



## Pre-Professional Advising

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The mission of the Center for Pre-Professional Advising (**PPAC**) of Allied Health, Dentistry, Medicine and Law is to assist students in achieving academic success beyond the undergraduate level. This is accomplished by providing major exploration, academic resources, and strategies for achieving academic goals. Special programs and events, workshops, and individual appointments facilitate this development. We serve as primary advisors for: All undergraduate students majoring in Allied Health programs (all of which are competitive and require a separate application process in the sophomore year)

**Clinical Laboratory Science** -- Medical Laboratory Work  
**Health Information Management** – Healthcare Data & Software Systems  
**Health Services Management** -- Healthcare Administration  
**Nutrition Science** – Registered Dietitian track, Pre-Health Professions Track  
**Rehabilitation Services** -- Social and Mental Rehabilitation (including substance abuse)  
**Speech & Hearing Sciences** -- Pre-Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology degree

**We serve as pre-professional advisors** for all current ECU students and alumni interested in going into a professional/graduate program for **Allied Health** (Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Physician Assistant Studies), **Dentistry, Law, and Medicine** (including Optometry, Pharmacy, Podiatry, and Veterinary Medicine).

The PPAC offers pre-professional advising for students preparing for application to Dental, Law, Medical, and other health-related professional programs. We do this through individual appointments and group sessions. Here is a sample of our programs:

Brody Ambassador Mentorship Program  
Graduate and Professional School Preparation Workshops  
Health and Law-Related Student Organizations  
Health Professions Committee Recommendation Process  
Health Professions Expo  
Networking Opportunities  
Prescription for Success  
Primary Care Physician Shadowing Program  
Professionalism Certificate Program  
Research opportunities  
Standardized Test Preparation Partnerships  
Support through the application process  
Visits to and from professional schools

## Common Health Professions Programs Prerequisites

Students interested in health-professions can major in anything they like providing they incorporate the required prerequisite courses. Many science or health-related majors incorporate most of the requirements. Other majors offer the flexibility to take the prerequisites as a minor. Tips for major exploration can be found on page four.

### Dental School Requirement

Biology I & II with labs  
 General Chemistry I & II w/labs  
 Organic Chemistry I & II w/labs  
 Biochemistry  
 General Physics I & II w/labs  
 College Algebra & Higher-level Math  
 Anatomy & Physiology (UNC req)  
 Microbiology (req by some schools)

### ECU Equivalent

Biol 1100, 1101 & 1200, 1201  
 Chem 1150, 1151 & 1160, 1161  
 Chem 2750, 2753 & 2760, 2763  
 Chem 3770  
 Phys 1250, 1251 & 1260, 1261  
 Math 1065 & Math 2228 or Math 2283  
 Biol 2130 & 2131, OR 2140/41 & 2150/51  
 Biol 2110 & 2111

### NC Community College Equivalent

Bio 111 & 112  
 Che 151 & 152  
 Che 251 & 252  
 Che 271  
 Phy 151 & 152  
 Mat 171 & Mat 152  
 Biol 163 OR Bio 168 & 169  
 Biol 275

Shadowing and volunteering are expected. The ECU SODM only accepts NC residents.

### Medical School Requirement

Biology I & II with labs  
 General Chemistry I & II w/labs  
 Organic Chemistry I & II w/labs  
 Biochemistry  
 General Physics I & II w/labs  
 Statistics  
 General Psychology  
 Intro to Sociology  
 2 advanced Biology courses (UNC req)

### ECU Equivalent

Biol 1100, 1101 & 1200, 1201  
 Chem 1150, 1151 & 1160, 1161  
 Chem 2750, 2753 & 2760, 2763  
 Chem 3770  
 Phys 1250, 1251 & 1260, 1261  
 Math 2228 or 2283  
 Psyc 1000  
 Soci 2110  
 Multiple Options

### NC Community College Equivalent

Bio 111 & 112  
 Che 151 & 152  
 Che 251 & 252  
 Che 271  
 Phy 151 & 152  
 Mat 152  
 Psy 150  
 Soc 210  
 N/A

Shadowing, clinical experience, and volunteering are expected.

