

PRE-DENTISTRY

As a dentist, you'll play a critical role in detection of diseases in the mouth and help patients maintain the health of their teeth, gums, and other tissues of the oral cavity. Like general medicine, the field of dentistry also consists of different specialties in addition to general dentistry – orthodontics, endodontics, periodontics, and oral surgery, to name a few. Many consider dentistry to be an art as much as a science. To master your technique, you'll need an aesthetic eye with meticulous attention to detail, and good dexterity to work in small spaces. Most students need a bachelor's degree before entering dental school in order to earn a doctoral degree in Dentistry (DDS or DDM). The Pre-Dental program at WSC will help you develop a good core in the sciences, including anatomy and physiology, biological systems and structures, as well as some chemistry and physics.

fast facts

Recommended majors:

Life Sciences/Biology (B.A. or B.S.)
Chemistry/Health Sciences (B.A. or B.S.)

Departments: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences and Mathematics

School: Science, Health, and Criminal Justice

Suggested minors: Business Administration, Chemistry, Spanish

focus on results

Skills Learned

- Human anatomy and physiology
- Introductory zoology
- Evolutionary processes
- Biological systems and structures
- Experimental plant science
- Molecular genetics
- Microbiology
- Cellular biology
- General chemistry and physics
- Research, data collection, and analysis
- Modern lab techniques
- Critical thinking and problem-solving

Possible Careers

- Dentist
- Endodontist
- Orthodontist
- Pediatric dentist
- Oral surgeon
- Periodontist
- Prosthodontist
- Dental researcher
- Dental supply rep
- Dental health educator
- Program director
- Dental lab scientist

Types of Employers

- Dental clinics
- Orthodontist clinics
- Hospitals and medical clinics
- Community clinics
- University clinics
- Military
- Health departments
- Government / federal agencies
- Non-profit organizations
- Dental supply companies
- Dental publications
- Research labs

outside the classroom



Visit www.wsc.edu/clubs to learn more about clubs and organizations on campus.

Activities / Opportunities

- Peer mentoring and tutoring
- Rural Health Opportunities Program (RHOP)
- Service-Learning
- Study Abroad

Clubs / Organizations

- Biology Club
- Health Science Club
- Pre-Dental Club

The following information is provided to guide you in the pre-professional program described on this sheet. Every effort is made to ensure this information is current, but please be aware that some content may have changed. To develop a plan for choosing a major and registering for courses, please consult the current academic catalog and your advisor.

Suggested majors for Pre-Dentistry

The following majors are recommended for students planning to attend dental school. Additional electives may be recommended. Participation in the Pre-Dental program at WSC does not guarantee acceptance to a school of dentistry.

Life Sciences/Biology (B.A. or B.S.) — Our Biology program lays the groundwork needed for students entering dental school and provides plenty of time in our biology and research labs.

Chemistry/Health Sciences (B.A. or B.S.) — The Health Sciences program offers a solid foundation in biology and chemistry, and emphasizes how these fields relate to careers in health and medicine.

Sample courses

Students may be advised to take the following courses while pursuing one of the recommended majors. Please consult with your advisor to draft a final plan of study, and be sure to check with your intended dental school to make sure you're meeting all prerequisite course requirements.

BIO 320 Molecular Genetics.....	4
BIO 330 Histology.....	3
BIO 336 Cancer Biology.....	3
BIO 340 Human Physiology.....	4
BIO 385 Microbiology.....	4
BIO 430 Parasitology.....	3
BIO 434 Advanced Cellular Biology.....	3
BIO 443 Advanced Human Anatomy.....	3
BIO 486 Immunology.....	3
CHE 326 Biochemistry I.....	4
CHE 426 Biochemistry II.....	3

department faculty



Visit www.wsc.edu/life-sciences-department to learn more about the Department of Life Sciences.

Visit www.wsc.edu/physical-sciences-mathematics-department to learn more about the Department Physical Sciences and Mathematics.

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