



# **Welcome to Science in the Evening University of Maryland**

***Director: Dr. Joelle Presson, Ph.D, Assistant Dean.  
College of Computer, Mathematics, & Natural Sciences***



# What we will do tonight

- Sign in sheet- serves as advising if you are ready to register
- Introductions
- Overview of program
- Courses and schedules
- Career goals
- Expectations of students
- Your questions- please ask, someone else wants to know the answer
- Special discussion for pre-meds re MCAT<sub>2015</sub>
- **If you want follow up with me please make advising appointment, not conversation tonight**



# Introductions

- Who are you?
- SIE Director and academic advisor
  - Dr. Presson, Assistant Dean CMNS
  - Advising apt link is on SIE website [sie.umd.edu](http://sie.umd.edu)
  - Email [jpresson@umd.edu](mailto:jpresson@umd.edu)

**Schedule an Appointment**



- General Information

- **[sie.umd.edu](http://sie.umd.edu)**
- **CMNS Undergraduate Academic Programs Office**
  - Elaine Shaw-Taylor Coordinator
    - **301-405-6892**
    - **1322 Symons Hall**

- Admissions, Registration, Billing

- email [sie-oes@umd.edu](mailto:sie-oes@umd.edu)

- Health Professions Advising Office

- [Prehealth.umd.edu](http://Prehealth.umd.edu)
- Support for SIE medical and dental school applications with 24 UMD science credits semester of application



# Nature of program

- Started 1996
- Part-time evening, you take what you need and have pre-reqs for
  - **Courses and program follow UMD curricula, rules, schedules**
  - **Students are UMD part-time, non-degree seeking**
- SIE courses are UMD science courses
  - **Same courses as taken by undergraduate UMD prehealth students**
  - **SIE is NOT accelerated- the full curriculum for medical or dental school takes five academic semesters plus one summer**
  - **Sections reserved for SIE students– small**
  - **Carries reputation of UMCP undergrad courses and curriculum- UMD transcript**
- Most students in SIE are interested in health professions, so we offer courses related to these interests
  - **But, we serve students with a wide range of career goals.**
- Course staffing
  - **Faculty are UMD instructors & adjuncts.**
  - **TA's are usually undergraduate degree seeking science majors**
- Cost
  - **in-state per credit tuition rate plus pro-rated fees**



# Admission to SIE, provisional

- A Bachelor's degree from accredited university, official transcript required
- GPA 2.5
- Non-degree seeking status
  
- International students.. difficult
  - SIE will accept foreign credits as pre-requisites
  - Many professional programs do not accept foreign credits as pre-reqs
  - Many professional schools do not accept non-citizens / non residents at all



# Admission to SIE, final ... math

- Science courses at UMD require a high degree of math proficiency – ready to take calculus
  - **Arithmetic**
  - **Exponents**
  - **logs**
  - **graphs**
  - **Algebra**
  - **trig**
- By UMD policy Math preparation is measured by the math placement exam
  - MPE is taken after conditional acceptance to SIE



# SIE courses

- All courses in the evening– four nights a week–
  - you can take two courses a semester
- undergrad Biology, Chem / Biochem, Physics courses
  - Recommended courses maximize MCAT and DAT performance and competitiveness for admission
- Basic courses offered every semester
  - **Bio1, general micro, Cell biology**
  - **gen chem 1 & 2, orgo 1 & 2, biochem,**
  - **phys 1 & 2**
- Other courses offered once a year
  - **Bio2, Genetics, Physiology, immunology, special topics**
  - **Some course we DON'T offer**
    - English, math, soc science
- All course pre-reqs must be met before registration



# Typical schedule

- Part time, cannot do SIE full time
  - Even if you could do full time it would not shorten time to complete the full course sequence given the pre-requisites
- Two courses a semester
  - **CHEM course MW**
  - **BSCI course TuTh**
  - **PHYS often taken in summer**
- For medical and dental
  - **Optimal preparation to take tests and apply --3 years of course work**
  - **MCAT and DAT are critical and cannot be rushed**
- **Typical program of study**
  - **On SIE website for medical and dental**
  - **Other health related programs on prehealth.umd.edu**
  - **For other programs consult Dr. Presson**

