

Pharmacy Technology

Careers & Technology

Dean
TBD
Phone
(916) 691-7391
Area Office
T 108

Program Director
Joseph Gee
Program Director Phone
(916) 691-7534
Counseling
(916) 691-7316

Cooperative Work Experience
(916) 691-7372

DEGREE

A.S. – Pharmacy Technology

Program Description

The CRC Pharmacy Technology Program includes didactic, laboratory, and practicum components that are structured to facilitate the achievement of educational and career goals. Pharmacy technicians are skilled technical health workers who perform a wide variety of pharmacy related tasks under the direct supervision of a registered pharmacist. Successful completion of the program not only qualifies students for registration with the California State Board of Pharmacy but also prepares graduates for entry-level pharmacy technician positions. The program is applying for accreditation by the American Society of Health System Pharmacists.

Career Opportunities

Businesses that will make up the potential market for CRC's Pharmacy Technician graduates include hospitals; pharmacies/drug stores; grocery stores; department stores; state government; local government; and other general merchandise stores in the region. Retail pharmacies are expected to experience the largest growth in pharmacy technician jobs over the next ten years and will most likely benefit the most from a Pharmacy Technician degree program in the region.

NOTE TO TRANSFER STUDENTS

If you are interested in applying to a Pharmacy School to pursue a Pharmacy Doctorate program, it is critical that you meet with a CRC counselor to select and plan the courses required by the Pharmacy Schools. Schools vary in terms of the required preparation. The courses that CRC requires for an associate's degree in this major is different from the requirements needed for the Pharmacy Schools. Students need to acknowledge that the selection for admission to an accredited Pharmacy School is highly competitive.

DEGREE

A.S. – Pharmacy Technology

CODE #1634

Enrollment Eligibility:

To be eligible for enrollment in the program, the student must meet the following criteria:

- Pass or demonstrate competency in BUSTEC 302 (or WAM equivalent), CISC 302, MATH 100, and HSER 302
- Complete the prerequisite courses with a grade of a "C" or higher. The prerequisite courses are: PHARM 300, BIOL 100 or 102, AH 110, PHARM 310, and PHARM 320
- The American Society of Health System Pharmacists requires that all students in the program must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.

Enrollment Process:

Eligible students are selected for the program according to the following steps:

- Complete the prerequisite courses.
- Apply to the Pharmacy Technology Program in the year prior to Fall admission. Students will be notified of admission. Applications will be made available in the Careers and Technology area office.

REQUIRED PROGRAM.....Units

First Semester (Fall)

PHARM 350 Pharmaceutical Information Management	3
PHARM 360 Retail Operation of Pharmaceutical Practice	3
PHARM 380 Preparation of Pharmaceutical Products	3
PHARM 400 Pharmacy Technician Profession	1

Second Semester (Spring)

PHARM 410 Acute Care Practicum	4
PHARM 420 Retail Practicum	4
COMM 301 Introduction to Public Speaking	3 ¹
TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED	21

¹ Course may be taken anytime.

Associate Degree

The Pharmacy Technology Associate in Science (A.S.) degree may be obtained by completion of the required program, plus general education requirements, plus sufficient electives to meet a 60-unit total. See CRC graduation requirements.

PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY (PHARM)

PHARM 300 Introduction to Pharmacy Practice 3 Units

Prerequisite: None

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course introduces the concepts of direct pharmaceutical patient care and the technician's role in its delivery. Current direct patient care delivery system and medication distribution systems are emphasized. Topics include dosage calculations, the influence that medication laws, standards and regulations have on practice, and quality assurance in the pharmaceutical setting.

PHARM 310 Therapeutic Agents I 4 Units

Prerequisite: BIOL 100 and PHARM 300 with grades of "C" or better

Advisory: LIBR 318

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC ; 54 hours LAB

This course studies the anatomy and physiology of the various human body systems. Students will learn the use and side effects of prescription medications, nonprescription medications, and alternative therapies commonly used to treat diseases affecting the nervous, skeletal, muscular, immune, dermatological, and hematologic system. This course covers brand and generic names of the therapeutic agents studied, standard pronunciation, dosage forms, routes of administration, medical abbreviation and the role of the Food and Drug Administration in herbal and dietary supplements. The laboratory activities are designed to provide hands-on experiences in pharmacy calculation and compounding medications related to the various body systems.

