 3D- Design Across Diverse Disciplines Simmons: Excel , 1 cr.	Genetics (BIOL 336) Physics I (PHYS 112)	Microbiology (BIOL 221) Physics II (PHYS 113) <i>GRE Exam</i>	<i>Hands-on animal/veterinary experience</i> <i>Apply by June/July</i>
Year 4 Capstone (major-specific)	Biochemistry (CHEM 345) <i>School Interviews</i>	 <i>School Interviews</i>	<i>Take a break before Vet School begins</i>
Additional Required or Suggested Coursework: These courses depend on your major, completion of prerequisites and requirements for prospective veterinary schools	NUTR 112 COMM 181 Social Science courses Language, 2 sequential courses in the same language Remaining Global Cultural (GC) Key Content Area <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-Vet

Any undergraduate major is appropriate for veterinary school assuming the applicant has completed the basic pre-vet requirements. However, **the Biology major is recommended** because it lines up best with the Pre-Vet curriculum. Students with majors other than Biology will likely need to complete summer coursework.

Major	Notes
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 take in the spring. • CHEM 111/113/115 is a prerequisite for CHEM 216, taken in the second semester.
Biochemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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). This means Biochemistry majors will likely take language later in their academic plan or during a summer. • First-year Biochemistry majors should take MATH 120 & 121* (or higher). • 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, taken in the second semester.
Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-year, first semester students should likely take BIOL 113 and CHEM 111/113/115. BIOL 113 is a pre-requisite for later BIOL courses needed for Pre-Med. • MATH 120 & 121* are prerequisites for MATH 220. Chemistry majors will need MATH 220 by the end of junior year. • CHEM 111/113/115 is a prerequisite for CHEM 216, taken in the second semester.
Neuroscience & Behavior (Neurobiology 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 in the spring of first year. As an alternate first semester course, N&B students may instead choose language, a Calculus course*, or Statistics course. • BIOL 113 is a pre-req for BIOL 2018, which is recommended for Pre-Vet students in the second semester of their first year. • PSYC 101 is a pre-req for PSYC 201 and 203, which N&B students take in their sophomore year. • CHEM 111/113/115 is a prerequisite for CHEM 216, taken in the second semester.
Public Health (either track)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First-year, first semester PH students should take CHEM 111/113/115 and BIOL 113. In the spring, students are encouraged to take BIOL 104. • CHEM 111/113/115 is a prerequisite for CHEM 216, taken in the second semester. • During the first year, either semester, students should take SOCI 241. PH students may also begin their language, a Calculus course*, Statistics or a Key Content Area (KCA) course. • SOCI 245 (sophomore year) will fulfill the Global Cultural KCA.
Non-science majors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students should take BIOL 113 and CHEM 111/113/115 in their first semester. • CHEM 111/113/115 is a prerequisite for CHEM 216, and BIOL 113 is a prerequisite for BIOL 218, both taken in the second semester. • 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 may choose to take the PHYS 112/MATH 121 Learning Community in the fall of their sophomore year. While students are welcome to choose any Learning Community, many Pre-Health students find the PHYS 112/MATH 121 LC to be most efficient. If students plan to take this LC, they should take MATH 120 during their first year, plan to hold off on taking MATH 121 until their sophomore year, and plan to take PHYS 113 in the spring of their sophomore year to complete the Physics sequence.*

