

# PRE-PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT

Undergraduate Credit Required	Bachelor's degree
Entrance Exam	GRE and or MCAT (depending on schools)
Professional Schooling Required	22-24 month including 1 year of class and 10 to 12 months of clinical work; Master's degree rewarded
Local Professional Schools	Drexel University
Professional Organization Websites	American Association of Pathologists' Assistants <a href="http://www.pathassist.org/">http://www.pathassist.org/</a>
Major	Students can major in any subject at WCU for Pre-Pathology Assistant. The most common majors that align with pathology assistant school pre-requisites are Biology: Cell and Molecular Biology, Biology: Integrative Concentration, and Chemistry: Chem-Bio.
Role of a Pathology Assistant	Provide anatomical and pathology services under the supervision of a pathologist (a physician— either an MD or DO). A Pathologists' assistant's duties include dissection and preparation of specimens, obtaining clinical histories, preparing tissues for histologic processing, photographing pertinent gross specimens, performing postmortem exams, conferring with physicians, administrative, supervisory, and teaching duties.

## REQUIRED AND SUGGESTED ELECTIVES FOR WCU UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

The following course recommendations are general requirements for PA programs. For the specific requirements of your school of choice and whether AP/IB credit is accepted, please refer to that school's admissions website or contact those schools for a list of entrance requirements.

### PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

<b>Biological Sciences with labs (min. 2 courses)</b>		
BIO 110 General Biology I, BIO 111 General Biology II, BIO 211 Cell Biology		
Course	Term	Grade
<b>Genetics (required by some schools)</b>		
Course	Term	Grade
BIO 210		
<b>Microbiology</b>		
Course	Term	Grade
BIO 214		
<b>General Chemistry with lab</b>		
Course	Term	Grade
CHE 102/103* & CRL 103		
CHE 104 & CRL 104		
<b>Organic Chemistry with lab</b>		
Course	Term	Grade
CHE 231 & CRL 231		
CHE 232		
<b>Biochemistry (1 course)</b>		
Course	Term	Grade
CHE 476		
<b>Anatomy and Physiology (2 courses)</b>		
Course	Term	Grade
BIO 259		
BIO 269		

<b>English Composition (3 to 6 hrs)</b>		
Course	Term	Grade
WRT 120		
WRT 2XX		
<b>Calculus and Statistics (please contact school for specific admissions requirement)</b>		
Course	Term	Grade
MAT 121		
MAT 145		
<b>Physics with lab (recommended)</b>		
Course	Term	Grade
PHY 130 or 170		
PHY 140 or 180		

\* Students need to take Che 102 or Che 103, not both

## Course Plan of Pre-Pathology Assistant Requirements

### Semester 1

CHE 102/103  
CRL 103  
BIO 110  
WRT 120  
MAT 121

### Semester 3

CHE 231  
CRL 231  
PHY 130  
BIO 210  
General/Major Electives

### Semester 5

CHE 476  
BIO 259  
General/Major Electives

### Semester 7

General/Major Electives

### Semester 2

CHE 104  
CRL 104  
BIO 111  
WRT 2XX  
MAT 145

### Semester 4

CHE 232  
PHY 140  
BIO 211  
General/Major Electives

### Semester 6

BIO 269  
General/Major Electives

### Semester 8

General/Major Electives

## SUGGESTED ELECTIVES

**BIO 428. Animal Histology**

**BIO 480. Light Microscopy**

**BIO 314. Pathogenic Microbiology**

**BIO 465. Immunology**

**CHE 477. Biochemistry 2**

**CHL 232. Organic Chemistry Lab II**

## BEYOND ACADEMICS

Pre-Pathology Assistant students are encouraged to participate in experiences such as leadership roles, volunteer work, research, and shadowing, which will help prepare them for pathology assistant school and the medical profession. Such experiences demonstrate a commitment to and knowledge of the profession. All students are **STRONGLY** encouraged to **shadow medical professionals, volunteering with health providers**, get involved with research and pursue internships. Additionally, involvement with clubs such as Pre-Med Club, and Minorities in Medicine, will help students to learn more about the medical profession. Activities beyond the classroom play a significant role in a student's application to a professional school program.

## APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

Application is made directly with the schools you would like to attend. Early application is recommended as many programs take only a handful of students. Schools will then contact you to verify receipt of your application and inform you of any additional materials they require to complete your application.

## ENTRANCE EXAM

The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required for most programs: [ets.org/gre](https://ets.org/gre).



Director, Pre-Medical Program – Dr. Teresa Donze

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Please see [www.wcupa.edu/admin/social.equity/](http://www.wcupa.edu/admin/social.equity/)

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