

Pre-Medicine

PRE-MEDICAL PROGRAM OF STUDY AT VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

When planning a program of study, students should keep in mind that there are three different sets of requirements that should be met.

First are the requirements of the medical school which must be completed before the student matriculates.

Second are the general requirements set by the University for a particular degree, including those required by the departmental faculty for a specific major.

Planning must also include completion of courses covering subject matter which will be tested on the MCAT *before* taking the test. These will be discussed below in more detail.

Pre-medical Requirements

Physicians practicing in the United States obtain either the MD or DO degree. Although allopathic (MD) medical training and osteopathic (DO) medical training may differ in ways that reflect the philosophical differences in their approaches to patient care, both types of medical schools expect applicants to have a solid understanding of basic physical and life sciences. At a minimum this would include one year of study in each of the following subjects: general chemistry, physics, general biology or zoology, and organic chemistry all with the appropriate laboratories. These are the subjects that are covered in the science sections of the MCAT. Guidelines for applying to medical schools can be found at the websites for the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) (<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/>) and American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) (<http://www.aacom.org/Pages/default.aspx>). These sites are valuable sources of information and should be consulted before the application so that you are assured that you have met all requirements for each school to which you apply.

provide a better start to their professional education. However the desire to obtain a