UC Santa Barbara

Health Professions Advising

Transfer Student Orientation!
Our staff and peer advisors meet with students to discuss a wide variety of topics, including academic planning and course scheduling (primarily peers), career counseling, the professional school application process, and internships (staff).

We also have as part of our team a Clinical Experiences Coordinator who is in charge of administering our INT 184PD and INT 199H opportunities, and our Student Office Assistant who assists us with a variety of tasks including social media, marketing, and data analysis.

Campus Location
Pre-Professional Advising Office, 2105 North Hall

Email (All pre-health related questions should be directed here.)
prehealthinfo@ltsc.ucsb.edu

Website
https://healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu
Services We Provide

- Help plan undergraduate program
- Counsel students on career choices
- Help understand how undergraduate coursework and experiences impact preparation for professional school
- Connect to campus and community resources
- Offer support throughout application process
- Assist in decision-making for professional programs
Meet with an Advisor

Plan to meet with a pre-health advisor at least once per year, but more often if necessary.

- Appointments (half hour time slots) can be scheduled through the HPA website.
- Drop-in advising (10 minutes) for quick questions
  - Check our website for days and times for the Fall Quarter.

Note: Check the homepage of our website for appointment options (in-person, phone, Zoom).
Health Careers

Physician
- Allopathic (MD)
- Osteopathic (DO)
- Podiatry

Dental

Pharmacy

Veterinary Medicine

Optometry

Physical Therapy

Physician Assistant

Nursing

Occupational Therapy

Public Health

Advisors also assist students in exploring other health related careers not listed above.
Preparatory coursework varies from one profession to the next and even within each profession. We strongly encourage students to visit the websites of all professional schools they hope to someday apply to in order to make themselves aware of each program’s unique admissions requirements.

The sooner students begin researching programs, the better!
Core Prerequisite Courses

**General Chemistry:** Chem 1A & 1AL, 1B & 1BL, 1C & 1CL

**General Biology:** MCDB 1A, MCDB 1B/1LL, EEMB 2, EEMB 3 & EEMB 2LL

**Organic Chemistry:** Chem 109A, B, C + Chem 6AL and 6BL

**Physics:** Phys 6A & 6AL, 6B & 6BL, 6C & 6CL

*If your major provides the option of the 6 series or 1 series, we highly encourage the 6 series.*

**Note:** Many professional schools will not accept AP credit to satisfy course requirements.
Core Prerequisite Courses

Math – Many health professions schools require that students demonstrate quantitative abilities, to varying degrees, by requiring applicants to complete a full year of math, which may include a combination of calculus, statistics, and other upper-level math.

Students who receive credit for Math 34A/B or 3A/3B through AP examination should review the *UCSB Mathematics and Statistics Courses for Pre-health Students—Revised* document (available in each of the pre-health tracks on our website) for more information on options for ensuring a full year of math appears on their official UCSB transcript.

Note: Many professional schools will not accept AP credit to satisfy course requirements.
Core Prerequisite Courses

**English** – Effective writing skills are crucial for healthcare providers, which is why many professional schools require applicants to complete a full year (3 quarters worth) of courses in the areas of Composition/Writing and Literature.

Courses that satisfy GE Areas A-1 and A-2, such as Writing 2 and Writing 50, and Writing 109HP (or other upper-division Writing courses) + a literature course from the English department can be used to satisfy this requirement.

Review the information in the *English* section of your pre-health track for more information.

**Note:** Many professional schools will not accept AP credit to satisfy course requirements.
Other Required or Highly Recommended Courses

Human Anatomy and Physiology with Labs *(Required for programs such as physical therapy and physician assistant. Must be taken outside of UCSB as UCSB does not offer corresponding labs.)*

Biochemistry *(Required for MCAT, DAT, and other programs.)*

Microbiology

Genetics

Any other upper-division science courses, especially those of particular interest to the student

Public Speaking *(Pharmacy)*

Econ *(Pharmacy)*

Psychology, Sociology, and other courses in the Humanities
Fall Quarter Classes

Transfer students’ schedules may vary from one another significantly depending on science courses completed prior to coming to UCSB. The first thing to do is check assist.org (if attended a CC in California) to review course equivalencies.

If no UCSB-equivalent to General Chemistry courses taken prior:
● Begin with Chem 1A/1AL

If UCSB’s Gen. Chem. series has been satisfied by equivalent courses prior:
● Consider taking at least one of the following courses: MCDB 1A, Physics 6A/6AL, or CHEM 109A (Organic Chemistry lecture), or a combination depending on comfort level.

