

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA

BIOLOGY MAJOR PRE-DENTISTRY EMPHASIS

FRESHMAN

*Biology 141	4	Biology 151 or *152	3
Math 111/118 ¹	4/5	*Chemistry 261	4
*English 101 ¹	3	Math 115	3
UCC elective	3	Com. Stud. 101/107	3
Ped elective	1	English 201	3
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	15-16		16

SOPHOMORE

Biology 151 or *152	3	Biology 215	3
*Chemistry 262	4	Biology elective	3/4
Math 241/230	3/4	*Chemistry 353	4
UCC elective	3	UCC elective	3
Ped elective	1	*Psychology 201	3
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	15-16		16-17

JUNIOR

*Biology 342	4	Biology 382	4
Biology 334	3	*Biology 333	4
Chemistry 354	4	*Physics 176/206	4/5
*Physics 175/205	4/5	Chemistry 321	3
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	15-16		15-16

SENIOR

Biology 481	3	Biology elective	3-6
Biology electives	3-7	UCC electives	3-6
*Chemistry 431	4	Free elective	3-6
UCC elective	3		
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	13-17		9-18

Courses with a (*) are required by the Indiana University School of Dentistry; recommended courses include cell biology, histology, molecular biology, genetics, personal finance, and solid art.

¹ Initial math and English courses depend on placement test or SAT/ACT scores.

DENTISTRY

Dental careers range from general practice through specialties such as oral surgery, orthodontics, and periodontics. About 90% of active dentists are in private practice; other career options include education, research, public health, and the military. A dentist's average income ranks in the top 5% of U.S. family incomes.

According to a recent Gallup Poll, dentistry is the second most respected profession in America. A *USA Today* survey reported that more adults were satisfied with services received from dentists than from any other profession.

Despite the success of preventive dentistry, the demand for dentists will continue to grow, due in part to the fact that people are retaining their teeth longer. Additionally, new dental services such as cosmetic dentistry will contribute to the growth of the profession.

A Doctor of Dental Surgery degree requires at least three years of undergraduate work and four years at a dental school. The majority of students accepted into dental schools have completed a bachelor's degree. Applications to dental schools have been increasing since 2001, and admission is very competitive. Acceptance to dental school is based on (1) GPA, (2) prerequisites, (3) DAT scores, (4) letters of recommendation, and (5) an interview. The average overall undergraduate GPA of successful applicants is 3.5+, with a science GPA of 3.3+. Dental schools vary somewhat in prerequisites, and the IU School of Dentistry has more specific prereqs than most; therefore, if you meet IU's requirements, you can apply to most of the 57 US dental schools. These courses and others leading to a BS degree in Biology are listed on the example curriculum on the reverse side. It is **your** responsibility to know the specific requirements for the schools you are interested in attending. You can obtain this information from the websites of the specific schools or by writing to the dental schools of interest.

Many dental schools, including IU, require 30-40 hours of shadowing with general practice dentists.

This should be started early in your pre-dental career.

The Dental Admission Test (DAT) covers the natural sciences, perceptual ability, reading comprehension, and quantitative reasoning. The exam is computer-based and offered all year; it should be taken no later than early summer before the senior year. The DAT can be taken a maximum of three times.

Applications to dental schools are made through the American Association of Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS); information can be obtained at www.adea.org. The application cycle begins in May and should be completed early in the summer preceding the senior year.

Contact Dr. Rex Strange - Phone: 812/465-1008 - Email: rmstrange@usi.edu for further information.