

## Degree Programs

The College of Pharmacy offers the following degree programs:

The **Doctor of Pharmacy** is offered on the Atlanta Campus.

The **Master of Science in Health Outcomes** is offered on the Atlanta Campus.

The **Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences** is offered on the Atlanta Campus.

The **Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmaceutical Sciences** is offered on the Atlanta campus.

## Doctor of Pharmacy Degree Program

### Program Description

Mercer's Doctor of Pharmacy Program is designed to provide the scholastic expertise and clinical acumen necessary to deliver effective patient-centered care in multidisciplinary settings to a culturally diverse population. The four-year program includes both didactic and experiential learning with a focus on patient-centered outcomes.

The program's hybrid-block schedule combines concentrated foundational and pharmacotherapy courses with semester-long, practice-oriented and elective courses. First professional year students learn patient assessment, clinical, and counseling skills in the Pharmacy Clinical Skills and Simulation Laboratory, and further hone those skills in experiential activities throughout their second, third, and fourth professional years. Students complete introductory and advanced pharmacy practice experiences at leading medical and teaching hospitals and in a variety of pharmacy practice settings in Georgia and across the country. Unique to Mercer's Pharm.D. Program are four exceptional opportunities in the fourth professional year: Advanced Clinical Track, Global Medical Missions, Indian Health Service, and International Pharmacy.

### Accreditation

The Doctor of Pharmacy Program is accredited by The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, 190 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 2850, Chicago, IL 60603; telephone (312) 664-3575; Fax (866) 228-2631; website [www.acpe-accredit.org](http://www.acpe-accredit.org).

### Profile of the MERCER Doctor of Pharmacy Graduate

*The MERCER graduate will have both the breadth and depth of knowledge and skills to ensure successful entry into any of the wide variety of careers available to the Doctor of Pharmacy graduate.*

*The MERCER graduate will practice patient-centered, evidence-based pharmacy to optimize the use of medications to improve health, prevent disease, and improve quality of life.*

*The MERCER graduate will be an essential member of the patient's interprofessional health care team.*

*The MERCER graduate will demonstrate the value of the profession through leadership and service to the community, nationally, and globally.*

The educational outcomes of the College of Pharmacy reflect the ACPE Standards for the Doctor of Pharmacy degree, the Center for the Advancement of Pharmacy Education (CAPE) Educational Outcomes, and the Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) as presented by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP).

## Admissions Process and Requirements

The College of Pharmacy uses a “rolling” admissions policy for the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) Program. Qualified applicants are interviewed and accepted to the program on a continual basis until the class has been filled. Students are encouraged to apply as early as possible. Classes commence in August and January of each year.

The application process and minimum expectations for applicants to be considered for admission into the Doctor of Pharmacy degree program include the following:

- Applicants must submit their application through PharmCAS, a centralized application service (<http://www.pharmcas.org>). A complete PharmCAS application includes a minimum of two letters of reference, official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended, and the appropriate application fee(s).
- Prior to enrollment in the Pharm.D. Program, each applicant must complete 66 semester hours (or 99 quarter hours) of college credit from an institution(s) accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education along with the following pre-pharmacy course requirements:

- General Chemistry (two courses with labs)
- Organic Chemistry (two courses with labs)
- Biochemistry (one course, lab optional)
- General Biology (two courses with labs)
- Anatomy and Physiology (two courses, labs optional)
- Microbiology (one course lab optional)
- Calculus (one course)
- Statistics (one course)
- English Composition (two courses)
- Speech (one course)
- Economics (one course)
- Humanities Electives (two courses)
- Social/Behavioral Science Electives (two courses)

Important notes about the pre-pharmacy course requirements:

