

Medical Technology Major at Ball State University

The major consists of 45 semester hours, which are normally completed in the first three years. Thirty-two semester hours of credit are given for successful completion of the senior clinical year. General studies, physical education and elective courses added to the above must total 126 hours for graduation. Therefore, the student must have completed a minimum of 94 hours before beginning the clinical year.

Completion of the three year curriculum does not guarantee admission to the clinical year. Admission is competitive, and acceptance is a decision of each hospital's school of medical technology. Students are encouraged to have an alternative plan, such as a major in biology (with microbiology emphasis) and a minor in chemistry. This can be completed in the fourth year if the student is not admitted to a clinical program. Reapplication to a clinical program may then be made if the student wishes, and completion of the clinical year then entitles the student to a second B.S. degree (major in medical technology). Some students plan to complete a first B.S. degree before entering the clinical year. Having both degrees should lead to broader employment opportunities.

A further valuable option can be the completion of an Associate in Science degree in chemical technology. Most of the courses in this two-year curriculum also meet medical technology requirements, and the two programs are easily combined. Interested students should visit the Department of Chemistry for advice at the earliest opportunity.

Admission to most hospital programs requires a minimum GPA of 2.5, but anything less than 3.0 is not very competitive. The senior clinical year is academically rigorous as well as providing practical laboratory experience, and passing grades must be maintained. Good communication skills, both verbal and written, are also critical. A suggested three year schedule of courses required for the major (plus one math course) is:

<u>Fall</u>	<u>First Year</u>	<u>Spring</u>
BIO 111 Principles of Biology I (4) CHEM 111 General Chemistry I (4) MATHS 108 Intermediate Algebra (3)*		BIO 213 Microbiology (4) CHEM 112 General Chem II (4)
<u>Fall</u>	<u>Second Year</u>	<u>Spring</u>
CHEM 231 Organic Chemistry I (4) ANAT 201 Fundamentals of Mammalian Anatomy (3)		CHEM 360 Essentials of Biochemistry (4) BIO 341 Pathogenic Bacteriology (3) CHEM 225 Chemical Analysis (3)
<u>Fall</u>	<u>Third Year</u>	<u>Spring</u>
BIO 344 Immunology/Virology (4) ZOOL 347 Animal Parasitology (3)**		PHYSL 210 Human Physiology (3) CHEM 325 Instrumental Methods of Analysis (3)

Additional general studies requirements come to 36 hours. This leaves relatively few hours free for electives in the three academic years. Nevertheless, credit in certain other courses may strengthen an application to a clinical year program, will be helpful as further background for clinical courses, and will broaden one's qualifications as a medical technologist. Insofar as they may fit into an already tight schedule, the following courses are recommended (the most strongly recommended ones first): CS 116 (Introduction to Computer Information Systems), BIO 215 (Cell Biology), PHYSL 211 (Human Physiology), BIO 453 (Human Genetics), MGS 200 (Management Principles), PSYSC 241 (Elementary Statistics), PHYSC 110 (General Physics), BOT 446 (Medical Mycology).

* MATHS 108 is a prerequisite for CHEM 112 and is a helpful preview for MATHS 125 (a general studies requirement). Medical technology students are encouraged to meet the general studies math requirement by taking an exemption examination for MATHS 125.

** ZOOL 347 (Animal Parasitology) is an alternate year course offered during the Fall Semester of even numbered years (2004, 2006...). It may be necessary to take this course in the fall of the second year and ANAT 201 in the fall of the third year. It is recommended that BIO 213 be taken before ZOOL 347.

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Ball State students may attend any accredited school of medical technology in the U.S., and the clinical year work (32 sem. hrs.) will apply toward graduation from Ball State. This requires correspondence among the medical technology advisor, the Ball State Registrar, and the school of medical technology. However, applications of Ball State students for admission to a clinical program will receive greater consideration at those schools of medical technology listed above, with which B.S.U. has formal affiliation agreements.