

Physical Therapy (DPT): Common Prerequisites

- **The course prerequisites for admission vary among PT education programs.** We have provided a list of the most common prerequisites below. Verify school-specific prerequisites by visiting their websites or by using the PTCAS directory. You may also find the *PTCAS Course Prerequisite Summary* to be a useful tool for comparison purposes.
- **Science prerequisite “expiration dates”:** Some PT programs require applicants to have completed their science prerequisites within 5-10 years prior to enrollment.
- **AP/IB Credit:** Not all physical therapy schools will accept AP or IB credit to meet program prerequisites. Thus, if you have AP or IB credit for any of the prerequisites, you may want to retake the courses during college (especially at the honors level, when possible).
- **Community college courses, online courses:** Most PT programs will accept courses completed at a regionally-accredited community college. There may be exceptions for certain courses, such as anatomy, physiology, and other upper-division (junior/senior level) prerequisites. Before enrolling in an *online* college course, contact your selected PT programs in advance to determine if distance or online courses are accepted.
- **Most physical therapy schools require a C or above in all prerequisites.**

MATH

Necessary preparation for college chemistry and physics:

- Precalculus: MATH 1150 (4)
(This course covers both algebra and trigonometry in a single semester)

One semester of statistics typically is required. Choose one of the following:

- PSYC 2111 (4), IPHY 2800 (4), or IPHY 3280 (4),
[MATH 2510 (3) is another option, but we do not recommend that version if you are planning to take Physiology Lab]

PHYSICS Option 1

(This is the recommended Physics sequence for pre-health students, unless your major requires the other sequence)

Algebra-Based Physics 1, with lab

Math prerequisite: high school algebra and trigonometry (both are covered in Precalculus)

- PHYS 2010 (5 – lecture and lab are combined)

Algebra-Based Physics 2, with lab

- PHYS 2020 (5 – lecture and lab are combined)

PHYSICS Option 2

Calculus-Based Physics 1

Math corequisite: Calculus 1

- PHYS 1110 (4 – lecture only)

Calculus-Based Physics 2

Math corequisite: Calculus 2

- PHYS 1120 (4 – lecture only)

Experimental Physics 1

This is the only lab needed if you complete this entire physics sequence.

- PHYS 1140 (1)

CHEMISTRY

Recommended but optional:

Introductory Chemistry

- CHEM 1021 (4 – lecture and lab are combined)



General Chemistry 1 with lab

Math prerequisite:

College Algebra or Precalculus

- Lecture: CHEM 1113 (4)
- Lab: CHEM 1114 (1)



General Chemistry 2 with lab

- Lecture: CHEM 1133 (4)
- Lab: CHEM 1134 (1)



Organic Chemistry 1* lecture

Prerequisite for recommended Biochemistry

- Lecture: CHEM 3311 (4)

