

PRE-CHIROPRACTIC MEDICINE
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Advising Center
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PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

Chiropractic practice is based on the concept that the nervous system, the body's communication network, is central to health and is greatly affected by the relationships among the skeletal system, muscles, and nerves. The major therapeutic tool used by chiropractors, the adjustment by hand of the body's skeletal system and soft tissues, results in improvement in the function of the nervous system. Chiropractors are adept in the treatment of back pain and headaches. They emphasize preventative measures through nutritional counseling, stress management, and physical conditioning as crucial adjuncts to comprehensive patient care. They treat patients using drugless and noninvasive methods.

Students must complete a minimum of **135 quarter hour credits (three years of college)** including a specific set of prerequisite courses, before matriculating to a professional school such as **Western States Chiropractic College (WSCC)** in Portland, Oregon. Students admitted to a chiropractic college such as WSCC earn the Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.) after successful completion of the **four year professional training program**. The minimum 135 credit hours of prerequisite (preparatory) coursework can be taken at PSU and requires good science and mathematics skills and sensitivity to the needs of others.

Some students choose to complete a bachelor's degree at PSU (in any major) before moving on to the four year professional phase at a chiropractic college. However, others take advantage of an **articulation agreement** developed by PSU and WSCC in 2004. This agreement says that students who complete a specific curriculum at PSU and are accepted into WSCC can transfer back to PSU up to 45 credits of WSCC coursework to fulfill requirements for either the BS in Science or the BS in Biology. For this option, students must complete one of the curriculums outlined on page three of this packet.

Prerequisite Coursework

WSCC Prerequisite Courses	Equivalent PSU Courses
Natural Sciences (minimum 36 quarter credits)	
<p>Chemistry: Minimum 18 quarter (12 semester) credits distributed in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 4.5 quarter (3 semester) credits of inorganic chemistry At least 4.5 quarter (3 semester) credits of other chemistry At least 9 quarter (6 semester) credits of organic/biochemistry At least 9 quarter (6 semester) credits must include laboratories <p>WSCC recommends full sequences of general chemistry and organic chemistry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CH 221/227, CH 222/228, CH 223/229 (15) – General Chemistry (MTH 111 is a pre- or co-requisite for this course) CH 331/327, 332/328 (12) – Elements of Organic Chemistry I and II (CH 327 & 328 are labs. WSCC recommends but doesn't require labs. But you must take at least one lab to reach the 9 credits of o-chem required by WSCC). Note this sequence is only offered in the summer. The alternative offered during fall/winter/spring is Organic Chemistry: CH 334, CH 335/337, CH 336/338. <p>Although the above coursework exceeds the minimum 18 quarter credits required by WSCC, it is necessary, as the entire general chemistry sequence (CH 221-223) with lab is a prerequisite for the organic chemistry sequence.</p>
<p>General Biology w/ labs: Minimum 9 quarter (6 semester) credits of biology with related laboratories</p> <p>WSCC recommends a year-long sequence of bio.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BI 251, 252, 253 w/ Lab (15) – Principles of Biology (CH 221 is the pre- or co-req for BI 251) <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BI 251, BI 302, BI 303 (13) – First term of Principles of Biology and second and third term of Anatomy & Physiology. NOTE: WSCC recommends this option, but remember the recommended prerequisite for BI 301-303 at PSU is a year of college bio & a chemistry course. <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BI 301, 302, 303 (12) – Anatomy & Physiology. NOTE: PSU recommends that students complete a year of college-level bio & a course in chemistry before taking BI 301, 302, 303.