- Only grades of C or better are acceptable for pre-pharmacy courses.
- At least one course from the humanities or the social/behavioral science electives must focus on cultural diversity and develop the student’s awareness of the beliefs, values, and behaviors of cultures other than their own. Examples of courses that fulfill this prerequisite are: sociology, cultural anthropology, cultural geography, world literature, world religions, gender studies, cultural studies in specific languages other than the student’s native language.
- All science prerequisites must be fulfilled by courses intended for science majors.
- General Biology courses can be fulfilled with courses in genetics, cellular biology, molecular biology, developmental biology, or zoology.
- English Composition requirements can be fulfilled with courses designated as Writing Intensive.
- The speech requirement should be fulfilled with a public speaking course.
- Humanities electives may be chosen from one or more of these areas: art, foreign language, history, literature, music, philosophy, religion, or theatre.
- Social / Behavioral Science electives may be chosen from one or more of the following areas: anthropology, business, economics, geography, health, history, management, political science, psychology, or sociology.
- All pre-pharmacy course requirements must be satisfied prior to enrollment in the Pharm.D. Program.

- Applicants are encouraged to take the following courses to further prepare them for the Doctor of Pharmacy Program:

Behavioral Psychology  
Ethics  
Genetics  
Immunology  
Medical Microbiology  
Medical Terminology  
Business Courses (e.g., Accounting, Finance, Human Resources)

Admission requirements and standards are designed to ensure scholastic success in the professional Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum. Selecting a candidate for the future practice of pharmacy involves many important factors, including academic background, letters of reference, pharmacy/work experience, and extracurricular experiences. The Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT) is not required; however, applicants who want to provide further support of their academic preparedness can opt to submit their PCAT scores as part of their PharmCAS application.

Grades for all undergraduate coursework attempted are included in the calculation of the cumulative undergraduate GPA. This is the primary GPA used in the admissions process. The competitive GPA needed to qualify for a required personal interview is determined by the overall strength of the applicant pool each admissions cycle.

Prospective pharmacy students are not required but are encouraged to obtain work or volunteer experience in a pharmacy. An example of appropriate experience is as a pharmacy technician.

Applicants judged to be qualified after evaluation of their complete application are invited to the College of Pharmacy for a personal interview.

Throughout the duration of the interview process, applicants are accepted to the Doctor of Pharmacy program on a continual basis until the class has been filled; an alternate list is then established. Due to the number of applicants and limited number of positions available, acceptance is selective.

Applicants selected for admission into the College's Doctor of Pharmacy Program are required to make a non-refundable tuition deposit to confirm their position in the entering class. Upon enrollment in the Doctor of Pharmacy Program, the deposit will be applied toward the student's first semester's tuition and the University's matriculation fee.

Submission of final official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended is required prior to enrollment. Accepted students must also comply with requirements regarding health insurance and immunizations, background checks and drug screenings, and they must attest that they meet all Technical Standards as established by the Doctor of Pharmacy Program prior to their enrollment in the program. Failure to submit any items required for enrollment by the deadline will result in the offer of admission being rescinded.

### **Special Consideration Programs for Mercer Undergraduate Students**

The College of Pharmacy partners with the University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and College of Health Professions and College of Professional Advancement to offer Special Consideration programs designed for Mercer undergraduate students who have expressed an interest in pursuing a career in pharmacy. Students enrolled as undergraduate students at Mercer are guaranteed an interview for the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree program at the College of Pharmacy (COP) if they meet requirements outlined in the Special Consideration Program documents available from the Academic Advising Services office in Macon and the Pre-Pharmacy advisors in the College of Professional Advancement.

### **International Students**

An applicant who is not a citizen or permanent resident of the United States must follow the same application procedure as applicants who are citizens or permanent residents.

The College of Pharmacy does not evaluate transcripts from outside the United States. If coursework has been earned in a foreign country, international or domestic students with credentials from institutions outside the United States are required to have those credentials evaluated by a professional evaluation service (World Education Services, [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org), is the preferred service). This evaluation must include an analysis of courses, grades and grade point average, and U.S. degree equivalency if a degree was received.

Until this procedure has been accomplished, an application for admission cannot be considered. An official copy of the evaluation report must be sent to PharmCAS to be included in the application.

