

Special Courses, Programs, and Education Opportunities

Special Problems Courses. 1-5 semester hours. Offered by most departments and numbered 260, 360, or 460 depending on the level of study expected, Special Problems courses consist of a program of independent study or research on a topic of special interest to an individual student. Each course is designed to study topics either not covered or treated only briefly in other courses in the curriculum. A written course proposal or abstract adequately describing the project must be prepared by the student and approved by the supervising instructor, the division chair, and the academic advisor, prior to the regular period for registration. Special Problems may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Written approval by those named above.

Special Topics Courses. 1-5 semester hours. Offered by most departments and numbered 190, 290, 390, or 490 depending on the level of study expected, Special Topics courses will be offered from time to time on topics of importance in the discipline—topics which are not covered or which are treated only briefly in other courses in the curriculum. Special Topics courses may cover topics of special interest to an instructor and a particular group of students, or they may be an experimental course being considered for addition to the curriculum. Special Topics may be repeated for credit for different topics. [After two course offerings on the same topic, departments must request that the course be added to the curriculum.] Prerequisites: Those specified by the instructor in the Course Schedule.

Internships and Field Experiences are available in most departments with varying hours of credit depending on the design of the learning experience. They are all numbered as either 268, 368, or 468. Each internship is individually arranged by the student, a supervising instructor who assigns the final grade, and a supervisor/instructor on the site of the internship experience. Students complete a separate, multi-page registration form describing the learning experience. This form must be signed and approved by the student, supervising instructor, Division Chair, and Dean of the University prior to registration for the Internship course.

Honors Program

The Honors Program is designed to empower students by offering alternative educational opportunities. These alternatives come in the form of Honors classes, either at the 100, 200, or 300 level. In these classes students will be given opportunities for greater exploration and more rigorous analysis of course content. Great emphasis is placed on the development of oral and written communication, as well as on critical thinking.

All entering students who have a GPA of 3.5 or above or an ACT of 26 or higher are eligible to enter the program. Students with a GPA of 3.0 or above and a ranking in the top ten percent of their high school class, may petition the Honors Committee by sending a letter indicating why they wish to participate in the Honors Program.

After being accepted into the program, the student must maintain a 3.5 or higher GPA and complete 12 hours of Honors coursework in order to graduate with Honors. Three hours of the 12 must be a Senior Honors thesis or an appropriate substitute. (Substitutes for Senior thesis work are arranged at the divisional level and in consultation with the Honors Committee.) The required twelve hours of Honors coursework must be taken over the course of at least two semesters.

Study Abroad

Students wishing to study abroad for credit should consult Cathy Baxter in Office of Admission, for assistance in selecting a program. Generally, students should begin planning study abroad at least one year prior to leaving the country for studies. Before studying abroad, students must consult with Ms. Baxter and with the Registrar to determine whether the students' planned courses will transfer to CMU for credit. Some scholarship money is available. Obtain a scholarship application from Cathy Baxter.

Pre-Professional Programs

Since liberal arts education is essential to sound professional education, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences provides an opportunity for students to study both a liberal arts and a pre-professional curriculum in their choice of a number of pre-professional areas before entering professional schools. With thoughtful planning, transfer to the professional schools can be made without loss of credit or time. Such programs are available to students interested in engineering, journalism, law, library science, home economics, medicine, dentistry, dental hygiene, medical technology, pharmacy, occupational and physical therapy, the ministry, religious education and social work.

Pre-Law Program

The Pre-Law Program is a co-curricular support service open to all students of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences who are interested in learning more about career opportunities in the practice of law. As such, the program has two primary goals: (1) to

provide students with the information and advising necessary for them to make informed decisions as to whether or not a career as a lawyer is for them, and (2) to provide serious pre-law students with support services designed to assist them in selecting and gaining admission to an appropriate law school.