Prerequisite Coursework, Continued

Natural Sciences, continued from first page	
<p>Physics: Minimum 9 quarter (6 semester) credits physics.</p> <p>Note: 4.5 quarter credits of biomechanics, exercise physiology, related kinesiology, or statistics can substitute for 4.5 quarter credits of the 9 required physics credits. However, WSCC recommends a full year of physics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option I (recommended): PH 201/214, 202/215, 203/216 (15) – General Physics w/ Lab • Option II: PH 201/214 and PH 202/215 (10) (first two terms of General Physics w/ lab) • Option III: PH 201/214 and PHE 370 (Applied Kinesiology) or PHE 473 (Physiology of Exercise) or any STAT course (9) <p>Note: Recommend completion of MTH 112 prior to taking physics</p>
Social Sciences & Humanities (minimum 36 quarter credits)	
<p>English Composition or Speech: minimum 9 quarter credits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any three WR and/or SP courses. Recommend choose three of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WR 121 (4) – Intro to College Writing ○ WR 222 (4) – Writing Research Papers ○ WR 323 (4) – Writing as Critical Inquiry ○ SP 220 (4) – Public Speaking <p>UNST courses <i>may</i> satisfy writing/speech requirements. Submit course descriptions to WSCC.</p>
<p>Psychology: minimum 4.5 quarter (3 semester) credits psychology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any two PSY courses, but recommend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PSY 200 (4) – Psy as a Natural Science ○ PSY 204 (4) – Psy as a Social Science
<p>Additional social science & humanities: Minimum 16 quarter credits in sociology, economics, literature, history, political science, art or music appreciation, history, religion, foreign language, or philosophy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose minimum 16 quarter credits from SOC, EC, ENG (excluding composition), HST, PS, ARH, MUS (appreciation), HST, FLL, and/or PHL.

The professional program requires that an **A, B, or C** be earned in all required prerequisite courses.

Additional WSCC Chiropractic Program Admissions Requirements:

- Minimum **135 quarter hours** complete before matriculation to WSCC.
- **Five-year limitation:** WSCC prefers that at least one-half of the biology and organic chemistry course work be completed within five years of entry into the D.C. program.
- **CLEP limitation:** No more than 20 semester hours (or equivalent) in the pre-professional courses and none of the hours in the required biology, chemistry, and physics can be acquired through CLEP or other institutional proficiency examinations. To be acceptable to WSCC, the course and credits earned must be listed on a transcript from an institution with regional accreditation.
- **International students** may be asked to fulfill additional requirements.

WSCC Chiropractic Program Application Information:

- **New students are admitted every fall and winter.** There is no official application deadline. Applicants are reviewed on an ongoing basis, beginning the previous **November 1** for fall entry, and the previous **February 1** for winter entry.
- Students are recommended to **begin the formal application process up to 12 months in advance** of their anticipated entry date.
- It is okay if a small amount of the prerequisite coursework is not complete at the time of application.
- **Two letters of evaluation** (use applicant evaluation forms) and **responses to essay questions** are required. Go to <http://www.wschiro.edu/> for the application and evaluation forms.

Tips & Recommendations:

- **Shadow and interview chiropractic physicians** to verify perceptions of the profession.
- **Apply to more than one chiropractic school.** The information on this worksheet is based primarily on WSCC's requirements. Research the admissions requirements of additional chiropractic schools.
- **Check periodically with the adviser** for recent changes, remaining University and pre-professional requirements, and application procedures.
- **Request letters of recommendation from professors ahead of time**, while their experience with you is fresh. Don't wait until you are in the process of applying to the program.

WSCC Chiropractic Program Contact:

Admissions Office - Western States Chiropractic College
2900 NE 132nd Avenue
Portland, OR 97230-3099

Phone: 503-251-5734
Email: admissions@wschiro.edu

Articulation Agreement for Bachelor's Degree Completion

In 2004, PSU and Western States Chiropractic College (WSCC) developed an articulation agreement whereby students who complete one of the programs listed below and are accepted into WSCC can transfer back to PSU their first two years of WSCC coursework to fulfill requirements for either the BS in Science or the BS in Biology.