Financial resources of the College of Pharmacy are limited, and therefore financial assistance for international students on an F-1 Visa is limited. Federally funded financial aid is restricted for students who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States. It is important that the student have pre-determined financial support sufficient to meet educational and living expenses.

### **Transfer Students**

A transfer student is any person who has ever been enrolled in the professional (Pharm.D.) level at another college or school of pharmacy. Attrition rates are low; therefore, the number of transfer students accepted is extremely limited and at times not available.

An individual who wishes to transfer into the four-year Doctor of Pharmacy degree program from an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) accredited college or school of pharmacy must send to the Director of Admissions a letter to request consideration as a transfer student before submitting an application. If availability exists and the request is granted, the transfer applicant must submit a complete PharmCAS application including transcripts from all colleges attended and at least two letters of reference. In addition, the Director of Admissions must receive a letter from the Dean's Office at the other College of Pharmacy granting approval of the transfer to Mercer and stating that the student is in good academic and professional standing and eligible to continue or return.

Transfer students must satisfy Mercer's pre-pharmacy course requirements and meet current admission standards in order to be considered.

If deemed qualified upon receipt of completed application materials, the applicant will be invited to the College of Pharmacy for an interview. After the interview, the Admissions Committee will make a decision regarding the student's admissions status. The number of transfer students accepted will depend upon space availability. All correspondence will be handled by the Director of Admissions.

Due to differences in curricula of various pharmacy schools, some or all credit may not transfer at the same professional level. Students may not be eligible for professional year advancement at Mercer equivalent to that of their current institution. Up to eighteen credit hours of equivalent professional courses may be transferred from an ACPE accredited institution.

### **Advanced Standing**

A transfer applicant who desires advanced professional standing must comply with the appropriate policy and procedure outlined above. Ordinarily credits from an ACPE-accredited college or school of pharmacy, for which grades of C or better have been

earned in equivalent courses, shall be accepted. All course requirements in the current four-year Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum must be satisfied prior to graduation. A minimum of eight semesters must be completed and 131 credits must be earned in residence at the College of Pharmacy.

In determining advanced standing, the Executive Associate Dean will consult with the appropriate Department Chairperson(s) to determine course equivalence. Based upon this evaluation, the Executive Associate Dean will make a decision regarding transfer credit for advanced standing. All correspondence will be handled by the Executive Associate Dean.

### **Tuition, Required Fees, and Other Estimated Expenses**

First, Second, Third Year Tuition (per didactic semester*)	\$ 19,554.50
Fourth Year Tuition (per five-week Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience*)	\$ 4,888.65
Facilities and Technology Fee (per semester**)	\$ 150.00
Course Materials Fee <sup>†</sup>	\$ 891.00

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Total (four-year\*) Pharm.D. program estimated tuition and fee cost for students entering in 2021-2022<sup>‡</sup> \$158,677.20

\* Each student completes 6 didactic semesters and 8 Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences, i.e. rotations, that span three semesters.

\*\* Fee is \$150.00 for students enrolled in 9 credit hours or more and \$17.00/credit hour for less than 9 credit hours.

<sup>†</sup>Course materials fees are attached to the following courses: PHA 650B/PHA 621 - \$742, PHA 361 - \$40, PHA 364 - \$29, PHA 491 - \$40, PHA 575 - \$40.

<sup>‡</sup>Tuition and fees are subject to change each year after the Board of Trustees meeting in April. The total cost is an estimate and does not include other expenses, i.e., books, computer, housing, transportation, etc. We recommend students budget an additional \$5,000 to cover expenses associated with the fourth-year advanced pharmacy practice experiences.

### **Background Checks and Drug Screenings**

Assessment of criminal background checks and drug screening is considered important to help protect the public, regardless of the requirements of specific community or clinical sites. However, a clear background check or drug screen does not guarantee safety or predict an individual's future behavior.

#### *Accepted Students*

All matriculating students undergo a criminal background check and drug screening after being offered admission to the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) Program. Students accepted into the program are responsible for promptly reporting any future charges or the outcome of pending charges to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. If accepted into the program, our determination related to findings on the initial or subsequent criminal background check or drug screening does not guarantee that State Boards of Pharmacy will view the findings similarly. Students accepted into the program have the right to review their criminal background check and drug screening reports for accuracy by contacting the institution/company/agency conducting the search.

