

Medical Laboratory Science

Mount Mercy offers a four-year major leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in medical laboratory science. The first three years are spent at the institution completing rigorous curriculum requirements, core curriculum requirements, and electives to total 91 semester hours. The fourth year is spent in a 12-month internship at an affiliated hospital school of clinical laboratory science and technology approved by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). During this clinical year, a minimum of 32 hours of credit will be earned. An official transcript showing completion of the internship courses must be sent to the Registrar. Courses and grades will be evaluated and added to the student's official Mount Mercy transcript. Upon satisfactory completion of this year, the BS degree will be awarded by Mount Mercy, and the graduate should then take the National Board examination required for registration as a medical technologist by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. Admission to the medical laboratory science program at Mount Mercy does not ensure admission to the fourth year internship at the affiliated hospital. Each hospital internship program may accept or reject applicants on the basis of scholarship, health, personality, suitability for the profession, and enrollment limitations. Most hospital internship programs require a minimum science GPA of 2.50. A criminal background check is required prior to the fourth year internship. Mount Mercy is affiliated with the NAACLS-approved program of clinical laboratory science and technology of Mercy College of Health Sciences, Des Moines. Applicants who have completed a bachelor's degree which included the required science and mathematics courses may intern at any NAACLS-approved hospital school. Students will need to consent to a criminal background check prior acceptance of internship.

MLS majors should, for example, be able to: recall the fundamentals of chemistry and biology needed to work as a licensed Medical Laboratory Specialist; explain the basic safety principles in handling chemicals; and understand the key techniques of data collection.

Career Opportunities

Hospitals, clinics, and medical laboratories are prime employers of medical technologists. See the Graduate section (<http://catalog.mtmercy.edu/graduateprograms/>) of this *Catalog* for more information on Graduate programs offered at Mount Mercy.

Medical Laboratory Science Major

60 credits plus a 12-month internship program

Chemistry

CH 111	General Chemistry I	4.5
CH 112	General Chemistry II	4.5
CH 211	Organic Chemistry I	4.5
CH 212	Organic Chemistry II	4.5
CH 251	Analytical Chemistry	4.5
CH 302	Biochemistry	4.5

Total Hours 27

Biology

BI 125	Foundations of Biology & Scientific Inquiry I	3
BI 125L	Biostatistics and Scientific Investigation I	1.5
BI 126	Foundations of Biology & Scientific Inquiry II	4.5

BI 243	Immunology	3
BI 303	Genetics	4.5
or BI 370	Cell and Molecular Biology	
BI 315	General Microbiology	4.5
BI 374	Integrated Physiology	4.5

Total Hours 25.5

Math

MA 135	Basic Statistics	3
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Nursing

NU 113	Medical Terminology	1
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Philosophy

PL 269	Introduction to Ethics	3
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Academic Requirements

A grade of C or above (C- does not count) in all required courses and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 in required science courses.

The following is the typical sequence of courses required for the major*:

Freshman

Fall	Hours	Winter	Hours	Spring	Hours
BI 125		3 Domain		3 BI 126	4.5
BI 125L	1.5			CH 112	4.5
CH 111	4.5			Writing Competency	4
MA 135	3			CO 101	3
Domain	3				
	15			3	16

Sophomore

Fall	Hours	Winter	Hours	Spring	Hours
BI 374	4.5	BI 243 (or Domain)		3 BI 303 or 370	4.5
CH 211	4.5			CH 212	4.5
Domain	3			Domain	3
PL 269	3			Domain	3
	15			3	15

Junior

Fall	Hours	Winter	Hours	Spring	Hours
CH 302	4.5	BI 243 (or Domain)		3 CH 251	4.5
BI 315	4.5			Domain	3
Domain	3			Domain	3
Domain	3			ME 450	1
				NU 113	1
	15			3	12.5

Senior

Fall	Hours	Winter	Hours	Spring	Hours
Internship	13	N/A		Internship	12
	13			0	12

Total Hours: 122.5

Note: Elective courses could be used for a second major, a minor, a course of interest, internship or study abroad experience.

Note: See the Curriculum section (<http://catalog.mtmercy.edu/curriculum/#corecurriculumtext>) for more information on Portal, Competency, Domain, and Capstone courses.

***Disclaimer**

The course offerings, requirements, and policies of Mount Mercy University are under continual examination and revision. This *Catalog* presents the offerings, requirements, and policies in effect at the time of publication and in no way guarantees that the offerings, requirements, and policies will not change.

This plan of study represents a typical sequence of courses required for this major. It may not be applicable to every student. Students should contact a department faculty member to be sure of appropriate course sequence.