School of Health Professions

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The School of Health Professions is Missouri’s only state-supported health professions school on a campus with an academic health center. It is uniquely positioned to educate highly qualified health care professionals committed to fulfilling the mission of improving the health and well-being of individuals and communities. Its seven departments and eleven accredited academic programs have long and distinguished histories. Graduates of the School of Health Professions are nationally recognized leaders in their fields.

The school offers undergraduate degrees with majors in Communication Science and Disorders, Diagnostic Medical Ultrasound, Health Sciences, Public Health, Respiratory Therapy, Radiologic Sciences with emphasis in Radiography or Nuclear Medicine Technology, and Clinical Laboratory Sciences with an emphasis in Medical Technology. The school offers graduate degrees in Athletic Training (beginning in 2020), Communication Science and Disorders with an emphasis in Speech-Language Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Public Health.

Students gain valuable experience by participating in nationally recognized service centers including PhysZou, Tiger OT, The Adult Day Connection, the MU Speech and Hearing Clinic, Robert G. Comb’s Language Preschool, MU Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders, and more than eight hundred fieldwork sites.

Undergraduate

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Admissions

Undergraduate students enrolled in the School of Health Professions work with a professional academic advisor to ensure timely completion of degree program requirements, as well as developing a personalized plan for achieving academic success. Students admitted to a clinical program may be advised by a professional advisor in Student Services or a faculty advisor in the major.

Admission to the University and to the School of Health Professions as a pre-health professions student does not guarantee admission for most Bachelor of Health Science degree programs. Application deadlines and requirements vary for each program (the health science major does not require an application). Students are strongly encouraged to seek advising to ensure they are making satisfactory progress towards pre-requisites, MU General Education (http://catalog.missouri.edu/ academicdegreerequirements/generaleducationrequirements/), and program requirements.

Exploratory Courses

The School of Health Professions offers introductory courses and experiences to provide information about career opportunities in these areas. These courses are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P_HLTH 1000</td>
<td>Introduction to Public Health</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLTH_SCI 1000</td>
<td>Introduction to the Health Professions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUCMED 1000</td>
<td>Introduction to Nuclear Medicine</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC_THR 1000</td>
<td>Introduction to Occupational Therapy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH_THR 1000</td>
<td>Introduction to Physical Therapy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RS_THR 1000</td>
<td>Introduction to Respiratory Therapy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DMU 1000</td>
<td>Introduction to Diagnostic Medical Ultrasound</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL_L_S 1000</td>
<td>Orientation to Clinical Laboratory Science</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required Entry-level Courses

All students in the School of Health Professions must complete College Algebra (MATH 1100 or equivalent) and Exposition and Argumentation (ENGLSH 1000) upon completing 60 university-level credit hours, including transfer and MU credit. In addition, the School of Health Professions requires students who are declaring a ‘pre-Health Professions’ or ‘Undeclared’ major to meet the minimum GPA requirement for that program of interest. All undergraduate students are required to declare a plan upon completion of 60 university-level credit hours.

In addition to academic record, attributes such as interpersonal skills, motivation, attitude, interest, commitment and knowledge of the field are considered in selecting students to participate in the professional phase of any program. Applicants may also be evaluated on school and college aptitude tests, pattern of academic achievement, verbal expression, extracurricular activities and motivation demonstrated by employment and volunteer activities.

The application deadlines for the professional component of each program are shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Program</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
<th>Classes Begin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Training</td>
<td>senior year (check web site for application deadline)</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Science and Disorders</td>
<td>Feb. 1, sophomore</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiography</td>
<td>Feb. 1, sophomore</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapy</td>
<td>Sept. 30, junior or senior</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear Medicine</td>
<td>Feb. 1, sophomore</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Students with previous training or experience may be allowed to earn credits by examination. Contact each department for information on time limits.

**Time Limits on Credits Earned**

Credits by Examination

Students with previous training or experience may be allowed to earn advanced-standing credit through challenge or equivalency evaluation in certain programs. Contact the Health Professions advising office for information pertaining to the awarding of credit for these exams.

**Maximum Credits Enrolled**

A student may not enroll for more than 18 credits in a fall or spring term and 9 in a summer term without permission from the advising office; students should contact their advisor for more information.

**Independent Study**

Students must receive prior approval before enrolling in independent study courses.

**Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grades**

A student wishing to enroll in a course on an S/U basis must receive permission from the advising office.

**Enrolling in Other Institutions Simultaneously**

Students should consult with their advisor before enrolling in another institution while being enrolled at the University of Missouri.

**Advising**

All undergraduate students are assigned a professional academic advisor in the School of Health Professions.

**Career Development**

The Office of Career Services in the School of Health Professions offers career advising, résumé, cover letter and personal statement review, mock interviews, LinkedIn consultation, job search strategies, and workshops to enhance students' career development. In addition, the SHP Office of Career Services offers a bi-annual Career and Opportunities Fair, which allows SHP students to connect with employers, graduate and professional programs, internships, and experiential learning opportunities. Students are encouraged to seek out and use SHP Career Services early in their undergraduate career to connect with shadowing opportunities, find part-time employment, and explore clinical and non-clinical career paths.

**Graduate**

The School of Health Professions offers a wide variety of programs of study for students interested in careers in healthcare. At the graduate level, we offer degrees in:

- Athletic Training
- Communication Science and Disorders, with an emphasis in Speech-Language Pathology
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Public Health, with a dual degree option with Social Work, emphasis areas in Health Promotion and Policy and Veterinary Public Health, and graduate certificates in Public Health, Global Public Health, and Epidemiology

**Note:** Prospective graduate students must apply to both the degree program of interest and to the MU Graduate School. In most cases, the entire application process may be completed online. Find admission and application details by selecting the degree program of interest in the left navigation column.