In addition to completing the criminal background check and drug screening per the policy requirements, newly accepted students with an adverse criminal background check or drug screen must also report this activity in writing and include the appropriate information (e.g., court documents, arrest records, etc.) to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs with an original signature and date. The Assistant Dean for Student Affairs may request additional information from the student or request an additional criminal background check and/or drug screen. Students who fail to provide this information within the time frame will be subject to their offer of acceptance being withdrawn. Adverse information may lead to withdrawal of the offer of admission to the program. Appeals to

decisions made regarding results of a criminal background check and/or drug screen may be made in writing to the Executive Associate Dean.

### *Enrolled Students*

Pharmacy practice sites may require additional components of a criminal background check, additional drug screen, a certain company or laboratory to be used, and/or the tests being performed within certain time frames prior to beginning introductory or advanced pharmacy practice experiences. The expenses associated with any criminal background check or drug screening during matriculation into or during the Pharm.D. Program are entirely the responsibility of the student.

Information as to whether a facility offering introductory or advanced pharmacy practice experiences requires evidence of a negative drug screen and/or criminal background check can be obtained from the Director of Experiential Education. Be aware that requirements for specific introductory or advanced pharmacy practice sites may change at any moment prior to the student beginning at the site. It is the student's responsibility to meet those requirements.

If allowed or required by the introductory or advanced pharmacy practice site, the student will provide the results of their criminal background check or drug screening directly to the appropriate representative. In the event that the site does not have a process to review results of a criminal background check or drug screening or will not accept them directly from the student, the Director of Experiential Education will provide information to the appropriate representative on charges resulting in a *nolo contendere*, *nolo prosequere*, or conviction which are reported on a criminal background check and/or positive results of a drug screening test. The site's representative is solely responsible to determine whether the results meet facility requirements. Mercer University, its faculty or representatives, is not responsible or liable for nor will they intervene with the decision made by a site to not accept a student based on the contents of the criminal background check or drug screening.

Students with adverse findings on a criminal background check or drug screening, as determined by an introductory or advanced pharmacy practice site, will be excluded from participation at that facility. In circumstances such as this, the program may require that students undergo a subsequent criminal background check or drug screening. If the Director of Experiential Education, in consultation with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, agrees with the facility's decision, the student will be excluded from continuing in the introductory or advanced pharmacy practice experience and subsequently will be removed from the program. Should the Director of Experiential Education, in consultation with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, disagree with the facility's decision, the Director will make one attempt to place the student in an alternate facility. If that attempt is unsuccessful due to the adverse findings on the criminal background check or drug screening, the student is excluded from continuing in the introductory or advanced pharmacy practice experience and subsequently will be removed from the program.

Students arrested or charged for criminal activity at any time during their enrollment in the Doctor of Pharmacy Program must notify, in writing, the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs within 72 hours of the arrest or issue of a citation. The Assistant Dean for Student Affairs will assume responsibility for the notification of additional College of Pharmacy offices as necessary. Students who fail to provide this information within the stated time frame will be subject to suspension/dismissal from the program.

### *Incorrect Records*

Occasionally, a criminal background check may contain incorrect information. If a student finds that his/her record is incomplete, incorrect, contains errors and omissions, or misidentifies a student for someone else, the student should contact the criminal background check vendor with appropriate documentation to correct the errant

information. The student should also notify the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and the Director of Experiential Education, who will make a request to the vendor to verify this information and supply a copy to the student and MUCOP. Depending on the circumstances, the student may or may not be suspended/dismissed from the program pending the outcome of the request.

Students who have a break in enrollment of at least one semester (e.g., leave of absence) will be required to repeat a criminal background check and drug screen prior to reentering the program.

