



College of Business, Industry, Life Science, and Agriculture

Pre-Osteopathy

The Profession

Osteopathic medicine is one of two medical fields fully licensed and approved for the delivery of complete medical care. Osteopathic physicians practice in all recognized medical specialties, using the full range of health-care techniques in diagnosis and treatment. The distinctive feature of osteopathic medicine is the recognition of the reciprocal interrelationship between the structure and function of the body, that is, traditional emphasis on “holistic” medicine or treating the patient as a whole person and not simply treating a disease. One of the characteristic features and added dimensions of a Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.) in terms of clinical practice is the utilization of manipulative therapy, or “biomechanics” through the treatment of muscles, bones, and joints. This form of therapy is an additional component to osteopathic education, not routinely utilized with traditional medical education.

The Program at UW-Platteville

The pre-osteopathy program at UW-Platteville consists of selected courses which help to provide the student with a basic body of knowledge to meet the admissions requirements for osteopathic schools.

Admission to an osteopathic school normally follows the completion of a baccalaureate degree consisting of specific courses and the fulfillment of other requirements of the osteopathic school which the student plans to attend. Pre-osteopathy is a preprofessional program; which is not a major, but rather a statement of intent. The student must also indicate an academic major. Most pre-osteopathy students declare biology as their major.

School of Osteopathy

Education and training for osteopathic physicians are similar to those for medical physicians, requiring four years of basic training post-bachelor’s and an additional three to seven years of residency training in specialty fields. The first two years of professional school include course offerings in basic science and medical subjects and the third and fourth years begin training in clinical perspective. In addition to these areas of study, colleges of osteopathic medicine emphasize the relationships of body systems in health and disease and give special instruction in osteopathic diagnosis and manipulative therapy (treatment by hands).

High School Preparation

In preparing to enter the pre-osteopathy program, the high school student needs to acquire a strong science/mathematics background. In addition, a good background in communication and social skills is helpful.

Faculty and Facilities

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville provides the student with a strong liberal studies curriculum, a dedicated faculty and modern facilities to support the program. These include well-equipped chemistry, physics, and biology laboratories.

Placement

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville has a good record of placing qualified students in professional programs, including osteopathic schools.

Outstanding Career Opportunities

The opportunities in osteopathy continue to be outstanding in both rural and urban settings. Great demand continues in family practice, as well as specialty fields. More physicians are also needed for medical research, medical education, and the growing fields of public health, rehabilitation, and industrial medicine. Several reasons for high demand of physicians include population growth, public awareness of the importance of health care, and higher standards of medical care. Certainly, health care continues to be one of the fastest growing industries in the United States.

Suggested Course of Study

The requirements of the UW-Platteville pre-osteopathy program are to prepare students for the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa. There are 15 schools of osteopathic medicine in the United States and all have similar admission requirements. Pre-osteopathy students are advised to seek information about requirements from the professional school they plan to attend.

Minimum Requirements

Science and Mathematics

- 1) General Chemistry I (1140) and II (1240) and Organic Chemistry I (3510, 3540). Organic Chemistry II (3610, 3630) and Biochemistry (4630, 4610) are also recommended
- 2) Physics I (1110, 1140) and II (1210, 1240)
- 3) Unity of Life (1650) and Diversity of Life (1750). Advanced biology courses are also recommended. (Choices: Molecular Biology, Anatomy and Physiology I & II, Microbiology, Embryology, Comparative Anatomy of Vertebrates, Genetics, Histology, Advanced Physiology, Cell Biology, Immunology, Human Gross Anatomy)
- 4) Statistics 1830 and Calculus 2640 are recommended

Humanities/Social Sciences

- 1) English 1130 & 1230 and Literature and Communication Arts
- 2) Humanities, 8-12 credit hours (i.e., History, Philosophy, Religion and/or Fine Arts)
- 3) Social Sciences, 6-8 credit hours (i.e., Psychology, Sociology)

These course requirements are supplemented with additional courses to meet individual school recommendations and to prepare for the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) which is taken in the third or fourth undergraduate year and is required for admission into an osteopathic school of medicine.

Nonacademic Requirements

Each applicant should also show evidence of knowledge of and experience with the medical profession and clinical setting. This is accomplished by observation, voluntary field experience or employment in the clinical field.

For More Information

For more information, write to the Pre-Osteopathy Advisor, Department of Biology, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, 1 University Plaza, Platteville, Wisconsin 53818-3099, or call (608) 342-1793.

For general information on the university and its programs, consult the website at www.uwplatt.edu or contact UWP Prospective Student Services, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, 1 University Plaza, Platteville, WI 53818-3099, or call toll-free 1.877.897.5288 or locally 608.342.1127.

Suggested Course of Study

First Year

First Semester

1020	Bioquest	1
1140	General Chemistry I	4
1650	Unity of Life	5
1130	English	3
1830	Elementary Stats	3
		16

Second Semester

1240	General Chemistry II	4
1230	English	3
1750	Diversity of Life	5
1450	Precalc. or 2640 Calc.	4-5
		16-17

Second Year

First Semester

3540	Organic Chemistry I (Lab 3510)	5
2140	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
2420	FBI	2
	Electives	3-7
		14-18

Second Semester

3630	Organic Chemistry II (Lab 3610)	4
2240	Human Anat. & Phys. II	4
2040	Cell Biology	4
	Electives	3-6
		15-18

Third Year

First Semester

1140	Introductory Physics I (Lab 1110)	5
3240	Microbiology	4
3330	Genetics	3
	Electives	2-6
		14-16

Second Semester

1240	Introductory Physics II (Lab 1210)	5
4630	Biochemistry (Lab 4720 optional)	3-5
3450	Ecology and Evolution	3
	Advanced Biology	2-4
	Electives	3-6
		16-18

Fourth Year

First Semester

2150	Quantitative Analysis (optional)	5
	Advanced Biology	4-8
	Advanced Phys. 4240,	
	Electives	3-6
		15-16

Second Semester

	Advanced Biology	4
	Minor or electives	12
		16

*Electives include choices in Humanities and Fine Arts (i.e. Literature is recommended. Other choices include Philosophy, Art, Music Theater, and/or History), Social Sciences (i.e. Anthropology, Sociology, Economics, Criminal Justice, Political Science and/or Psychology), International and Ethnic/Gender Studies.

**This program of study (or a similar program) is prepared for a student majoring in Biology, who completes graduation requirements in 4 years at UWP with a pre-osteopathy emphasis. A pre-osteopathy student can actually complete any major program while accomplishing pre-osteopathy requirements.

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, handicap, sex, sexual orientation, developmental disability, national origin, ancestry, marital status, arrest record or conviction record.