

Pre-Health Professions at Truman State University

September 27, 2017

Meet the Pre-Health Advisor in HES: Roberta Donahue



About Me

I graduated from high school in Connecticut and then attended the College of William and Mary in Virginia. I earned a B.A. in History and was commissioned as a U.S. Army Medical Service Corps officer. I served on active duty for five years in a variety of health administration positions in different military medical facilities. I then worked as a Department of the Army civilian for two years as a Health System Specialist before I returned to full-time student status and earned two graduate degrees in public health education. I decided I wanted to focus my efforts on helping people stay healthy and delay the onset of disability rather than trying to help them after a major medical (and financial) crisis!

Focus on Pre-Health Professions

I learned about a range of health professions in military and civilian settings while a Medical Service Corps officer and Health System Specialist, but one of the great aspects of health care is that it is always changing to meet new demands. For example, when I worked in an army community hospital we struggled to hire enough Nurse Anesthetists. We did not have the option of hiring Anesthesiologist Assistants to meet that need at that time. Now there are more options because graduate degree programs in anesthesia were created to meet the needs of patients and the health care industry. I currently advise Health and Exercise Science students who are pursuing a wide range of health care professions such as physician, physician assistant, optometrist, pharmacist, occupational therapist, physical therapist and nurse. I am also the faculty advisor for Truman's Pre-Dental Club and coordinate Truman's Still Scholars committee.

I may be reached at rdonahue@truman.edu if you have questions or call 660-785-4456 to schedule an appointment.



- * Pre-Chiropractic
- * Pre-Dental
- * Pre-Medical
- * Pre-Medical Technology
- * Pre-Occupational Therapy
- * Pre-Optometry
- * Pre-Pharmacy
- * Pre-Physical Therapy
- * Pre-Physician Assistant
- * Pre-Veterinary

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Upcoming Events & Resources

Featured Upcoming Events

Truman State Career Center's Career & Grad School Week is THIS WEEK: Monday, September 25-Friday, September 29th

There are some great events for pre-health professions students, especially Mock Interviews & the Personal Statement Writing Workshop. For more information, click [here](#).

Pharmacy School Fair (ONLINE) on Tuesday, October 3rd & Wednesday, October 4th

Representatives from many pharmacy schools will be present for this FREE event. For more information and to RSVP, click [here](#).

ATSU DO/DMD for a Day Program: Tuesday, October 3rd 8am-5pm

ATSU hosts multiple DO/DMD days in which undergraduate students can experience a typical day in the life of a DO/DMD student. The first one this fall is October 3rd. For more information and to RSVP, click [here](#). You may also see the flyer that was attached to the newsletter email.

Optometry School Fair (ONLINE) on Wednesday, October 4th

Representatives from many optometry schools will be present for this FREE event. For more information and to RSVP, click [here](#).

Volunteer Opportunity: Project Homeless Connect on Friday, October 6th

Project Homeless Connect is a one-day shop for people who are homeless or at-risk in the Kirksville/Adair County area. There are still some volunteer needs on the fundraising day, Saturday, September 30th and a LOT of volunteer needs on the actual day of PHC. For more information and to RSVP, click [here](#).

@Truman: Pre-Health Professions Presentation on Wednesday, October 11th 7-8pm in VH 1010

During this session you will learn the basics about pursuing a career in the health field! We will explore different health care careers, graduate school requirements, and build a four year and beyond plan to set you up for success! (**Pre-Health Freshman and Sophomores are strongly encouraged to attend this session**). To RSVP, click [here](#).

Important Dates & Deadlines

- **October 27th**—The last day to drop a semester-long course (with a W on your transcript & a \$50 fee).

Timelines

At this point in the school year, most pre-health professions students should be...

First Year

- Looking into pre-health organizations and other extracurricular activities that fit with your interests. See the newsletter from September 20th OR our Facebook page for a list of clubs & contacts.
- Attending professors' office hours and cultivating meaningful relationships with instructors and peers.

Second Year

- Reviewing what you learned last year. Keeping the information fresh will help you throughout your undergraduate and post-graduate education.

Third Year

- Selecting the schools you will apply to. Review each school's website, catalog, and requirements for admission. Visit each school in person, if possible.

Fourth Year

- Preparing for interviews. Do your research about each school to which you have applied. Practice questions and set up a mock interview with the Career Center in the SUB.

For more information or questions regarding your specific pre-health profession timeline, contact [Brittany Harden](#) or the pre-health advisor in your major.

Spring 2018 Courses to Consider

Have some space in your spring schedule? Looking for a course (or two) that would be beneficial to your future in health professions?

- **PHRE 350—Biomedical Ethics**
Survey of issues of biomedical ethics as presented in the papers of contemporary philosophers. Development of ability to defend, orally and in writing, a position on these issues. Knowledge of major ethical theories and development of the ability to apply them to issues of biomedical ethics. Topics covered include moral principles and ethical theories; abortion; treating or terminating: the problem of impaired infants; euthanasia; paternalism; truth telling and confidentiality; medical experimentation and informed medical consent; genetics; reproductive control; allocating scarce medical resources; and the claim to medical care.
- **HLTH 200—Medical Terminology**
Medical Terminology allows the student to develop mastery with terminology that is used in Allied Health occupations. In the process of developing mastery with medical terminology, a student has the opportunity to preview or review the fundamentals of anatomy, evaluate medical reports, and learn proper pronunciation of medical terms. The course is designed as a programmed learning and self-paced approach by body systems.
- **INDV 320—MCAT/Med School Success Seminar**
This course is a student-led course that will support students preparing for health professions admission. Course material will cover topics applicable to all pre-health students.

Did You Know?

We have overviews of all pre-health professions requirements & ideas on shadowing, volunteering, & research in Kirksville.

Visit <http://excellence.truman.edu/advising/pre-health-professions/> for more information!

We have a table with great information regarding pre-health professions, schools, admissions tests, and other pertinent information. We have test prep materials available for checkout.

The information table is located in the Kirk Building hallway, outside of the freshmen academic advising office (Kirk Building 107). To check out materials, contact [Brittany Harden](#) or make an appointment to meet with her.

We will have a table in the SUB on the first Thursday of each month from 10am-11am to answer any questions you might have.

We have an archive of all of the previous newsletters.

Click [here](#) for more information!

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For more information:
[Pre-Health Professions at Truman](#)

Meet with a pre-health advisor or the pre-health coordinator:

If you are in your second year at Truman AND majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Exercise Science, or Health Science:

- You should meet with the designated pre-health advisor in your major. Depending on the department, some major advisors have a specific pre-health profession and some are versed in multiple pre-health professions.

If you are a first-year student OR a first-semester transfer OR are majoring in anything **other** than Biology, Chemistry, Exercise Science, or Health Science:

- You should meet with Brittany Harden to help guide your preparation for health professions school. You may call 660-785-7403 or stop by the advising reception desk in Kirk Building 107 (Monday-Friday 8am-5pm) to make an appointment.