PHARM 320 Therapeutic Agents II 4 Units

Prerequisite: BIOL 100 and PHARM 300 with grades of "C" or better

Advisory: LIBR 318

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC ; 54 hours LAB

This course studies the anatomy and physiology of the various human body systems. Students will learn the use and side effects of prescription medications, nonprescription medications, and alternative therapies commonly used to treat diseases affecting the cardiovascular, respiratory, reproductive, gastrointestinal, renal system as well as the eye, ear, nose and throat. This course covers brand and generic names of the therapeutic agents studied, standard pronunciation, dosage forms, routes of administration, medical abbreviation and the role of the Food and Drug Administration in herbal and dietary supplements. The laboratory activities are designed to provide hands-on experiences in pharmacy calculation and compounding medications related to the various body systems.

PHARM 350 Pharmaceutical Information Management 3 Units

Prerequisite: PHARM 300 with a grade of "C" or better

Advisory: LIBR 318

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 45 hours LEC ; 27 hours LAB

This course reviews how state laws and regulations determine the activities associated with the collection of patient-specific information by the pharmacy technician. Students learn to secure information from the medical chart, record, patient profile, patient, caregiver, database and health care professional. Technologies used for storing, accessing and recording pharmacy data and proper methods for receiving and authenticating prescription orders are emphasized. Students will also learn safety in medication use and monitoring program of medication therapy and the pharmacy technician's role in the prevention and reporting of medication misadventures. The lab provides hands-on experience with pharmacy distribution software, technology, and prescription processing.

PHARM 360 Retail Operation of Pharmaceutical Practice 3 Units

Prerequisite: PHARM 300 with a grade of "C" or better

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 45 hours LEC ; 27 hours LAB

This course reviews the process of pharmaceutical purchasing and acquisitions in the retail settings and in emergency situations. Students will learn inventory control including handling of receipts, storage, removal, and documentation. Other topics include: methods of distribution with emphasis on computer database maintenance and the state laws that govern these activities, billing, collection of payment, third-party payment, and the technician's role in the assisting the PharmD in immunization administration. The lab will provide hands-on experience in a simulated retail environment.

PHARM 380 Preparation of Pharmaceutical Products 3 Units

Prerequisite: PHARM 300 with a grade of "C" or better

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 27 hours LEC ; 81 hours LAB

This course presents the methods of preparing non-compounded, compounded, non-sterile, and sterile products for distribution. Students will learn the state laws and regulations that determine the role of a pharmacy technician in measuring, preparing, packaging, and storing of medications. Medication preparation, profiling, calculation, measuring, safety, labeling and quality assurance procedures will be emphasized.

PHARM 400 Pharmacy Technician Profession 1 Unit

Prerequisite: PHARM 310 and 320 with grades of "C" or better

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 18 hours LEC

This course prepares the student for employment as a pharmacy technician. Students learn the scope of practice of a pharmacy technician. Students will also learn professional ethics, attitudes, values, and beliefs of successful pharmacy technicians. Emphasis is placed on projecting an image appropriate to the profession and effective interpersonal relationships with other health care professionals and the appreciation for certification and active involvement in local, state, and national technician organizations.

PHARM 410**Acute Care Practicum****4 Units***Prerequisite: PHARM 400 with a grade of "C" or better**Course Transferable to CSU**Hours: 216 hours LAB*

This course develops practical skills in the didactic and practicum phases of pharmacy technician training in the acute and home care environment. Acute care includes hospital and/or long-term care facilities. Home care includes exposure to infusion therapy. The clinical experience is performed under professional supervision. A preceptor (PharmD or Certified Pharmacy Technician) evaluates the student's performance at the site. Students will directly interact with clients and other health care professionals. Students must have a TB clearance and any other immunization required by the clinical facility. Students must have an established Agency Agreement on file with the faculty with a sponsoring site prior to the beginning of the first day of class. Contact the Careers and Technology Main Office for information about the Agency Agreement.

PHARM 420**Retail Practicum****4 Units***Prerequisite: PHARM 400 with a grade of "C" or better**Course Transferable to CSU**Hours: 216 hours LAB*

This course develops the practical skills for pharmacy technicians in a community/retail environment. The clinical experience is performed under professional supervision. A preceptor (PharmD or Certified Pharm Tech) evaluates the student's performance at the site. Students will directly interact with clients and other health care professionals. Students must have a TB clearance and any other immunization required by the clinical facility. Students must have an established Agency Agreement with a sponsoring site prior on file with the faculty to the beginning of the first day of class. Contact the Careers and Technology Main Office for information about the Agency Agreement.