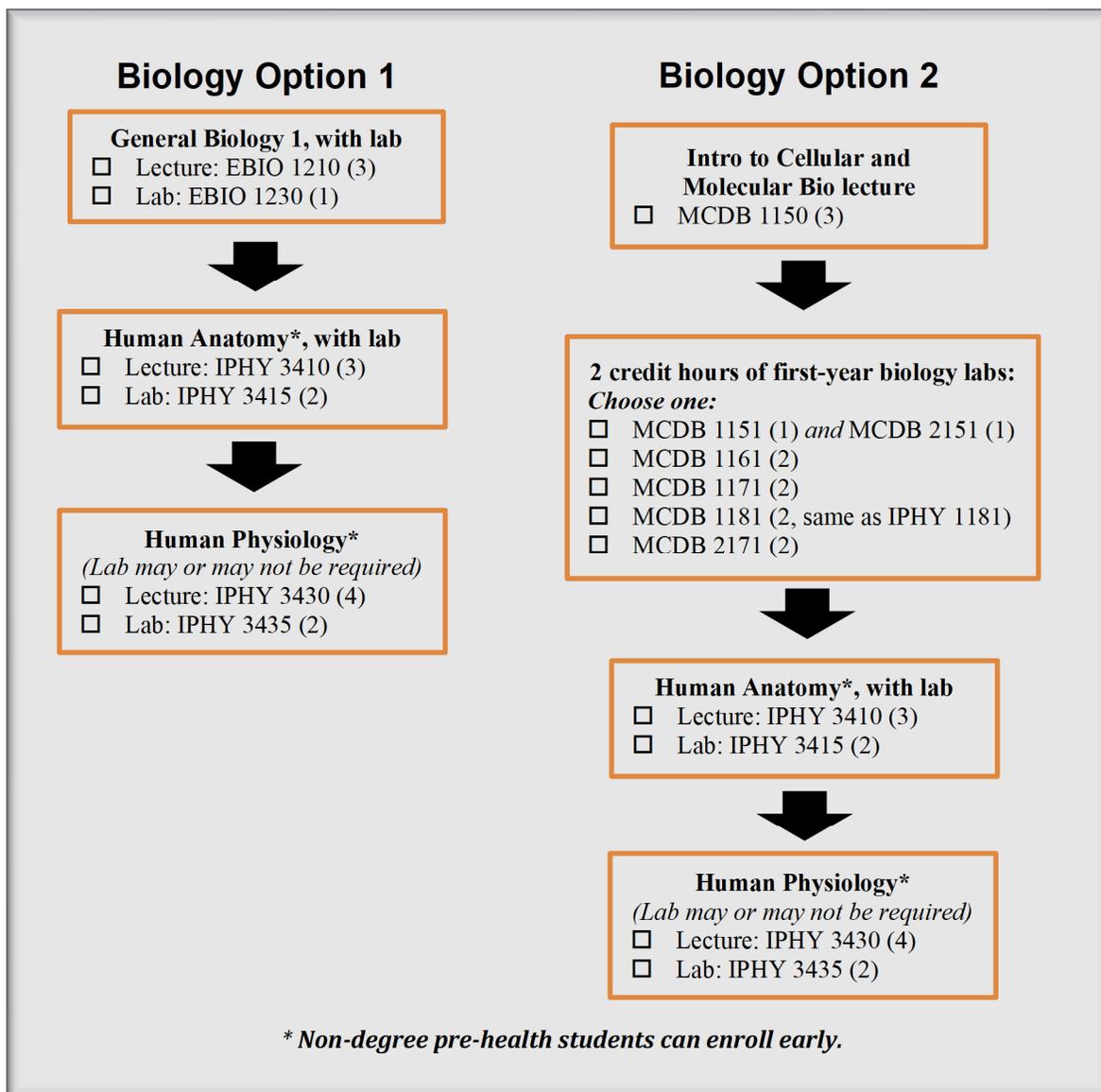


One semester of Biochemistry

Strongly recommended by some PT programs

- BCHM 4611 (3)
Prerequisite: 0 Chem 1

***Non-degree pre-health students can enroll early.**



ENGLISH LITERATURE and/or WRITING

- PT programs typically require 3 to 9 credit hours of ENGL and/or WRTG courses

PSYCHOLOGY

Often, abnormal and developmental psychology are required. Check individual schools for specific psychology requirements

- General Psychology: PSYC 1001 (3) – Prerequisite for Abnormal and Developmental Psychology
- Developmental Psychology: PSYC 3684 (3)
- Abnormal Psychology: PSYC 3303 (3)

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED/REQUIRED COURSES (VARIES BY SCHOOL)

The strongest applicants have typically completed ~4 additional science courses beyond the prerequisites

- Microbiology: EBIO 3400 (4)
- Exercise Physiology: IPHY 4650 (5)
- Cell Biology: MCB1 3145 (3) (Only offered in Spring)
- Biomechanics: IPHY 4540 (5)
- Neuroscience (NRSC) courses
- Motor Learning: IPHY 3660 (3)