#### *Confidentiality and Recordkeeping*

Results of background checks and drug screenings are confidential and will be kept in a secure file separate from other academic records. This information contained in the criminal background check and drug screening section of the student's file may only be reviewed by university officials, the designated background check or drug screening provider, and affiliated clinical facilities in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

#### **Immunizations and Health Requirements**

All Pharmacy students are required to provide evidence of the required immunizations from their health care provider and proof of insurance. These requirements must be met in order for students to participate in introductory and advanced pharmacy practice experiences (IPPEs/APPEs). Incomplete or inaccurate immunization documentation can result in student registration and/or IPPE/APPE assignments being delayed or blocked. The current list of immunization requirements for entering students can be obtained from the College's Office of Student Affairs. All current Pharmacy students are required to provide documentation annually of influenza vaccination and tuberculosis screening.

#### **Health Insurance Requirement**

All students are required to maintain health insurance coverage. In order to enforce this policy, all students are automatically enrolled and charged for health insurance each semester. This health insurance will be provided by the University's sponsored student insurance plan. Students are provided the opportunity to waive the student insurance coverage and have this charge removed from their Mercer bill each semester if satisfactory evidence is submitted proving that primary health insurance coverage exists. Information on how to complete the insurance waiver process and deadlines for the process is available on the Mercer website: <http://bursar.mercer.edu/studentinsurance/>. Students who do not submit proof of primary health insurance through the waiver process are automatically signed up for coverage under the student insurance plan.

### **Academic Policies and Procedures**

#### **Attendance**

Each course coordinator is charged with the responsibility of establishing an absentee policy for his/her course, subject to the approval of the Curriculum Committee. This policy must be a part of the course syllabus distributed to students. In those cases, in which the professor does not wish to establish an absentee policy, absenteeism cannot be considered in determining the grade for the course.

#### **Make-Up Examination Policy**

Excused absences include, but are not limited to, sanctioned College events, approved professional travel, illness, religious holidays or observances, family emergencies, and court/legal proceedings. Written documentation will be required for illness, family emergencies, and court/legal proceedings. For an excused absence from

an examination, the student will be given a make-up examination that is comparable in content and format to be administered at a time determined by the course coordinator(s).

### **Advising / Professional Development Network**

The Doctor of Pharmacy Professional Development Network (PDN) provides information and support for successful matriculation and professional development of students. Faculty, professional staff, and alumni are utilized as resource personnel.

Each entering Pharmacy student is assigned to faculty and staff members of the Professional Development Network (PDN). The advisors work with the student from matriculation to graduation, using electronic and face-to-face meetings. Students are ultimately responsible for the academic and professional choices they make; however, faculty members provide mentoring and are a resource for students regarding academic and professional issues.

### **Standards of Performance**

Each candidate for a Doctor of Pharmacy degree must secure credit, in the approved courses of the curriculum, totaling 155 semester hours. In securing this credit, each candidate must have a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0. Should a course be repeated, all grades received in that course are used in the computation of the grade point average. Should a course be repeated for which a passing grade has been previously received, and the repeated grade is F, the course requirement for the curriculum has been satisfied, subject to the Probation/Dismissal policy.

- Repetition of failed courses is outlined in the Summer Remediation and Probation/Dismissal policies.
- Students readmitted by the Academic Performance and Standards Committee may be required to repeat courses for which a passing grade was previously earned.
- Certain didactic electives and advanced pharmacy practice experience courses may be taken multiple times for credit as outlined under course descriptions.

### **Academic Progression**

Doctor of Pharmacy academic progression is defined as:

A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0; successful completion of all first professional year courses and professional engagement program requirements; and passing the P1 comprehensive progression assessment are required for entry into the second professional year.

A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0; successful completion of all required first and second professional year courses and professional engagement program requirements; successful completion of a minimum of four semester hours of elective coursework; and passing the P2 comprehensive progression assessment are required for entry into the third professional year.

A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0; successful completion of all required first, second, and third professional year courses and professional engagement program requirements; successful completion of at least ten semester hours of elective coursework; and passing the P3 comprehensive progression assessment are required for entry into the fourth professional year.