Plan 1. Optimal preparation for MCAT with coursework starting any Fall semester			
Semester	#	Courses	
Fall	1	BSCI170 & 171 Principles of Cellular and Molecular Biology	CHEM131/132 Gen Chem 1
Spring	2	BSCI222 Genetics	CHEM231/232 Orgo 1
Summer Term	3	PHYS121	PHYS122
Fall	4	BSCI223 General Microbiology	CHEM241/242 Orgo 2
Spring	5	CHEM271/272 Gen Chem 2	BSCI330 Cell Biology
Fall	6	BSCI Scientific Readings or other upper level BSCI	BCHM463 Biochem
Spring	7	BSCI440 Physiology Prepare for MCAT; Consider the <i>UMD MCAT Preparation Program</i> May take MCAT; June Apply	STAT464 Biostat;
Glide year	8	Consult with Dr. Presson; take courses to improve academic record.	





# What classes should you start with?

- First semester if you have NO undergraduate science courses- for almost all career paths
  - **BSCI70/171**
  - **CHEM131/132**
- If you have already taken science courses
  - **Start in a place to ensure success**
  - **If you have C's in past courses, should retake before moving on to the next course.**
  - **We do NOT recommend taking a course if you had the pre-req more than 3 years ago. Retake the pre-req.**
    - **We will enforce this for chemistry courses**
  - **If you are uncertain about where to start make an apt to talk with Dr. Presson**



# Day, summer, winter available to SIE studies... with restrictions

- SIE students must register for at least one SIE course in each semester at UMD to remain in program
  - **You can take semesters fully off, but if you are registered at UMD you must have at least 1 SIE course to remain in the program**
- Day courses
  - **SIE students can register first day of classes**
- Summer
  - **open registration to all students, but few courses in the evening**
  - **PHYS1, 2 offered in summer in evening are are manageable**
  - **Few biology courses in summer, and all meet during the day**
  - **I do NOT recommend chemistry in summer**
- Winter
  - **usually misc upper level biology & online genetics**
- Day, summer, winter do NOT carry in state tuition for out of state students



**Is SIE right for you?**



## SIE is ideal for students who:

- **Are career changers and need all of the course pre-requisites for their graduate or professional school program**
- **have taken some courses but not all of them and need a flexible program to take just the courses they need**
- **have completed most lower level pre-requisite courses and wish to take upper level biology courses**
- **work while taking courses**
  - **No more than 40 hrs / week**
  - **No travel, taking work home etc**