### Occupational Therapy Requirement

Anatomy & Physiology I & II w/labs  
 Statistics  
 Developmental Psychology  
 Abnormal Psychology  
 Sociology or Anthropology  
 Philosophy Ethics or Logic  
 Medical Terminology

### ECU Equivalent

Biol 2140, 2141 & 2150, 2151  
 Math 2228 or 2283  
 Psyc 3206  
 Psyc 3375  
 Soci 2110 or Anth 1000 or 2200  
 Phil 1175, 1180, 1500, or 2275  
 Hima 3000 or Atep 2800

### NC Community College Equivalent

Bio 168 & 169  
 Mat 152  
 Psy 241  
 Psy 281  
 Soc 210 or Ant 210 or 220  
 Phil 230, 240, or Hum 115  
 Med 122

Shadowing is strongly recommended.

### Optometry School Requirement

Biology I w/lab  
 Anatomy & Physiology I & II w/labs  
 General Chemistry I & II w/labs  
 Organic Chemistry I & II w/labs  
 Biochemistry  
 Calculus  
 Microbiology  
 Psychology  
 General Physics  
 Statistics

### ECU Equivalent

Biol 1100, 1101  
 Biol 2140, 2141 & 2150, 2151  
 Chem 1150, 1151 & 1160, 1161  
 Chem 2750, 2753 & 2760, 2763  
 Chem 3770  
 Math 2121 or 2171  
 Biol 2110, 2111 or Biol 3220, 3221  
 Psyc 1000  
 Phys 1250, 1251 & 1260, 1261  
 Math 2228 or Math 2283

### NC Community College Equivalent

Bio 111  
 Bio 168 & 169  
 Che 151 & 152  
 Che 251 & 252  
 Che 271  
 Mat 271  
 Bio 175 or 275  
 Psy 150  
 Phy 151 & 152  
 Mat 152

Shadowing is strongly recommended.

<b>Pharmacy School Requirement</b>	<b>ECU Equivalent</b>	<b>NC Community College Equivalent</b>
Principles of Biology w/lab	Biol 1100 & 1101	Bio 111
General Chemistry w/labs	Chem 1150, 1151 & 1160, 1161	Che 151 & 152
Organic Chemistry w/labs	Chem 2750, 2753 & 2760, 2763	Che 251 & 252
Biochemistry	Chem 3770	Che 271
General Physics I w/labs (and II for UNC)	Phys 1250, 1251 (and 1260, 1261 for UNC)	Phy 151 (and 152 for UNC)
Calculus	Math 2121 or 2171 (UNC)	Mat 271
Anatomy & Physiology	Biol 2130 & 2131 OR Biol 2140, 2141 & 2150, 2151	Bio 163 OR Bio 168 & 169
Microbiology	Biol 2110 & 2111 OR Biol 3220 & 3221	Bio 175 OR Bio 275
Statistics	Math 2228	Mat 152

ECU has an Early Assurance Program with UNC's Eshelman School of Pharmacy

<b>Physical Therapy Requirement</b>	<b>ECU Equivalent</b>	<b>NC Community College Equivalent</b>
Principles of Biology w/lab	Biol 1100, 1101	Bio 111
General Chemistry I & II w/labs	Chem 1150, 1151 & 1160, 1161	Che 151 & 152
General Physics I & II w/labs	Phys 1250, 1251 & 1260, 1261	Phy 151 & 152
Anatomy & Physiology I & II w/labs	Biol 2140, 2141 & 2150, 2151	Bio 168 & 169
College Algebra (or higher)	Math 1065	Mat 171
Statistics	Math 2228 or 2283	Mat 152
Psychology (6 hours)	Psyc 1000 and additional course	Psy 150 and additional course

Minimum of 100 hours of shadowing required for ECU. Preference is given to NC residents.