The University has a pre-law club and a chapter of the international law fraternity, Phi Alpha Delta. Participation in PAD is open to all pre-law students with at least a 3.0 GPA. The pre-law club is open to all interested students.

No particular course of study (major or minor) is a prerequisite for admission or success in law school. Today's law students may have undergraduate degrees in Political Science, English, Business, Psychology, natural science, History, foreign languages, Education, Music, or other subjects. Therefore, the main guide to undergraduate study should be the student's own interests and talents. Since the successful study and practice of law can be based on any of a large number of college backgrounds, pre-law students are advised to select a major which interests them and in which they believe they can show their best work.

The skills most related to success in the study and practice of law can be developed or improved through study of any academic field in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Still, we recommend the following general guidelines to pre-law students for making curricular decisions: A lawyer must be able to communicate effectively in oral and written expression. Words are the tools of the lawyer's trade; therefore, lawyers must be able to speak and write well. In addition, law students must develop the capacity for creative and critical thinking, since they must be able to reason logically from given premises to tenable conclusions and to do so quickly and under pressure.

To assist pre-law students in preparing for law school, a Pre-law Handbook is published by the pre-law program. That handbook contains a list of recommended courses for the consideration of pre-law students. Copies of the Pre-law Handbook may be obtained free of charge from the Dr. John Carter, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Pre-Law Program.

A list of recommended courses is provided to assist in identifying individual courses that may have special value in preparing for law school and a legal practice. This list is intended to supplement the CMU's general education requirements, as well as the specific requirements of whichever academic major the student may elect. Some of the courses listed may fulfill specific academic requirements of the university and/or one or more of its departments of study.

Recommended Pre-Law Preparation Courses

1. Communication Skills Area
 - a. AC201 Principles of Accounting I
 - b. AC202 Principles of Accounting II
 - c. CT201 Public Relations
 - d. CT306 Media Law
 - e. CT320 Interpersonal Communication
 - f. EN305 Expository Writing
 - g. EN306 Technical Writing
2. Human Institutions and Values
 - a. AC340 Income Tax
 - b. AC350 Accounting for Governmental and Not-for-Profit Organizations
 - c. BU341 Business Law-Contracts
 - d. BU342 Business Law-Commercial
 - e. CJ202 Criminal Law
 - f. CJ301 Constitutional Aspects of Criminal Justice
 - g. PL306 Ethics and the Professions
 - h. PS101 Introduction to American Government
 - i. PS308 American Constitutional Law and the Judicial Process
 - j. PS309 Law in American Society
 - k. PS318 American Legislative Politics
3. Critical Thinking
 - a. EC201 Macroeconomics
 - b. EC202 Microeconomics
 - c. EC330 Law and Economics
 - d. MA105 Elementary Statistics
 - e. PL101 Introduction to Logic
 - f. PL105 Introduction to Philosophy
 - g. PL311 The Study of Knowledge
 - h. SO350 Social Theory

Pre-Professional Health Program

The Pre-Professional Health Program is open to all students interested in the health sciences. Of all Pre-Professional Health students who choose to pursue the following specialty areas, most will be required to minor in Chemistry: Optometry, Veterinary Medicine, Genetic Counseling, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Podiatry, Chiropractic Medicine, Public Health, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Osteopathic Medicine (DO), and Allopathic Medicine (MD). Most of these specialty areas also strongly recommend taking MA118 Calculus and Analytical Geometry I. An ACT of at least 26 from high school is required for most of these programs. While at CMU, students should have at least a 3.75 GPA, with no Cs in any Science or Math courses. Some of these programs allow an ACT less than 26, a GPA less than 3.75, and a minor other than Chemistry. Some of these programs do not have a specialty exam to pass with a specific score; the GRE is accepted instead. Consult members of the Pre-Professional Health Advisory Committee for specific information. Students in this program receive intensive advising throughout their college experience.