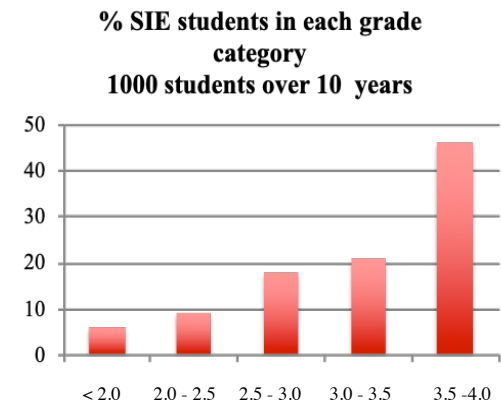
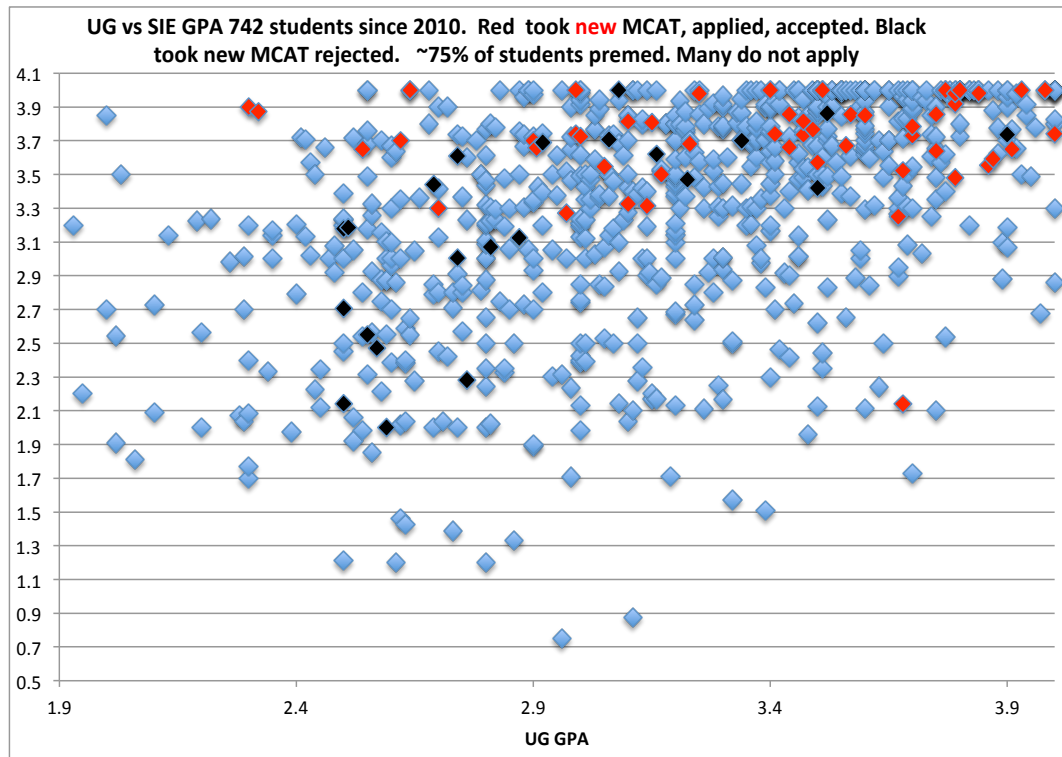


# **SIE is not as useful for students who:**

- Have taken many science courses and are looking to increase their GPA by repeating courses. These students can enroll in SIE but.....
  - **A GPA based on 120 or so undergrad credits is hard to raise**
  - **SIE students typically do better in SIE than they did as undergrads, but often not good enough**
  - **Professional schools sometimes not impressed by repeated courses**

# How successful will you be in SIE courses?

- It depends on you
- SIE sciences courses are hard, have high expectations
- Only about 15 - 20% of SIE students apply to med / dent each year thru UMD. These tend to have high GPAs & test score
- Those that don't apply are taking only one course or two in SIE Or did not get the grades they hoped for
- About 60 – 70% of those that apply are accepted each year





# Is this the right time for you to start the program?

- Other commitments
  - **Job**
  - **family**
- Financial situation
- Academic preparation



# Advising resources

- SIE.umd.edu
  - Plans of study for pre-med, pre-dent
  - Advice for mcats preparation
- General academic advising- Dr. Presson
  - Pre-health, pre-vet, grad school, others
  - **Apts by link on SIE advising webpage**
- When you are ready to apply to professional school- Health Professions Advising Office
  - **HPAO- has restrictions on who it will serve. Check SIE or prehealth website, or Dr. Presson.**
  - **Prehealth.umd.edu**





# Rules, regulations

- Runs by same rules as all UMD programs
- Things like repeats, drops, adds, withdrawals all dictated by UMD rules
- Exceptions to policy petitioned by same rules that govern all UMD students
- Courses same as those taken by degree seeking students, same rules, same content



# expectations of students

- **Courses are UMCP CMNS undergraduate courses**
- **Expect to be treated like you are 19**
  - **Follow the rules**
  - **Pay attention to the expectations**
  - **Respect your instructors and TAs**
  - **Be mindful of academic integrity**
- **The best predictor of success is class attendance**
  - **Don't miss class**
  - **Don't come late**
  - **Don't expect special treatment "because I work"**
    - med schools will not honor and respect our courses if we make exceptions to the standard undergrad standards rules



