

College Connect

Summer 2017



“Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.”

Abigail Adams
1780



Health Sciences' Mission

Is to promote excellence in health and human services through teaching, research and service with special emphasis on Wyoming's frontier and rural populations. Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity (WHO).



Academic Programs in the College of Health Sciences – are we in the right place?

- Pharmacy
- Nursing
- Social Work
- Communication Disorders
- Kinesiology and Health including Physical Education
- Dental Hygiene with Sheridan College
- Medical Laboratory Science with Casper College
- Minors in Disabilities, Aging Studies, Health Sciences
- PreProfessional Health Advising (med., dent., opt., pod., OT, PT, PA)



Schedule

- Navigating Your Health Science Degree
 - Course sequencing
 - Admissions to clinical programs
- Advising
 - Now and in the future
 - Using your advisor
- Non-academic issues
 - Getting involved and committing to college
 - Background checks and life choices
- Questions?



How Health Science Degrees work:

- Complete prerequisites
 - Two or more years
 - Bachelors degree required for most masters or doctoral degrees
- Develop a competitive resume
 - Work on this while doing prereqs.
- Apply to programs
- Pass background checks



How Health Science Degrees work:

- Pharmacy – 2+ years then doctorate
- Nursing, Kinesiology, Physical Education, Social Work, Med. Tech. and Dental Hygiene – 2+ years then apply to complete bachelors
- Medicine, Dentistry, Optometry Occupational & Physical Therapy, Physician's Assistant, Communication Disorders – bachelors and then professional school



Entrance Requirements

- Specific prerequisite coursework
- Academic standards – entrance exams and high GPA's (especially in science courses)
- Communication skills -- interviews and personal statements
- Observation and/or work experience in health field
- Code of ethics
- Background checks



Entrance Requirements

- Background checks & drug tests are a way of life in health care (and increasingly elsewhere)
- You will need to pass them to volunteer, work, train and be educated in healthcare – choose your friends, roommates, significant others and situations wisely!



Entrance Expectations – higher than entry requirements

- Academic excellence – published minimums (2.75 GPA) are rarely adequate – often need to be much higher for consideration
- Demonstrated ability to work with diverse populations – age, education level, race/ethnicity, gender, disability status, religious background
- Leadership skills
- Service orientation
- Excellence in something – art, research, leadership, sports, music....



What sort of classes am I going to take?

- Departments will provide curriculum tomorrow
- Various set of requirements to fulfill
 - University Studies Program
 - Major requirements
 - Focus on program prerequisites
 - Observe course prerequisites and sequencing



What sort of classes am I going to take?

- And Additional Considerations for some of you
 - Minors?
 - Professional School Prereqs?
 - 2nd Major?
 - Honors?
 - ROTC?
 - Study Abroad?
 - Plan ahead to accommodate your interests!



University Studies Program

- Known as USPs
- Our general education requirements
- Not typically set classes, but rather categories that can be fulfilled in a variety of ways.
- Most 1st semester courses fulfill USPs



A Chance to Explore

- Since some introductory classes fulfill USP graduation requirements students can explore various majors “risk free”.
- Don’t be afraid to be undeclared or change a major – most students do!



Major, Minor, Honors, ROTC Requirements

- You will receive major information tomorrow at advising.
- Contact appropriate departments for additional information at tomorrow’s resource fair.



Prerequisites

- Many courses will have prerequisites.
- Admissions to most health care fields will have prerequisites
- Sometimes there are chains of prerequisites
- Start work on these 1st, so that you don’t get stuck later.



Prerequisites - example

- Many medical schools require Biochemistry.
 - To take that you must first complete Chem. I, Chem II, O-Chem I in order. It’s preferred to do O-Chem II as well.
- Also, students need to have math equal to College Algebra to start Chemistry.
- Delay on this sequence = no academic progress towards medical school!



Resources for planning your schedule

- Catalog
 - Prerequisites
 - Course Descriptions
 - Policies and regulations
- WyoWeb – online student information system – you will learn to use it tomorrow
- Advisors
- Department websites



This sounds like a lot!

- It is! – But a lot of help is also available.
- Tutoring
- Professor’s Office Hours
- Academic Advisors
- Clubs and Organizations
- Student Support Offices



Use what you pay for!

- Tutoring and other academic resources are provided by your tuition and fees.
- You don't pay when you go, because you've already paid!



Who are these advisors?

- Don't wait until it's time to sign up for classes to get to know them!
 - Professional staff advisors
 - Faculty advisors



A+ Advising

You and your adviser(s)

- Decision making process involving a partnership
- Make regular appointments
- Be informed – ask questions
- Receive new PERC number each semester



What you can expect from advisors

- Assistance in selecting classes
- Help in understanding requirements and your situation
- Information about campus opportunities
- Information concerning sources for assistance
- Reasonably prompt answers to questions and concerns



How does Advising Work?

- How does advising work?
- Tomorrow – group advising
- In the future – individual advising
 - October/November for spring
 - March/April for fall



Orientation Advising

- Come prepared!
 - Lists of college classes taken while in high school - VITAL
 - AP/CLEP/IB courses and tests
 - Minor or double major information
 - Will you take the language or math placement tests in the near future?
 - Bring advising packet - VITAL



Future Advising

- Occurs after midterms
- Must meet with advisor to get PERC (registration) code
- Student is responsible to bring a proposed schedule
- Chance to discuss plans and challenges
- Can make appointment with advisor(s) at other times as well



Commit to College!

- Students who take 14-16 credits (full load)
 - Graduate faster (and are more likely to do so)
 - Do better in classes
 - Are less likely to run out of financial aid
 - Have more years of work
 - Develop better study and time management skills!



Commit to College!

- Students who took less than 15 hours are 10 TIMES as likely to have less than a 2.0 GPA (academic probation)
- Those who took 15+ are 50% more likely to have over a 3.0 GPA!



Commit to College!

- Health Professions Admissions Committees look at more than grades – give them something to see
- Students who are involved in extracurricular activities and spend weekends on campus *are more likely to succeed academically.*



Commit to College!

- Behaviors of successful students include
 - Actively participating in class
 - Seeking help before problems get out of hand (academic and personal)
 - Planning ahead to take advantage of opportunities
 - Reading, for class and beyond



Commit to College!

- Most health science degrees require several natural science and math courses (Social Work is the exception).
- Successful Health Science students take 2 or 3 math/science courses *every* semester.



Commit to College!

- Check your UW Email
 - It's how we communicate with you.
 - *Students are responsible for messages sent to their UW email.*
 - Disable "clutter" to see messages.
- Check your grades via WyoWeb
 - Midterms and Early Alert – lets you know if you are struggling
 - Final Grades



Note – Nursing

- If you are directly admitted to the nursing program you will be advised by Health Sciences.
- If not you can still do nursing but you will need to earn your way in.
 - If *not* directly admitted please go with the Advising Center for scheduling tomorrow.



Note – Synergy

- If you are in the Synergy program – you will be advised by the Advising Center today
- Then please contact your department to learn more about your intended major.



Questions?