### **Summer Remediation**

Summer remediation is open to Doctor of Pharmacy students who have previously failed a required didactic course.

In the first professional year, August-entry students who fail a didactic required course in their first or second semester, an equivalent course outside the College's traditional Doctor of Pharmacy program may be considered for completion during the summer,

subject to review and approval by the course coordinator, the coordinator's department chair, and the Executive Associate Dean.

In the event an equivalent course is not available, the course will be offered in the summer by the College of Pharmacy. The course must fulfill the same curriculum outcomes as during the regular academic year; however, the teaching plan, including methodology and daily schedule may vary as determined and documented by the course coordinator and the coordinator's department chair. A student may repeat only one course one time at another school or via summer remediation.

In the first professional year, January-entry students who fail a didactic required course in their first or second semester, will not have summer remediation as an option. The student will instead join the subsequent entering August Class to remediate the failed didactic required course and join that cohort.

Summer remediation is available for all second and third professional year students regardless of entry point into the Doctor of Pharmacy Program. For a student who fails a didactic required course during the fall or spring semesters, an equivalent course outside the College's traditional Doctor of Pharmacy Program may be considered for completion during the summer, subject to review and approval by the course coordinator, the coordinator's department chair, and the Executive Associate Dean.

In the event an equivalent course is not available, the course will be offered in the summer by the College of Pharmacy. The course must fulfill the same curriculum outcomes as during the regular academic year; however, the teaching plan, including methodology and daily schedule may vary as determined and documented by the course coordinator and the coordinator's department chair. A student may repeat only one course one time at another school or via summer remediation.

### **Probation/Dismissal**

A Doctor of Pharmacy student who makes an F or U in a course will be placed on probation until the course is successfully remediated. Any student who makes a second F or U in a course will be placed on academic dismissal. Any Doctor of Pharmacy student who has been placed on academic dismissal may petition the Academic Performance and Standards Committee for readmission.

1. A student seeking the Academic Performance and Standards Committee's consideration for readmission must provide his/her petition and any supporting documentation by the following applicable deadline prior to the semester for which reenrollment is requested: July 1 for the fall semester and October 1 for the spring semester.
2. The Academic Performance and Standards Committee will investigate the circumstances of dismissal.
3. If the student is readmitted by the Academic Performance and Standards Committee, there will be placed upon the readmission certain conditions and requirements designed to aid the student in attaining good standing within the College. In consultation with the Executive Associate Dean and the Curriculum Committee, as appropriate, the Academic Performance and Standards Committee will formulate an individualized plan for satisfying content areas that require remediation. This individualized plan would be based on the students' prior academic performance and current curricular standards.
4. Breach of conditions or requirements will result in permanent dismissal of the student.
5. Any student who makes an F or U in a third course will be permanently dismissed.

6. The Academic Performance and Standards Committee will inform the faculty regarding its actions.

The decisions of the Academic Performance and Standards Committee may be appealed to the Executive Associate Dean.

### **Application for Graduation**

Students who expect to qualify for graduation must file applications for graduation with the Registrar's Office in the semester prior to completing degree requirements.

### **Degree Requirements**

1. Completion of the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum (totaling 155 semester hours) with a passing grade in each course and with at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average and successful completion of professional engagement program requirements.
2. Eight semesters must be completed and 133 credit hours must be earned in residence at the College of Pharmacy.
3. Recommendation by the faculty of the College of Pharmacy.
4. Payment of all financial obligations to the University.

### **Special Registration Regulations**

Course Overload: A course overload is defined as registration for any additional hours of credit above the number of credit hours outlined for each semester. In order to register for course overloads, students must have grade point averages of 2.5 or better. In addition, students must have the approval of (1) the Executive Associate Dean or (2) the faculty advisor designated for the student. Students participating in combined degree programs must have the approval of the program director. Students may not enroll in courses with conflicting meeting times.