# More expectations.. grading

- **Grading is determined by faculty, just like it was when you were an undergrad**
  - **Don't expect a better grade than you earned because "you worked so hard"**
  - **or because your grade will keep you out of med school.. Or..**
  - **Don't expect me to override faculty grading. I cannot do that in our day program and cannot do it in SIE.**
- **SIE courses are challenging, difficult**
  - **But you can be successful**



# Academic honesty

- DO NOT CHEAT
- All work handed in for credit must be done by the student
- Not copied from any other source
- In students own words, paraphrased, not quoted
- Referenced when appropriate
- All cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be handled by the UM Student Judicial Review Office



# Money issues & rules tuition, dates, etc [oes.umd.edu](http://oes.umd.edu)

- SIE courses carry in state tuition
  - Part-time per credit charge at UM MD in-state rate
  - Out of state applies for summer, daytime, winter
- No financial aid
  - Terp payment plan: <http://www.umd.edu/bursar/TPP.html>
- SIE Program follows all UM Undergraduate policies
  - [Testudo.umd.edu](http://Testudo.umd.edu)
  - E.g. drop add period, Drop with a W date, repeat policy
  - Exceptions to policy request go thru the CMNS Students Services Office in 1300 Symons Hall.
- SIE has special rules for paying tuition. Consult website and keep track of emails



# General questions about program

**If you want a one on one apt with Dr. Presson use link on  
[SIE.umd.edu](http://SIE.umd.edu)**



**Information for  
pre-med and pre-dent students**



# The application cycle, medical and dental school

- Take courses- all recommended not just those “required”
- Take MCAT or DAT in late may or early june
- Apply through central portal june
- Do secondaries over summer
- Glide year, sept through may
  - **Interviews and acceptances sept through april**





# MCAT, DAT, application

- Only time to take MCAT or DAT- may - june
- Only one time to apply – june
- don' t *plan* to apply later in summer
- MCAT tends to be conceptual, DAT tends to be fact oriented
- Practice, practice, practice
  - **Should you pay for a prep course?**



# The glide year

- ASSUME you will have to apply again
  - Take more courses
  - Get more relevant experience
- Correct any weaknesses



# **Success factors for professional**

- Grades, Grades, and did I say Grades?
- Test scores
- Passion for your chosen field
- Relevant experience
- Community service
- A pleasant, congenial presence
- Being special



# Selling yourself

- Why the change in career? Does it make sense?
- Your motivations for your new field
  - **The role of personal experience with your new field**
    - Good and bad
  - **Critics of the health care system- but not too strongly**
- Your accomplishments in your current field- how to think about it relative to medicine
- Making up for past mistakes
  - **Rule of thumb- two solid years of mostly A work in rigorous science courses**



# Med school and MCAT<sub>2015</sub>



# **SIE considerations in acceptance to med school**

- Undergrad GPA
- Foreign undergrad
- Need SIE GPA 3.5 or higher
- The more SIE credits the better, especially if low undergrad GPA
- Need MCAT score 505 or higher, the higher the better



# the new medical school landscape

## ■ **MCAT<sub>2015</sub>**

### □ **First offered January 2015**

- Based on HHMI Scientific Foundations for Future Physicians & input from medical school faculty

### □ **Broader and more integrative**

### □ **Passages test ability to read and interpret scientific studies**

### □ **More topics in biology**

### □ **Biochemistry, statistics, and experimental design Physics and chemistry passages often in life sciences context**

### □ **Social science section**

- Includes neurobiology, biological basis of behavior

### □ **Normalized scores**



# **SIE MCAT information session**

- This Saturday
- 2pm -5pm
- 0200 Symons Hall





# the new medical school landscape

## ■ Admissions requirements for matriculation Fall 2017 and beyond

- Emerging slowly
- May be move away from specific course requirements
- But at the same time more courses are needed to do well on mcat
- Many schools want biochem & genetics
- Use MSAR
  - <https://apps.aamc.org/msar-ui/#/landing>



# the new medical school landscape

- AAMC best place for everything about medical school admission
  - **Aamc.org**
  - **<https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/taking-mcat-exam>**
  - **<https://www.aamc.org/data/facts/>**

