

AMCAS Course Classification

Each course must be assigned a course classification based strictly on the primary content of the course. The course classifications listed in the Course Classification Guide appear in **boldface type** and are titled as they appear in the course classification drop-down list. The items beneath each boldface heading are examples of courses for which you should select that bolded course classification. You are responsible for selecting the correct course classification, but AMCAS reserves the right to change classifications if the assigned classification clearly does not apply.

If you disagree with a change that AMCAS has made to a course classification, you may submit an **Academic Change Request**. Applications are not returned for incorrect course classifications.

AMCAS is not responsible for incorrect GPA calculations resulting from incorrect course classifications. In the event that you are unable to classify a course satisfactorily, AMCAS suggests that you refer to the description of the course on the relevant school's website.

AMCAS uses course classifications to calculate your GPAs. Classifications that are highlighted in the BCPM group indicate that such courses will be included in the calculations of your BCPM GPA, which comprises biology, chemistry, physics, and math courses. Classifications not grouped in BCPM indicate courses that will be included in the calculation on your AO (all other) GPA.

The department offering the course is typically not a factor in the course classification. For example, a course should be classified as biology if the primary content is biology, regardless of the department that offers the course.

See next page for more details

Association of American Medical Colleges

Course Classification Guide

The following guide provides examples of how courses are often categorized. Please select course classifications based on the primary content of the course. Biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics grades are used to calculate the AMCAS BCPM GPA.

In the case of interdisciplinary courses in which two or more subject matters are combined into one course, refer to the description of the course on your school's website or consult with your prehealth advisor to choose the most appropriate course classification.

Biology (BIOL)	Business (BUSI)	Fine Arts (ARTS)	History (HIST)
Anatomy	Accounting	Art	History
Biology	Finance	Art History	
Biophysics	Human Resources Studies	Dance	Natural and Physical Sciences (NPSC)
Biotechnology	Management	Fine Arts	Agriculture
Botany	Marketing	Music	Animal and Avian Sciences
Cell Biology	Organizational Studies	Photography	Environmental Science and Policy
Ecology		Theatre	Forestry
Entomology	Communications (COMM)		Geography
Genetics	Journalism	Foreign Languages, Linguistics, and Literature (FLAN)	Geology
Histology	Media Production and Studies	American Sign Language	Horticulture
Immunology	TV, Video, and Audio	Comparative Literature	Landscape Architecture
Microbiology		Foreign Language(s) and Literature	Meteorology
Molecular Biology	Computer Science and Technology (COMP)	Linguistics	Natural Resources
Neuroscience	Computer Engineering		Oceanography
Physiology	Computer Science	Government, Political Science, and Law (GOVT)	Other (OTHR)
Zoology	Information Systems	Criminology and Criminal Justice	(all courses that do not fit appropriately in another classification)
	Telecommunications	Government	Architecture
Chemistry (CHEM)	Education (EDUC)	International Relations and Studies	Library Science
Biochemistry	Counseling and Personnel Services	Law/Legal Studies	Military Science
Chemistry	Curriculum and Instruction	Political Science	(tennis, golf, aerobics, etc.)
Physical Chemistry	Educational Administration	Public Affairs and Policy	
Thermodynamics	Educational Policy	Urban Policy and Planning	Philosophy and Religion (PHIL)
	Health Education		Ethics
Physics (PHYS)	Human Development	Health Sciences (HEAL)	Logic
Astronomy	Physical Education (except for sports courses)	Allied Health	Philosophy
Physics	Special Education	Chiropractic	Religion
		Dentistry	Theology
Mathematics (MATH)	Engineering (ENGI)	Hearing and Speech Studies	
Applied Mathematics	Aerospace Engineering	Hospital Administration	Special Studies (SSTU)
Biostatistics	Biomedical Engineering	Kinesiology	Afro-American Studies
Mathematics	Chemical Engineering	Nursing	American Studies
Statistics	Civil Engineering	Nutrition	Gender Studies
	Electrical Engineering	Occupational Therapy	
Behavioral and Social Sciences (BESS)	Environmental Engineering	Optometry	
Anthropology	Nuclear Engineering	Osteopathy	
Economics		Physical Therapy	
Family Studies	English Language and Literature (ENGL)	Physician Assistant	
Psychology	Composition and Rhetoric	Public Health	
Sociology	Creative Writing	Pharmacology and Pharmacy	
	Literature	Sports Medicine	
		Veterinary Medicine	