The Pre-Professional Health Program has three goals. First, the program helps students grow in self-knowledge and in understanding of the requirements and lifestyles of various professions, and assists them in making career decisions. Students in our program go on to become successful physicians, optometrists, veterinarians, dentists, podiatrists, pharmacists, physical therapists, physician assistants, occupational therapists, or other clinical health professionals. Other students enter graduate programs and pursue careers in public health or research. Second, the program encourages breadth of educational preparation and provides assistance in successful placement into appropriate professional schools. Third, the program strives to promote professionalism and maturity of perspective.

While a particular major or minor for pre-Professional Health students is not prescribed, each professional school has certain course requirements of which the student will be advised. Additionally, the following are important components of all students' pre-professional preparation. (1) Pre-Professional Health students should have a strong liberal arts background, the ability to communicate well (both orally and in writing), and strong interpersonal skills. Students work toward development of these requirements through their general education curriculum and electives as well as other aspects of the Pre-Professional Health program. (2) All students are given help in finding meaningful internship experiences. Students have done internships at the Fayette Medical Clinic and in a variety of hospitals, private offices, clinics, and clinical research facilities. (3) Interested students may pursue research opportunities at on-campus with faculty direction and at off-campus locations. Students have worked at NIH-, NSF-, and NASA-funded programs. (4) Pre-Professional Health students are encouraged to develop an attitude of service and to initiate or participate in community service and other humanitarian endeavors. (5) The following courses are either required or recommended for most Pre-Professional Health students: BI101, 102, 107, 205, 305, 306, 308, 315, 364, 368, 380; CH111, 114, 317, 341, 342; CS121 or 122; MA103 (or MA101/102), 104, 105, 118; PH111 or 205, 112 or 206; PL306; PY101, 301; SC225 and SC425; and the Honors Colloquium and Honors Thesis.

The Pre-Professional Health Advisory Committee actively helps students prepare for entry into professional schools. The committee meets regularly with each student to discuss the student's academic and social adjustment to the University and to discuss pre-professional preparation. The committee sponsors a yearly career fair, at which physicians, other health professionals, medical researchers, and admissions representatives from various professional and graduate schools discuss lifestyles, professional issues, and admission requirements. Speakers also visit campus to discuss with students a variety of special-interest topics. Committee members help students prepare for entry tests such as the MCAT, GRE, OAT, DAT, and PCAT. In the Junior and Senior year, students receive help in the application process and are given mock interviews.

Most Pre-Professional Health students belong to AED (Alpha Epsilon Delta, national pre-health professions honor society), BBB (Beta, national biological honor society), and Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society. These groups visit medical, professional, and graduate schools, pharmaceutical companies, and other sites of interest. Students of AED administer a mock MCAT plus entry tests for any other professional school needed, each semester. They also attend national conventions and have been honored with awards for their outstanding activities and service. AED and BBB meet jointly and regularly to discuss issues in medical ethics and to plan service projects. Consult a member of the Pre-Professional Health Advisory Committee for more information.

Educator Certification Programs

Central Methodist University offers four-year programs designed to meet Missouri state certification requirements for early childhood, elementary, middle school, and secondary teachers. Complete descriptions of these programs are provided under "Education" in this catalog. Students interested in certification should study this section carefully and consult with members of the education faculty as soon as they enter the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

cooperativeCooperative Programs

As a result of cooperative programs entered into by Central Methodist University and selected schools, it is possible for students to complete their BA or BS degrees and then advance their studies in engineering, law, and medicine.. These Cooperative Programs are referred to as the Accelerated MBA Program (Rockhurst University), Accelerated MBA (Maryville University), programs in Engineering (Missouri University of Science and Technology), the "3-3" program in Law (University of Missouri), the "3-4" KCUMB Partners Program in Osteopathic Medicine, and the Military Science Program (University of Missouri).

