

**Cazenovia College advising sheet for Biology majors preparing for
Physician Assistant (PA) programs (M.S. degree)**

NOTE that it is critical that you research as early as possible the specific requirements of the particular PA program(s) to which you plan to eventually apply. This document reflects prerequisite courses required by most PA programs. However, **some PA programs may require or recommend additional courses**, and some PA programs do not require all of these particular prerequisite courses.

IMPORTANT! In addition to grades of a “C” or higher in prerequisite courses, Physician Assistant programs also generally require...

- Undergraduate GPA of *at least* 3.0,
- GRE scores in the 50th percentile or greater,
- Up to 1,000 hours of patient-related health care experience (paid or volunteer),
- Substantial time shadowing a Physician Assistant,
- Letters of Recommendation.

Cazenovia College Biology Curriculum	Physician Assistant Prerequisite Courses
PROGRAM COURSES	
Art & Sciences Courses	
Course (Credits)	
SM 117 Diversity of Life (4)	General Biology I
SM 118 Cellular and Molecular Biology (4)	General Biology II
SM 121 General Chemistry I (4)	General Chemistry I
SM 122 General Chemistry II (4)	General Chemistry II
SM 211 Investigating Biology (3)	
SM 221 Organic Chemistry I (4)	Organic Chemistry
SM 231 Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy (4)	
SM 243/343 Biotopics (3)	
SM 261 Statistics (3)	Statistics
SM 315 Genetics and Evolution (4)	Genetics
SM 331 Animal Physiology (4)	Anatomy & Physiology II ¹
SM 342 Principles of Ecology (3)	
SM 411 Cell Biology and Physiology (4)	
SM 200/300/400 level Biology elective ² (3 or 4)	Anatomy & Physiology I ¹
TOTAL PROGRAM CREDITS - 51	
ELECTIVES	
Course (Credits)	
100-400 level (11)	
Medical Terminology (3)	Medical Terminology

¹ Alternatively, a two-course sequence of Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II may be completed during a summer at a community college of your choice (on-campus/in-person preferred).

² Human Anatomy may be completed as the SM 200/300/400 level Biology elective.

Cazenovia College Biology Curriculum	Physician Assistant Prerequisite Courses
ELECTIVES (cont.)	
300/400 level (19)	
	Microbiology
TOTAL ELECTIVE CREDITS - 30	
GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES	
First Year Seminar	
Written Communication	
EN 101 Academic Writing I	English Composition
EN 201 Academic Writing II	English Elective
Spoken and Interpersonal Communication	
CM 121 Effective Speaking	
CM 301 OR CM 313 OR CM 410	
Ethics	
HU 361 OR HU 365	
Quantitative Literacy³	
SM 161 OR SM 165 OR SM 265	
Cultural Literacy	
Any course from Cultural Literacy list	
Scientific Literacy⁴	
PS 120 Intro. Psychology	Behavioral Science
Diversity and Social Consciousness⁵	
SB 130 Intro. Sociology	Social Science
Visual Literacy	
Any course from Visual Literacy list	
Critical Thinking, Problem Solving and Info. Lit.	
SM 396 Scientific Inquiry	
Senior Capstone	
SM/HU 499 Senior Capstone	
TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION CREDITS - 39	
TOTAL CREDITS FOR DEGREE - 120	

³ Any course from the College's Quantitative Literacy list may be used to satisfy this requirement, but SM 161 or SM 165 or SM 265 must be completed before SM 261 Statistics which is a specific Biology degree requirement.

⁴ Any course from the College's Scientific Literacy list may be used to satisfy this requirement, but students interested in becoming a Physician Assistant should complete PS 120 Intro. Psychology or other Behavioral Science course.

⁵ Any course from the College's Diversity and Social Consciousness list may be used to satisfy this requirement, but students interested in becoming a Physician Assistant should complete SB 130 Intro. Sociology or other Social Science course.