If both Gen. Chem. AND Intro. Bio. completed outside UCSB:
● Begin with either Physics 6A/6AL OR Chem 109A

If Gen. Chem., O. Chem., and Intro. Bio. equivalents have been completed:
● Consider taking Physics 6A/6AL or another upper-division Biology course. Speak to your major department advisor about how you might receive prerequisite clearance for upper-division courses.
Transfer Work

- Each student's academic needs will vary based on how credits have transferred to UCSB.

- Courses completed outside of UCSB are **not calculated into your UCSB GPA**, but all courses taken will be used by your application system to calculate your GPAs for professional schools. You’ll need to self-calculate your GPAs to assess your competitiveness.

- Be sure to work closely with your major advisors and pre-health advisors to efficiently plan your schedule.

- If it seems too difficult to complete requirements in 2 years, students are able to stay a 3rd year (discuss with an advisor).
The Good: AP courses and exams often help to prepare students for college-level coursework. In some cases, students will receive units and satisfy some degree requirements based on their performance on certain AP exams.

But: Many professional schools do not accept AP exam scores to satisfy their prerequisite course requirements. Those that do accept AP credit require the UCSB courses for which credit was awarded to show up on your official transcript, but UCSB does not do this. This is why we recommend pursuing one of the options below.

You have options!

- Take the UCSB equivalent for *study list credit.*
- Take the course at a different 4-year institution during a summer.
- Take the next level course in the sequence (not always applicable).
- Take at a CC.
- Take your chances.
Study List Credit

Take a course for which you’ve already been awarded credit.

Earn a letter grade, which shows up on your transcript.

No units earned because they’ve already been awarded.

Often done with Calculus, Statistics, and English/Composition courses and less often with Physics courses.

This is strongly recommended for courses you’ve received credit for through AP examination as professional schools require these to show on your official transcript.
Extracurricular Experiences

Grades and test scores are important, but the extras help you to develop the non-academic knowledge and skills that you’ll need for professional school!

Students prepare themselves for professional school and their future careers in a number of ways:

- Shadowing
- Paid clinical work or clinical volunteer experiences
- Research experience (Not “required” unless MD/PhD)
- Non-medical community service (Shelters, non-profits, K-12 schools, etc.)
- Student organizations
- Non-medical/non-healthcare-related paid work (Barista, Tutor, etc.)
- Non-STEM courses
Pre-Health Enrichment Courses

Seminars and courses led by healthcare professionals and faculty

- Courses are open to all students

Special clinical internship opportunities

- Competitive and require application

See the *Pre-Health Enrichment Courses* section of our website under Current Students for more information.
UCSB Resources

Transfer Student Center (TSC)
- Meet other transfer students
- Help with IGETC/PIGETC

Campus Learning Assistance Services (CLAS)
- Tutorials
- Academic Skills Consultations (Study Skills & Time Management!)

Career Services
- Career and self-exploration, resume review, mock interviews etc.

Departmental Advising
- Help understanding major requirements
- Petitioning for full major

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
- Mental health assistance, including support for anxiety, depression & general well-being

For more information, please visit the Additional Student Resources section of our website, under Current Students.
Tips Moving Forward

Academic & Career Exploration:
● Consider your undergraduate major - Do you love the subject matter, and more importantly, does it capitalize on your strengths?
● Research your intended profession and others, now!

Grades are your #1 priority. Effective study skills + time management = Success!
● Academic Skills consultations in CLAS are very helpful.

Become familiar with various requirements, information, and resources on our website.
Use all of the resources available to you.
● Explore opportunities both on and off campus
● Student organizations
● Counseling services (CAPS)
● CLAS (tutoring and develop academic skills)
● Advising (Pre-Health, General, and Major Dept.)
Stay Connected!

UCSB Health Professions Advising provides a number of ways for our pre-health students to stay up-to-date on the latest health professions-related information and events taking place on and off campus!

- Join our pre-health listserv to receive emails from us!
  
  https://healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu/home

- Like us on Facebook!
  
  @UCSB Pre-Health Advising

- Follow us on Instagram!
  
  @ucsbprehealthadvising

- Utilize the Health Professions Advising website!
  
  https://healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu/home
30 minute Q&A Sessions will take place during Transfer Orientation. Plan to attend a session so that you can ask pre-health advisors questions.

**Dates:** August 9, 10, 11, 12, & 13
**Times:** 2:00pm, 3:00pm, & 4:00pm

*Do not skip your department advising session to attend this Q&A!

Contact Orientation or the TSC for Zoom links!