Accelerated MBA Program

Upon completion of an undergraduate degree from CMU, students are eligible to enter Rockhurst University's Accelerated Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program. To be eligible, students' CMU undergraduate degrees must have included courses equivalent to and satisfying requirements for Rockhurst's Business minor; student also must satisfy requirements for admission to Rockhurst's MBA program, to include the appropriate GMAT score, as determined by Rockhurst University. Upon admission, students must complete a minimum of 30 hours of graduate Business courses beyond the Business minor or equivalent. CMU graduates must begin this MBA program within one year of completing their undergraduate degrees, and they must complete the Accelerated MBA Program within three years of receiving their undergraduate degree.

"2-2" Program in Engineering

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has a transfer agreement with the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla for Engineering students. After two years of course work at CMU, students may transfer directly into the Junior year at Rolla. Consult with the Chair of the Division of Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science for further information.

"3-2" Program in Engineering

This program enables a student to obtain a BS degree from CMU and a BS degree in Engineering from the second school in five years. Students attend CMU for three years and then transfer to the engineering school. After one year of engineering studies which fulfill the requirements for the BS degree, students will request a transcript to be sent to CMU in order for the BS degree to be conferred. Then, after two years of engineering studies which fulfill the requirements for the engineering degree, the student will be awarded a BS in Engineering by the engineering school. In certain instances, additional summer sessions may be necessary to complete requirements for the engineering degree. Combined programs in engineering have been formalized between CMU and Missouri University of Science and Technology at Rolla. Arrangements with other schools are also possible. Consult with the Chair of the Division of Science, Mathematics and Computer Science for further information.

"3-3" Program in Law

CMU pre-law students are eligible to apply for the University of Missouri's 3-3 Program in Law. This program, administered by the School of Law of the University of Missouri, is for exceptional students. Undergraduate students who wish to pursue this course to law school complete all general education requirements for their bachelor's degree during their first six semesters at CMU and apply for admission to the University of Missouri during their third year of undergraduate study. CMU pre-law students who enter MU Law School through this program will qualify to earn their baccalaureate degree by transferring appropriate hours of credits from the Law School to meet remaining graduation requirements at CMU. (Note that the University of Missouri suggests that most students will be best served by obtaining their bachelor's degree prior to entering MU Law School.) Please consult with Dr. John Carter, Director of the Pre-law Program and Professor of Political Science, for further information.

"3-4" Partners Program in Osteopathic Medicine

This program enables Pre-Professional Health students to apply to Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences (KCUMB) in the fall of the Sophomore year. If accepted, they may complete all CMU general education requirements for the program in three years. During the summer after the Sophomore year, the student must complete a five-day med-prep course at KCUMB. The MCAT, normally required for admission to KCUMB, is not required of students applying through our Partners Program. Students matriculate at KCUMB as full-time first-year students following their Junior year at CMU. They receive their bachelor's degree from CMU following successful completion of their first-year at KCUMB. Consult a member of the Pre-Professional Health Advisory Committee for specific requirements of this program.

Accelerated MBA program with Maryville University

The Accelerated MBA program with Maryville University is open to students with junior standing, a 3.3 undergraduate GPA, and who are admitted to the MBA program by Maryville University. Students are able to enroll in six hours of undergraduate coursework at CMU that will count toward the MBA and to also enroll in six hours of coursework from Maryville University's

MBA that will count toward the undergraduate degree program at CMU. For additional information contact the Business, Accounting and Economics division.

The Military Science Program

The College has cooperative arrangements with the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force which allows students to enroll in Military Science courses offered at the University of Missouri-Columbia. This program allows students to qualify for commission as second lieutenants by the end of their Senior year. Military Science classroom instruction is provided on campus or at the University of Missouri-Columbia, while the leadership labs are conducted at the University of Missouri-Columbia in conjunction with the Cadet Corps. Students are expected to maintain a grade point average of at least 2.0 to remain in the ROTC program. Various scholarships are available for CMU students. For more information, contact Capt. Shane Parks, U.S. Army National Guard and CMU's ROTC coordinator, at ROTC@centralmethodist.edu. For additional information, consult the Military Science section of this catalog.