



# Preparing for your Chiropractic Degree: Recommended Courses for Future Palmer Students

Choosing the right college courses can pave the way to a successful and rewarding chiropractic career. Knowing which classes can help you prepare as an undergraduate may be challenging, however, since most universities don't offer a curriculum just for future chiropractors. This checklist features the top recommended classes that you should consider when enrolling in an undergraduate program.

## □ BIOLOGY

General biology, molecular biology, embryology, immunology, physiology, genetics, microbiology, cellular biology and exercise physiology all fall under the purview of biology. Each of these scientific studies helps you gain a better understanding of how the body's organs and tissues function, and explore the processes it carries out on a daily basis. These classes will help you learn to diagnose your patients and develop a specific treatment plan that meets their needs.

## □ CHEMISTRY

Chemistry includes general chemistry, organic chemistry, analytical chemistry, biochemistry, nutrition, toxicology/ pharmacology and nuclear medicine. This branch of physical science deals with the composition and characteristics of matter, as well as chemical interactions that take place within the body. Learning about the internal processes of the body and how to properly maintain the balance between its systems is essential, as it allows you to provide your future patients with the best possible care.

## □ HUMAN ANATOMY

This covers all aspects of the human body, from the physiology of the organs to the functions of the nervous system. Knowing how the human body works is an integral part of the chiropractic profession. Once you understand how all of the body's systems must function in order to achieve homeostasis, you can help patients to remedy issues that are preventing them from reaching optimal health.

## □ PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Physical sciences is a branch of natural science that includes physics, biomechanics, exercise science, kinesiology and statistics. The knowledge you learn in these courses will be used on a daily basis once you're a practicing chiropractor, as well as when you're attending chiropractic school. Understanding how and why the various systems of the body work and how to keep them functioning at optimal levels can help you in every aspect of your studies and beyond.

**STUDENTS WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE:** A degree in a pre-health discipline such as pre-med, exercise science, kinesiology, nursing or a similar program; or a life science degree such as biology or chemistry, along with an earned cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better, meets the primary academic criteria for acceptance into Palmer's Doctor of Chiropractic program.

**STUDENTS WITHOUT A DEGREE:** A total of 90 semester (135 quarter) hours of undergraduate coursework with an earned cumulative grade point average of 3.0 GPA is required. It's strongly recommended that non-degree seeking students complete at least 24 semester (36 quarter) hours of life and physical sciences, with half of the science credits having corresponding labs. To meet science criteria, reference the recommended courses.

Visit [www.palmer.edu/prereqs](http://www.palmer.edu/prereqs) for complete admission standards.

To discuss qualifications and to help you make an informed decision, please contact an admissions representative at [admissions@palmer.edu](mailto:admissions@palmer.edu).



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