

Preparation for Professional Study

Business

The College provides no specific course of preprofessional studies to prepare students for graduate study in business administration. It is advisable for interested students to pursue a program of study that hones their quantitative, verbal, and written skills. In addition to course work required to complete their major, students should consider taking the following as electives.

- ECON 19800 and 19900. Introduction to Microeconomics and Macroeconomics
- STAT 22000. Introductory Statistics with Applications
- ENGL 13000. The Little Red Schoolhouse
- up to six of the courses at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business that are open to qualified College students, including Financial Accounting (BUSF 30000)

Additional support is provided by the Chicago Careers in Business (CCIB) program. This structured and competitive three-year program is organized and managed by the Office of Career Advising and Planning Services (CAPS). Applications are accepted from all students, regardless of their major, early in Autumn Quarter of their second year. Components of the CCIB program include:

- Weekly mandatory business competencies workshops targeting career exploration, professional development, and technical skills acquisition
- Advising focused on preparing CCIB participants to begin their career in business and/or to apply to a graduate program in business administration
- Mentoring by students from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business
- Selected Chicago Booth courses or sections open only to undergraduates (Financial Accounting is a requirement for graduation from CCIB.)

Most graduate business schools require applicants to take the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT). Students planning to apply to graduate studies in business administration within two years of graduation should take the GMAT in the summer preceding their final year in the College; registration materials are available in the Office of Career Advising and Planning Services (CAPS). Graduate business schools typically expect matriculating students to have acquired several prior years of work experience.

Health Professions

A broad liberal arts education provides exceptional preparation for a career in health and medicine. Upon meeting the College's general education requirements, students are encouraged to major in any discipline in which they have a strong interest while fulfilling the following common entry requirements for advanced study in the field:

- 3 quarters of general chemistry with labs
- 3 quarters of organic chemistry with labs
- 3 quarters of biology with labs
- 3 quarters of physics with labs
- 3 quarters of a general education humanities sequence (recommended)
- 3 quarters of calculus (recommended)

The College offers alternative course sequences that fulfill each of these requirements, as listed on the Chicago Careers in Health Professions (CCIHP) website at ccihp.uchicago.edu.

CCIHP strongly recommends that students consider taking two upper-level biology courses as well as a course in biochemistry and a course in statistics. Some health professions schools have additional requirements. To ensure all requirements are met, students are encouraged to check directly with schools of interest.

CCIHP provides students with the resources and support to develop a customized portfolio of knowledge, skills, and experiences required for advanced study in all health professions, including allopathic (MD) and osteopathic (DO) medicine, public health (MPH), dental (DDS) and podiatric (DPM) practice, veterinary medicine (DVM), pharmacy (PharmD), and health services research (PhD). Components of CCIHP that empower students to achieve a high level of academic, professional, and personal success include:

- Academic preparation: collaborative study groups in key science courses
- Career exploration: research, clinical, and policy internships and externships
- Faculty engagement: informal faculty-student events to cultivate mentors
- Test preparation: customized, intensive MCAT course
- Application development: personal statement and interview skills workshops
- Professional development: communication and organizational skills presentations mentors
- Civic engagement: service opportunities coordinated with the University Community Service Center and student groups

Students preparing for a career in health and medicine are strongly encouraged to not only cultivate research and clinical skills but also to participate in their community. An array of community organizations, student groups, and alumni welcome student involvement.

Students interested in the health professions should consult first with their College adviser and then with CCIHP, which is located in Room 406 of the Harper Memorial West Tower.

Journalism

Journalism is a broad field, covering many subjects—politics, law, international relations, medicine, technology, fashion, entertainment, sports, the environment, and many others. It includes magazines, newspapers, television, radio, the Internet, and new media. Journalism is what is new and what is different—it is content.

The deep, rigorous education provided by the College is exceptional preparation for a student wanting to become an influential journalist. The Chicago Careers in Journalism (CCIJ) program helps students secure opportunities for practical experience in this competitive field. It is open to students at every stage of their academic careers. The program is organized and managed by the Office of Career Advising and Planning Services (CAPS). The components include:

- Individual mentoring to help students win internships and jobs in their particular areas of interest
- Workshops with professional journalists, including alumni journalists, to develop practical skills and networking opportunities
- Grants to help support students working in unpaid internships
- Advising student publications to help them grow and improve

College students are encouraged to major in any subject of their choice. Currently forty-seven majors are represented in the CCIJ program. Journalism is such a broad field that journalists cover a great variety of stories in their careers. It is important to learn to think critically, research deeply, write clearly, and gain an extensive understanding of the world.

Law

The College curriculum provides excellent preparation for the study of law. More important than a specific major is the acquisition of certain skills necessary for the intelligent practice of law: the ability to communicate effectively in oral and written expression, a critical understanding of human institutions and values, and the ability to reason closely from given premises and propositions to tenable conclusions. Such skills can be developed in various majors and by taking courses

in English language and literature, philosophy, American history, political science, mathematics, and economics.

Students interested in a career in law should use the resources provided by the Chicago Careers in Law (CCIL) Program (ccil.uchicago.edu), which is organized and managed by the Office of Career Advising and Planning Services (CAPS). CCIL supports students as they explore their interest in law through programming, internships, and advising. Alumni lawyers often return to the College to participate in programs sponsored by CCIL, including panels in such specific areas of interest as international law, intellectual property, and criminal law. Students can work with CCIL to identify and secure internships with employers ranging from large law firms to public defender services. CCIL assists students in targeting law schools, preparing successful applications, and choosing the most appropriate law school.

Public and Social Service

The Chicago Careers in Public and Social Service (CCIPSS) program works with students interested in the government and nonprofit sectors. Given that these sectors are extremely broad, students of all majors are encouraged to participate in CCIPSS. Since employers in the public and social service arenas look for individuals with a deep commitment to their organization's mission, students who pursue courses of study that are interesting and exciting to them will be most successful in government and nonprofit careers. Through their rigorous academic studies, University of Chicago students learn many essential skills necessary to contribute meaningfully in the service fields. These include extensive research skills, the ability to analyze complex problems and develop creative and effective solutions, exemplary written and oral communication skills, and the ability to manage and prioritize numerous projects and commitments.

CCIPSS, which is organized and managed by the Office of Career Advising and Planning Services (CAPS), is open to students at all levels, and students may join the program at any point during their college years. Students interested in public and social service are encouraged to meet with the CCIPSS program director to begin to explore their specific areas of interest. Numerous resources are offered to educate students about specific areas within public and social service and to connect them with alumni and employers in their chosen fields. One of the main goals of the program is to connect students with meaningful, hands-on internships or volunteer experiences in the public or social service sectors. Other resources include:

- Skill-building workshops to educate students about how to navigate job searches and careers in the public and social service sectors
- Information sessions with employers to help students learn about different organizations and agencies and the types of opportunities available for students of all levels

- Paid internship opportunities with government agencies and nonprofit organizations
- Panels with alumni from a variety of fields to offer students networking opportunities and the opportunity to learn how University of Chicago graduates have translated their educations into careers in these sectors
- A one-day trip to Washington, DC, over spring break, where students visit employers and alumni at government agencies and nonprofit organizations