<b>Physician Assistant Requirement</b>	<b>ECU Equivalent</b>	<b>NC Community College Equivalent</b>
General Chemistry I & II w/labs	Chem 1150, 1151 & Chem 1160, 1161	Che 152 & 152
Anatomy & Physiology I & II w/labs	Biol 2140, 2141 & Biol 2150, 2151	Bio 168 & 169
Microbiology	Biol 2110, 2111	Bio 175 or 275
Statistics	Math 2228 or 2228	Mat 152
Psychology	Any Psychology course	Any Psychology course
Genetics	Biol 2300	Bio 250

Competitive applicants typically have 1000 patient contact hours. Applicants must be from NC, SC, VA, DC, GA, or TN.

<b>Veterinary Medicine Requirement</b>	<b>ECU Equivalent</b>	<b>NC Community College Equivalent</b>
Animal Nutrition	N/A	N/A
Principles of Biology I or II	Biol 1100, 1101 or 1200, 1201	Bio 111 or 112
General Chemistry I & II w/labs	Chem 1150, 1151 & 1160, 1161	Che 151 & 152
Organic Chemistry I & II w/labs	Chem 2750, 2753 & 2760, 2763	Che 251 & 252
Biochemistry	Chem 3770	Che 271
Genetics	Biol 2300	Bio 250
Microbiology	Biol 2110, 2111 or Biol 3220, 3221	Bio 175 or 275
General Physics I & II w/labs	Phys 1250, 1251 & 1260, 1261	Phy 151 & 152
Statistics	Math 2228 or 2228	Mat 152

These are NC State's requirements. Some schools require additional science and math courses.

Minimum of 200 hours of experience under a veterinarian or PhD scientist required (paid or unpaid).

## Law School

Students interested in law can major in anything, and there are no prerequisite courses. However, communication, writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills are essential, so choose something that will allow you to strengthen your abilities in those areas. If you are interested in a very specific area of law, you may want to select an undergraduate major that will be relevant, such as:

Corporate Law – Accounting, Economics, Finance, Management, or Management Information Systems

Environmental Law – Biology, Chemistry, Geography, or Environmental Health

Family Law – Family & Community Services, Psychology, Social Work, or Psychology

Intellectual Property – Computer Science, Engineering, or Math

## Selecting a major

You can major in anything you like to prepare for a career in law or healthcare. There are no recommended or preferred majors. There are no right or wrong majors, and there is no one best major for all students. Pick what is best for you, but keep in mind that you will need to incorporate the prerequisite courses if you are interested in a health profession.

When deciding on a major, it is recommended that you:

- Choose something you will enjoy
- Choose something you have a natural ability in
- Choose something that will lead you to a satisfying career if you change your mind about your long-term plans, or are not accepted to your professional program right away

## Take a major and career assessment

CFNC.Org - [https://www1.cfnc.org/Plan/For\\_A\\_Career/default.aspx](https://www1.cfnc.org/Plan/For_A_Career/default.aspx)

ECU Career Services - <https://career.ecu.edu/students/major-career-planning/>

## How to explore your options

- PIER (Pirate Introduction to Early Registration): <https://pier.ecu.edu>
- Four-year Major Guides: <https://advising.ecu.edu/major-descriptions-plans/>
- Undergraduate Catalog: <https://catalog.ecu.edu/index.php>
- Degree Explorer: <https://degrees.ecu.edu>

Don't feel pressured to decide right away or feel that you are locked-in to whatever you choose now. In most cases, you can change your major at any time before your sophomore year and still be on track to graduate in four-years, without summer classes, if all goes well.

Reach out to us with questions: [ppac@ecu.edu](mailto:ppac@ecu.edu)

Follow us on Instagram and Twitter: @ecuppac

Visit our website: <https://ppac.ecu.edu>