Elective Courses with GPA Requirements: In order to register for Project Development 548 or Introduction to Research 549, a student must have a grade point average of 2.5 or better and the consent of the instructor. In order to register for Introduction to Teaching 509, a student must have a grade point average of 3.5 or better and the consent of the instructor.

Professional Credit for Graduate Coursework: Doctor of Pharmacy students may receive elective credit for graduate-level courses taken within the University outside of combined degree programs. The following criteria apply:

- Students should have a previous four-year (or higher) degree or an equivalent number of credit hours.
- Students must have minimum grade point averages of 3.0.
- Course prerequisites must be met.
- Students must submit a letter to the appropriate graduate program director that states the student's interest and describes the benefits of the graduate course to their professional goals.
- Enrollment in the course must have the approval of the graduate program director.

Students will receive only professional-level credit for such courses.

### **Transfer/Transient Credit**

Academic credit may be given for courses successfully completed with a grade of C or better at other pharmacy, medical, medically-related professional schools, and graduate

schools, subject to the approval of the appropriate department chairperson and dean. In such cases, no grade will appear on the student's transcript, but the transfer of credit hours will be awarded. Transfer credits are not utilized in determining a student's grade point average.

## **Doctor of Pharmacy Curriculum**

### **Outcomes**

#### ***Domain 1 – Foundational Knowledge***

1.1 Learner (Learner) – Develop, integrate, and apply knowledge from the foundational sciences (i.e., pharmaceutical, social / behavioral / administrative, and clinical sciences) to evaluate the scientific literature, explain drug action, solve therapeutic problems, and advance population health and patient-centered care.

#### ***Domain 2 – Essentials for Practice and Care***

2.1. Patient-Centered Care (Caregiver) – Provide patient- centered care as the medication expert (collect and interpret evidence, prioritize, formulate assessments and recommendations, implement, monitor and adjust plans, and document activities).

2.2. Medication Use Systems Management (Manager) - Manage patient healthcare needs using human, financial, technological (including pharmacy informatics), and physical resources to optimize the safety and efficacy of medication use systems.

2.3. Health and Wellness (Promoter) – Design prevention, intervention, and educational strategies for individuals and communities to manage chronic disease and improve health and wellness.

2.4. Population-Based Care (Provider) – Describe how population-based care, defined by disease state or targeted demographics, influences patient-centered care and the development of practice guidelines and evidence-based best practices.

#### ***Domain 3 - Approach to Practice and Care***

3.1. Problem Solving (Problem Solver) – Identify problems; explore and prioritize potential strategies; and design, implement, and evaluate a viable solution.

3.2. Educator (Educator) – Educate all audiences by determining the most effective and enduring ways to impart information and assess understanding.

3.3. Professional and Patient Advocacy (Advocate) – Assure that best interests of the profession and patients are represented.

3.4. Interprofessional Collaboration (Collaborator) – Actively participate and engage as a healthcare team member by demonstrating mutual respect, understanding, and values to meet patient care needs.

3.5. Cultural and Social Sensitivity (Includer) – Recognize cultural and social determinants of health to diminish disparities and inequities in access to quality care.

3.6. Communication (Communicator) – Effectively communicate verbally, nonverbally and in written form when interacting with an individual, group, or organization.

#### ***Domain 4 – Personal and Professional Development***

4.1. Self-awareness (Self-aware) – Examine and reflect on personal knowledge, skills, abilities, beliefs, biases, motivation, and emotions that could enhance or limit personal and professional growth.

4.2. Leadership (Leader) – Demonstrate responsibility for creating and achieving shared goals, regardless of position.

4.3. Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Quality Improvement (Innovator) – Engage in innovative activities by using creative thinking and quality improvement to accomplish better ways of achieving professional goals.

4.4. Legal, Ethical, and Professional Behaviors (Professional) – Exhibit behaviors and values that are consistent with the laws and rules that govern pharmacy and the trust given to the profession by patients, other healthcare providers, and society.

### **Student Portfolios**

Throughout the professional curriculum, students create portfolios documenting expectations, achievement of outcomes related to both experiential and didactic education, and self-reflection.

