

Pre-Health Tips for Transfer Orientation Advisors - Summer 2020

Getting started... *"Do you receive TAP/Excelsior? What are your long-term career goals?"*

Many students have plans to apply to a professional healthcare program. This means they are "Pre-Health." It is helpful to remind students Pre-Health is **not** a major. Rather, while working on a bachelor's in a chosen major, students will complete certain math/science courses needed for professional healthcare programs. Sometimes these math/science courses overlap with their chosen major, sometimes they do not. If students receive TAP and/or Excelsior, it is in their best interest to choose a major that aligns with the prerequisite courses they need. Entrance to professional healthcare programs involves a competitive application process

Pre-Health Graduate Programs

- Medical doctor
- Dentist
- Veterinarian
- Podiatrist
- Optometrist
- Physician assistant
- Occupational therapist
- Physical therapist
- Pharmacist
- Athletic Trainer

Pre-Health Bachelor's Programs

- Clinical laboratory science
- Respiratory care
- Social welfare
- Nursing

To guide course selection...

Prerequisite guides will be available for the various Pre-Health programs. You can reference these guides so students can see the potential overlap between prerequisite courses and their major. These checklists also provide contact information for the Pre-Health Advising office.

- Pre-Health students pursue a variety of majors, such as BIO, BCH, Health Science, PSY, or others.
- When planning courses, it can be helpful to focus on Pre-Health prerequisites first, then work backwards to include other courses that may be required for their major. (Think of "long-term" plans first).
- Some majors (e.g. BIO, BCH) overlap significantly with the prerequisites needed for Pre-Health programs.
- If a student is PSY BA, have them consider changing to the BS track to pursue science courses.
- Health Science can be a common major choice, but it may not be the best fit for all Pre-Health students!
- Strongly encourage students meet with a Pre-Health Advisor (Lakshmi Ramsoondar-Ahmad, Kelly Haller, & Jen Rodriguez) during the semester to discuss their Pre-Health plans more thoroughly.

What about pre-nursing...

If a student indicated an interest in Pre-Nursing when they applied to SBU, a Pre-Health Advisor has completed a nursing pre-evaluation. Utilize these recommendations to guide you. Students are encouraged to follow-up with Pre-Health Advising during their first semester to discuss their academic plan & career goals in more detail.

Pre-Nursing Golden Rule: Do not complete HAN 200 & 202 at SBU if interested in nursing due to virtual labs. Students are encouraged to complete Anatomy & Physiology I & II at another school; both parts of A&P must be completed at the same school. *Given the current COVID-19 circumstances, the nursing program is willing to accept prerequisites taken online during Spring or Summer 2020. However, in the case of Anatomy/Physiology, the courses must be taken at a college that typically has in-person labs. HAN 200 & 202, *if taken at Stony Brook*, will still not be accepted.

Can I take pre-health prerequisites online?... Due to COVID-19 and the shift to remote instruction, many health professions programs decided to accept online prerequisites taken during Spring 2020, and some are willing to accept Summer 2020 online, even if they typically would not prefer online courses. When choosing Fall 2020 classes, if an in-person option is available for a class, please consider this format when possible.

Highlights about the Health Science major...

One of the possible majors Pre-Health students may choose is Health Science. This undergraduate major allows students to pursue a clinical or non-clinical concentration within their **final** undergraduate year. This "senior year" curriculum is very structured and does not allow for "other" courses to be taken at the same time. Therefore, Pre-Health students must complete all Pre-Health prerequisites before their "senior year" if they major in Health Science. To familiarize yourself with the concentrations offered in Health Science, they are listed below. Students should consult with Traci Thompson & Jennifer Jimenez to review the Health Science major and concentration options.

Clinical Concentrations

- Anesthesia Technology
- Medical Dosimetry
- Healthcare Quality: Coding & Reimbursement
- Radiologic Technology
- Radiation Therapy

Non-Clinical Concentrations

- Disability Studies and Human Development
- Emergency and Critical Care
- Environmental Health and Safety
- Health Care Informatics
- Health Care Management
- Public Health/Community Health Education

This guide is not comprehensive. There are many different nuances and scenarios, every student is different. It is important to remember science courses are sequential and tend to be structured (i.e. should be taken in a certain order). If you have questions or are unsure, please ask!