BS in Biology Option – Required PSU Curriculum

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
First Year	MTH 111 CH 221/227 FRINQ (14 credits)	MTH 112 CH 222/228 FRINQ (14 credits)	SP 220 CH 223/229 FRINQ (14 credits)	STAT 243 (4 credits)
Second Year	BI 251 CH 331/327 SINQ (15 credits)	BI 252 CH 332/328 SINQ (15 credits)	BI 253 PSY 200 AL/SSC elective SINQ (17 credits)	STAT 244 Senior Capstone (10 credits)
Third Year	BI 301 PH 201/214 PSY 204 UD Cluster (17 credits)	BI 302 Botany UD AL/SSC elective UD Cluster (16 credits)	BI 303 BI 357 AL/SSC elective UD Cluster (16 credits)	

BS in Science Option – Required PSU Curriculum

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
First Year	MTH 111 CH 221/227 FRINQ (14 credits)	MTH 112 CH 222/228 FRINQ (14 credits)	SP 220 CH 223/229 FRINQ (14 credits)	
Second Year	BI 251 CH 331/327 SINQ (15 credits)	BI 252 CH 332/328 SINQ (15 credits)	BI 253 PSY 200 SINQ AL/SSC elective (17 credits)	Senior Capstone (6 credits)
Third Year	BI 301 PH 201/214 PSY 204 UD Cluster (17 credits)	BI 302 PH 202/215 AL/SSC elective UD Cluster (17 credits)	BI 303 PH 203/216 AL/SSC elective UD Cluster (17 credits)	

PLEASE NOTE:

- MTH 111 and 112 are not required of students with an appropriate mathematics background.
- AL/SSC elective courses should be chosen from sociology, economics, literature, history, political science, art or music appreciation, history, religion, foreign language, or philosophy.
- Transfer students interested in the articulation agreement should meet with an adviser as all classes listed above may not be required. For example, transfer students with 90 or more credits at the time they enroll in classes at PSU are not required to complete Freshman Inquiry & Sophomore Inquiry.

PRE-ADVISING EXPECTATIONS FOR NEW STUDENTS

Academic advisers in the College of Liberal Art and Sciences (CLAS) Advising Center expect that all new undergraduate students have attended **New Student Orientation** before coming to the CLAS Advising Center for advising.

At Orientation students receive an in-depth explanation of the University's graduation requirements and meet with a University adviser or an adviser from your major department (this may be your only chance to see a major adviser before you register). You are also able to register for fall term classes; get free copies of the PSU Bulletin & the Student Handbook/Academic Planner; have your ID card photo taken; set up your ODIN account (PSU email/computer access account); and learn about many campus resources.

If you are unable to attend Orientation, you must complete the following checklist of items before meeting with an academic adviser August 18 or later:

- _____ 1. Review the pre-orientation information on the Advising website: <http://www.pdx.edu/advising/preorientation.html> Academic advisers will expect you to understand this information before your initial advising session.
- _____ 2. Read vital information on the Orientation website: <http://www.pdx.edu/orientation/prearrival.html> This is a summary of the important information you would receive at Orientation.
- _____ 3. Review information about general education requirements at the University Studies website: <http://www.pdx.edu/unst> Students attending PSU will have some general education requirements, regardless of the number of transferred credits previously earned.
- _____ 4. Learn about your major, minor, and/or certificate requirements from the appropriate department's website: http://www.pdx.edu/degrees_alpha.html

CLAS advisers are unable to advise you on major requirements except for **Liberal Studies, Arts and Letters, Social Science, or Science**; for other advising, you must visit the appropriate department. CLAS advisers also advise students who on **pre-professional tracks** such as pre-medical, pre-dental, pre-nursing, and pre-education. Please see advising information at <http://www.pdx.edu/clas/advising.html>

- _____ 5. Plan a possible schedule for the upcoming term by using the **online Schedule of Classes**: <https://sa.pdx.edu/soc/> Academic advisers do not build schedules for students, so come to your advising appointment with a possible schedule already laid out.

If you are a newly admitted student for fall term and do not attend New Student Orientation, you will be able to meet with an adviser on August 18 or later. To schedule an appointment, please call (503)725-3822.

Thank you very much!