

Southwestern Michigan College Transfer Guide

The Bachelor of Science in Biology (Pre-Optometry) is designed to prepare students for admission into professional programs in optometry. The requirements of the Pre-Optometry program are based on the general requirements of the Bachelor of Science in Biology, specifically adjusted for pre-optometry students. Coursework in human anatomy and physiology, microbiology, genetics, developmental biology, cell biology, inorganic and organic chemistry, biochemistry, and physics prepares students for the Optometry Admission Test (OAT) and for future success in the field.

The Pre-Optometry program stresses a foundation of chemistry, biology, physics and mathematics to meet the requirements of the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University. The Michigan College of Optometry (MCO) prefers to accept applicants who have completed a bachelor's degree. However, MCO does accept applications from candidates who have not earned a bachelor's degree but have completed the minimum admissions requirements, which are indicated on the program checksheet. Admissions requirements for other schools of optometry may vary, and the pre-optometry program can be modified for individual students to ensure that those requirements are met. Superior academic preparation and awareness of optometry as a profession are important factors in admission to any school of optometry.

General Admission Criteria

Transfer students must have at least 12 credits at the time of application with a minimum 2.0 overall GPA including an English and mathematics course, or they must provide their high school records and ACT /SAT scores for admission review. Official transcripts from all accredited colleges/universities must be submitted with the Ferris application.

Course Requirements

Southwestern Michigan College

Course	Ferris Equiv.	Ferris Course Title	Cr. Hrs.
ENGL 103	ENGL 150	English 1	3
ENGL 104	ENGL 250	English 2	3
SPEE 102	COMM 121	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
PSYC 101	PSYC 150	Introduction to Psychology	3
MATH 141	MATH 220	Analytical Geometry-Calculus 1	4
MATH 150	MATH 251	Statistics for the Life Sciences	3
BIOL 101	BIOL 121	General Biology 1	8
and	and	and	
BIOL 102	BIOL 122	General Biology 2	
BIOL 214	BIOL 205	Human Anatomy & Physiology	5
and			
BIOL 215			
CHEM 101	CHEM 121	General Chemistry 1	5
CHEM 102	CHEM 122	General Chemistry 2	5
CHEM 201	CHEM 321	Organic Chemistry 1	5
CHEM 202	CHEM 322	Organic Chemistry 2	5
PHYS 101	PHYS 211	Introductory Physics 1	4
PHYS 102	PHYS 212	Introductory Physics 2	4
SMC	VARIABLES	Cultural Enrichment Electives (one must be at FSU 200+ level)	9
SMC	VARIABLES	Social Awareness Electives (one must be FSU 200+ level) (must come from 2 different subject areas)	9

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Course	Ferris Course Title	Cr. Hrs.
ENGL 311	Advanced Technical Writing	3
or	or	
ENGL 321	Advanced Composition	
or	or	
ENGL 323	Proposal Writing	
BIOL 286	Microbiology	3
FSU	Biology Elective (see FSU advisor)	6
BIOL 346	Ecological Assessment	3
or	or	
BIOL 347	Environmental Conservation	
or	or	
BIOL 442	Ecology	
BIOL 370	Developmental Biology	4
BIOL 373	Cell Biology	3
BIOL 375	Principles of Genetics	3
BIOL 460	Current Topics in Biology	2
CHEM 324	Fundamentals of Biochemistry	3-4
or	or	
CHEM 364	Biochemistry	

Credits Required for Degree	121
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Students transferring to Ferris with the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) and entering a degree program will have met a 30-hour block of lower-level general education courses. However, this does not exempt students from completing program specific prerequisites or higher-level general education course requirements. Students should contact their advisor regarding classes that meet the MTA.

Contact Information

Big Rapids Campus

College of Arts & Sciences

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/>

Janice Winowiecki, Biology Advisor

(231) 591-2555 or wino2@ferris.edu

www.ferris.edu/transferservices

Delivery Locations

This degree and the Ferris courses are offered at the following locations:

- Ferris State University, Big Rapids Campus, Big Rapids MI
- Select courses may be delivered online and/or in a mixed delivery format (i.e. a mix of online and face-to-face instruction at the Ferris Main Campus or at an off-campus location)

Transfer Student Orientation

All new students to Ferris State University are required to complete an orientation. Orientation for incoming freshmen is a one-day session that occurs on campus and includes class registration. Eligible transfer students have the option of completing an online orientation or attending an on campus session.

Advising Notes

It is recommended that potential students meet with an advisor to review the degree, course schedule, and have any questions answered prior to completing an application. **Students who are completing the MTA may have different general education course requirements for the particular degree selected. Meeting with a Ferris advisor prior to the selection of any electives or general education classes shown above could reduce the chance of completing a course that will not apply toward the selected degree.** Once admitted, students must continue to meet with an advisor as they work towards graduation.

Online Learning

Orientation is required for students who register for an online *course* or are completing an online *degree*. Students must demonstrate competency in FerrisConnect skills. This may be done by taking a tutorial and quiz, or, for students who have already taken and passed online courses, they can submit a waiver request. Students should check with the department that offers the class to determine its particular needs and/or the Ferris advisor regarding registration for online course work.

Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA)

Ferris participates in the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA). This agreement will facilitate the transfer of general education requirements from one Michigan institution to another. Students may complete the MTA as part of a degree program or as a stand-alone package. The MTA consists of a minimum of 30 general education credit hours as identified by the college or university.

Disclaimer

This is a guide for students who plan to transfer to Ferris State University. This guide is not intended to be a contract with Ferris. The information on this guide is subject to change. Students should contact their community college or Ferris to keep informed of changes. Final responsibility for verifying all transfer information lies with the student. Please refer to the effective and/or revised date on the bottom of the guide.