**Pre Radiologic Sciences Curriculum**

The “pre radiologic sciences curriculum” is just *a list of courses that are required for admission to a professional program. It is NOT an academic major, a minor, or an emphasis area.*

**What Should I Major In?**

Even if you plan to apply to a radiologic sciences program after taking only the courses required for admission (minimum of 60 credit hours for the program at the University of Mississippi Medical Center), you need to declare an academic major at USM.

Many students choose a major in one of the sciences (Biological Sciences, Biochemistry/Chemistry, Physics) but other majors are acceptable including those in health sciences, in the humanities, social sciences, or business. Students should select the major in which they feel the most comfortable and in which they would like to pursue a baccalaureate degree or in which they would like to work if they are not accepted into a radiologic sciences program.

Students wishing to pursue a bachelor’s degree in Radiologic Sciences in Mississippi apply to the Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences program at University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Jackson, typically after taking two years to complete a *pre radiologic science curriculum*, for example at Southern Miss. If accepted into the UMMC Radiologic Sciences program and following satisfactory completion of all requirements for this professional program at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, students will be awarded the Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences from the University of Mississippi.

Some students do not desire a bachelor's degree but instead simply want to pursue two year programs that result in associate’s degree in radiologic technology. These are offered at some community colleges in Mississippi. If you do not desire a BS degree then you should consult with the community colleges offering these programs.

Visit the [American Society of Radiologic Technologists](https://www.asrt.org/) (ASRT) web pages for more information about radiologic sciences and radiology technologists.

Link to main page: [https://www.asrt.org/](https://www.asrt.org/)

**Requirements for Applicants**

The following list of Required Courses meets only the minimal requirements for admission to the two-year professional program in a student’s junior and senior year in the *School of Health Related Professions at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC)* in Jackson.

Link to UMMC SHRP: [http://www.umc.edu/shrp/](http://www.umc.edu/shrp/)
Link to Radiologic Sciences:  
https://www.umc.edu/shrp/Programs/Bachelor%20of%20Radiologic%20Sciences/Radiologic%20Sciences.html

Preference is given to applicants who are legal residents of Mississippi. Since the program has limited student capacity, selection into the program is competitive. Not every applicant who applies to the program will be selected.

Students must consult the specific admission requirements and application deadlines for the school(s) to which they plan to apply, including UMMC. The list below includes the required prerequisite courses required for possible admittance into the UMMC program for their junior and senior year. These prerequisite courses can be taken at the University of Southern Mississippi.

- English composition (6 hours)
- Social or behavioral science, such as anthropology, economics, political science, psychology, sociology (6 hours)
- College algebra, quantitative reasoning, or higher mathematics (3 hours)
- Speech (3 hours)
- Humanities, such as history, literature, foreign languages, journalism, philosophy, religion, art history (6 hours) and fine arts, such as music appreciation or theatre (3 hours)
- Anatomy and physiology with laboratory (8 hours)

NOTE:  it is highly recommended that USM students take principles of biological sciences I and II (BSC 110/L and BSC 111/L) prior to enrolling in anatomy and physiology

- Natural Sciences elective – can be biology, chemistry, physics, geology, astronomy, or physical sciences
- Basic Computer concepts and applications (3 hours)
- Electives (19 hours); UMMC admissions committee highly recommends general chemistry with lab and general physics as electives. Additional recommended electives include medical terminology, natural sciences (biology, microbiology), advanced mathematics and advanced computer sciences

**Suggested Course Sequence & Strategies for Success**

The suggested course sequence below is merely a guideline to complete the courses required for the UMMC Radiologic Sciences program in a timely manner. Courses to fulfill the major must be worked into the student’s schedule. Students must consult the USM Undergraduate Bulletin, the USM Class Schedule Guide for each semester, and their academic advisor. Some courses may be offered in specific semesters (Fall or Spring only) or on a rotating cycle.

**YEAR 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSC 110/L OR BSC 111/L</td>
<td>BSC 111/L OR BSC 110/L</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 h</td>
<td>4 h</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAT 101 [or MAT 100]b</td>
<td>CHE 106&amp;Ld</td>
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<td>3 h</td>
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<td>ENG 101c</td>
<td>ENG 102</td>
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<td>3 h</td>
<td>3 h</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSC 100</td>
<td>2 required/recommended courses d,e</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 h</td>
<td>6-7 h</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-required/recommended course d,e</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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</tbody>
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a. It is HIGHLY recommended by USM that students complete BSC 110/L and BSC 111/L before taking BSC 250/L and BSC 251/L (Anatomy and Physiology I and II), which are required for Radiologic Sciences. BSC 110/L and BSC 111/L are among the recommended electives for the UMMC Radiologic Sciences program, and they are prerequisites for other recommended upper level biology courses, including microbiology. The order in which students take the principles of biological sciences (BSC) courses does not matter; BSC 110/L covers molecular and cellular topics whereas BSC 111/L covers ecology and organisms.
Placement in mathematics (MAT) courses depends on the student’s ACT mathematics subtest score.

Placement in English Composition courses depends on the student’s ACT English subscore.