## Doctor of Pharmacy Program Curriculum

### First Professional Year

(36 Credit Hours)

<b>Semester 1</b>		<b>Semester 2</b>	
333 Pharmacy Fundamentals	2	337 Biopharmaceutics and Pharmacokinetics	4
334 Foundations of Pharmacology and Immunology	5	338 Pharmaceutics and Medicinal Chemistry	5
335 Healthcare Delivery and Population Health	3	373 Introductory Law	2
336 Self-Care	3	362 Integrated Patient Care II	4
361 Integrated Patient Care I	4	364 Professional Development and Engagement II	1
363 Professional Development and Engagement I	1	375 Comprehensive Patient-Centered Care I	2
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>18</b>

Satisfactory completion of all First Professional Year coursework, Comprehensive Progression Assessment, and Professional Engagement Program requirements is necessary for progression to the Second Professional Year.

### Second Professional Year

(38 - 39 Credit Hours)

<b>Summer</b>			
487 Community Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience*	2		
447 Health and Wellness Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience**	1		
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>0-3</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		<b>Spring</b>	
466 Cardiovascular and Renal Pharmacotherapy	6	468 Infectious Diseases Pharmacotherapy	6
467 Endocrine Pharmacotherapy	5	469 Pulmonary and Integument Pharmacotherapy	4
491 Integrated Patient Care III	4	492 Integrated Patient Care IV	3
493 Professional Development and Engagement III	1	494 Professional Development and Engagement IV	1
487 Community Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience*	2	495 Comprehensive Patient-Centered Care II	2
447 Health and Wellness Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience**	1	447 Health and Wellness Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience**	1
Elective	2	Elective	2
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>18-20</b>	<b>Total hours</b>	<b>18-19</b>

\*Student enrolls in this course once, either summer semester or fall inter-term of the professional year

\*\*Student enrolls in this course once during either the second or third professional year (summer semester, fall inter-term, or spring semester)

Satisfactory completion of all Second Professional Year coursework, Comprehensive Progression Assessment, and Professional Engagement Program requirements is necessary for progression to the Third Professional Year.

**Third Professional Year  
(37-38 Credit Hours)**

<b>Summer</b>			
587 Institutional Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience*	2		
447 Health and Wellness Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience**	1		
Total Hours	<u>0-3</u>		
<b>Fall</b>		<b>Spring</b>	
536 Nervous System Pharmacotherapy	5	538 Basic and Clinical Sciences Review	0
537 Gastrointestinal and Musculoskeletal Pharmacotherapy	5	539 Oncology, Toxicology, and Drug-Induced Disorders Pharmacotherapy	4
573 Advanced Law	2	540 Specialty Pharmacy Practice	2
591 Integrated Patient Care V	3	592 Integrated Patient Care VI	3
593 Professional Development and Engagement V	1	594 Professional Development and Engagement VI	1
447 Health and Wellness Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience**	1	447 Health and Wellness Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience**	1
Elective	2	Elective	2
		Elective	2
Total hours	<u>18-20</u>	Total Hours	<u>17-18</u>

\*Student enrolls in this course once, either summer semester or fall inter-term of the professional year.

\*\* Student enrolls in this course once during either the second or third professional year (summer semester, fall inter-term, or spring semester).

Satisfactory completion of all Third Professional Year coursework, Comprehensive Progression Assessment, and Professional Engagement Program requirements is necessary for progression to the Fourth Professional Year.

**Fourth Professional Year  
(43 Credit Hours)**

**Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences**

APPE 1 Community Pharmacy Practice	5
APPE 2 Institutional Pharmacy Practice	5
APPE 3 Adult Medicine Pharmacy Practice	5
APPE 4 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Practice	5
APPE 5 Elective I	5
APPE 6 Elective II	5
APPE 7 Elective III	5
APPE 8 Elective IV	5
620 Pharmacy Review I	1
621 Pharmacy Review II	1
622 Pharmacy Review III	1
Total Hours	<u>43</u>

APPEs can occur in any order, 8 out of 9 blocks