Acceptance Rate for Applicants		Total MCAT Scores									All Applicants	
		Less than 486	486-489	490-493	494-497	498-501	502-505	506-509	510-513	514-517		Greater than 517
<b>Total GPA</b>												
Greater than 3.79	Acceptees	3	7	40	204	668	1,782	3,207	4,156	3,971	4,213	18,251
	Applicants	107	217	482	1,061	2,141	3,500	5,009	5,492	4,772	4,743	27,524
	Acceptance rate %	2.8	3.2	8.3	19.2	31.2	50.9	64.0	75.7	83.2	88.8	66.3
3.60-3.79	Acceptees	0	6	40	221	707	1,520	2,538	3,014	2,209	1,478	11,733
	Applicants	250	416	884	1,692	2,869	4,177	4,929	4,549	2,944	1,774	24,484
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	1.4	4.5	13.1	24.6	36.4	51.5	66.3	75.0	83.3	47.9
3.40-3.59	Acceptees	5	7	41	190	510	939	1,359	1,475	979	565	6,070
	Applicants	382	577	1,108	1,865	2,691	3,366	3,554	2,835	1,559	791	18,728
	Acceptance rate %	1.3	1.2	3.7	10.2	19.0	27.9	38.2	52.0	62.8	71.4	32.4
3.20-3.39	Acceptees	1	2	26	118	290	471	584	556	347	158	2,553
	Applicants	455	559	1,001	1,483	1,864	2,138	1,919	1,383	695	273	11,770
	Acceptance rate %	0.2	0.4	2.6	8.0	15.6	22.0	30.4	40.2	49.9	57.9	21.7
3.00-3.19	Acceptees	1	5	13	62	136	223	237	228	103	57	1,065
	Applicants	499	515	710	959	1,070	1,034	908	650	245	123	6,713
	Acceptance rate %	0.2	1.0	1.8	6.5	12.7	21.6	26.1	35.1	42.0	46.3	15.9
2.80-2.99	Acceptees	3	2	9	23	37	75	76	48	31	14	318
	Applicants	459	367	439	481	504	462	361	190	110	36	3,409
	Acceptance rate %	0.7	0.5	2.1	4.8	7.3	16.2	21.1	25.3	28.2	38.9	9.3
2.60-2.79	Acceptees	0	2	1	10	22	31	17	11	18	-	117
	Applicants	306	212	278	254	257	175	124	69	42	-	1,726
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	0.9	0.4	3.9	8.6	17.7	13.7	15.9	42.9	-	6.8
2.40-2.59	Acceptees	0	1	2	5	3	11	10	8	3	-	45
	Applicants	229	120	122	124	87	63	39	30	10	-	830
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	0.8	1.6	4.0	3.4	17.5	25.6	26.7	30.0	-	5.4
2.20-2.39	Acceptees	0	0	0	1	4	6	2	2	-	-	19
	Applicants	126	67	55	37	34	26	21	14	-	-	387
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	11.8	23.1	9.5	14.3	-	-	4.9
2.00-2.19	Acceptees	0	0	1	0	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
	Applicants	76	22	20	18	-	11	-	-	-	-	159
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	-	9.1	-	-	-	-	1.3
Less than 2.00	Acceptees	0	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Applicants	38	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
	Acceptance rate %	0.0	-	10.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.5
All Applicants	Acceptees	13	32	174	834	2,377	5,059	8,030	9,498	7,663	6,494	40,174
	Applicants	2,927	3,081	5,109	7,981	11,522	14,953	16,868	15,217	10,381	7,758	95,797
	Acceptance rate %	0.4	1.0	3.4	10.4	20.6	33.8	47.6	62.4	73.8	83.7	41.9



# UMD SIE data on MCAT vs admissions

New MCAT- about 75 SIE students have taken- out of about 300 premeds in that time

Students took between 7 and 50 SIE credits

About 60% of those were accepted

Score on MCAT depends on mastery in courses- which is reflected in grades

MCAT score	% acceptance
< 500	0
500 -- 505	46
505 - 510	72
511- 515	60
516 - 523	85