- **ACT English subtest score 16 or below:** ENG 99E (Expanded Composition Studio) and ENG 100E (Composition I Expanded)
- **ACT English subtest score 17-19:** ENG 100E (Composition I Expanded)
- **ACT English subtest score 20 or above:** ENG 101 (Composition I)

CHE 106/L is required for BSC 380/L (Microbiology and lab), which is among the **recommended electives** for the UMC Radiologic Sciences program.

RECOMMENDED elective courses for Radiologic Sciences include medical terminology (MLS 201), natural sciences (general chemistry (CHE 106/L, 107/L), physics (PHY 111/L, 112/L, MAT 103 is a prerequisite to PHY 111/L), principles of biological sciences (BSC 110/L, 111/L), microbiology (BSC 380/L), advanced mathematics, advanced computer sciences.

If a student is pursuing a Southern Miss baccalaureate degree (B.S. or B.A.) as a backup in case they are not accepted into a Radiologic Sciences program, they should take:

- one (1) Fine Arts (Aesthetic values) course (select from ART 130, DAN 130, MUS 165, THE 100)
- two (2) Humanities courses (select from HIS 101, HIS 102, PHI 151, REL 131); one must be a history course. Students not pursuing a Southern Miss baccalaureate may use courses in literature or foreign language.
  Note: ENG 203 (English Literature) is required for Southern Miss baccalaureate students.
- one (1) Social and one Behavioral Sciences course (SOC 101 or ANT 101 and PSY 110, respectively). Students not pursuing a Southern Miss baccalaureate may take courses in economics or political science.
- Sufficient elective hours to achieve a total of 60 hours of acceptable transfer credit (exclusive of physical education, military science, dogmatic religion and vocation courses)

**Strategy for Success**

- Students should focus on doing well in their studies, particularly the required science and math courses.
- Students could start getting some **hands-on exposure** by observing/shadowing a licensed or registered radiology technologist in a clinical setting.
- Students should take a CPR certification course at some point. Students accepted at UMMC must have a current CPR certification at the time of registration.

**YEAR 2**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSC 250/L OR BSC 251/L</td>
<td>BSC 251/L OR BSC 250/L</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMS 111</td>
<td>4 h</td>
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<td>3 required/recommended courses</td>
<td>4 required/recommended courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-11 h</td>
<td>12-14 h</td>
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</tbody>
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It is HIGHLY recommended that students complete BSC 110/L and BSC 111/L before taking BSC 250/L and BSC 251/L (Anatomy and Physiology I and II).

The order in which students take BSC 250/L and BSC 251/L does not matter.

**Strategy for Success**

- Students continue to do well in their studies, particularly the required science and math courses.
• Students should get **hands-on exposure** by observing/shadowing a licensed or registered radiology technologist in a clinical setting.

• Students should take a CPR certification course if they have not already done so. Students accepted at UMMC must have a current CPR certification at the time of registration.

**THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

The **application process** should begin in the **fall semester** of their second year or very early in the **Spring semester** of the second year (**February 15 deadline**). The online application form is available July 1 for program starting in Fall (August) of the following year. Students apply online directly to the UMMC School of Health Related Professions:

https://myu.umc.edu/irj/portal/anonymous?NavigationTarget=ROLES%3A//portal_content/Guest/GuestViews/GuestHowToApply

• Applicants must have a minimum of 60 hours of required courses (exclusive of physical education, military science, dogmatic religion and vocation courses) from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning.

• The 60 hours of required courses do NOT have to be completed at the time of application, but they must be completed prior to enrollment in the Radiologic Sciences program that starts in the Fall (August).

• Have successfully completed (grade of C or better) the minimum prerequisite course requirements listed above.

• Applicants must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. The average GPA of those accepted into the UMMC program is 3.3 with GPA’s generally ranging from 3.0 to 4.0.

• Submit ACT scores.

• Students will also have to meet technical standards required in the field for motor skills, visual acuity, and communication ability to achieve final acceptance into the program. These standards are listed on the UMMC Radiologic Sciences admissions website:

https://www.umc.edu/shrp/Programs/Bachelor%20of%20Sciences/Entry%20Level%20Traditional%20Program/Admissions/Technical%20Standards.html

• Student applicants, if invited, must have an interview with the UMMC Radiologic Sciences Admission’s committee

Accepted students into UMMC Radiologic Sciences program must:

• Have a current CPR certification at the time of registration at UMMC in the Fall.

• Successfully complete a criminal history background check, including fingerprinting, prior to beginning clinical activities at UMMC. Applicants are advised that a felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for certification, registration, or licensure examinations.

**The Interview**

Students are advised to practice their interview skills BEFORE attending their first interview.

• You may use the online **Perfect Interview™** resource: http://www.perfectinterview.com/usm/

• Or, sign up for mock interviews through Career Services by calling 601-266-4153:

  http://www.usm.edu/career-services/about-us

• **Dress professionally** and act **professionally** at your interview.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT A CAREER IN HEALTHCARE, CONTACT THE PREPROFESSIONAL OFFICE**
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