**UW Oshkosh Rad Sci Major FAQs**
*By Dana Merriman, Feb 2015*

### Majors & degrees

- **Can anyone declare the Rad Sci major, or is there a selection process?** Anyone may declare the Rad Sci major, but there is a selection process. Declaring the major doesn’t guarantee you can complete it.
  - Students with certain criminal or academic misconduct episodes on their record will never be able to finish the major. UWO makes it the student’s responsibility to figure out if that’s their situation, working with [www.art.org/ethics/](http://www.art.org/ethics/)
  - Only those students who are admitted to a hospital program (generally for Junior year) have the chance to complete the major.

- **How can I find out more about this major?** Watch the podcasts at [www.uwosh.edu/biology/undergraduate-program/majors-and-emphases/radiologic-science-major](http://www.uwosh.edu/biology/undergraduate-program/majors-and-emphases/radiologic-science-major)

- **Is there a Rad Sci Department at UW Oshkosh?** No. The Rad Sci degree is offered by UWO’s Biology Department.

- **How do I declare this major?** Fill out a “COLS Change of Major/Minor” form at the UARC (Student Success Center Room 202).

- **How do I change to-or-from this major?** Fill out a “COLS Change of Major/Minor” form at the UARC (Student Success Center Room 202).

- **I have a minor that I don’t want any more. How do I drop it?** Fill out a “COLS Change of Major/Minor” form at the UARC (Student Success Center Room 202).

- **How do I apply to get my Associate’s degree on my transcript?** [www.uwosh.edu/registrar/graduation/application-for-graduation](http://www.uwosh.edu/registrar/graduation/application-for-graduation) Ideally do this the semester before you complete the AAS requirements. Most Rad Sci majors complete the AAS Course list during their 4th or 5th semester at UWO. Be sure to check the “COLS Associate Degree” box and to list your Radiologic Science major on the form.

- **How do I apply to graduate with my Bachelor’s degree?** [www.uwosh.edu/registrar/graduation/application-for-graduation](http://www.uwosh.edu/registrar/graduation/application-for-graduation) Ideally do this the semester before you take the Registry.

- **How do I arrange to march in Commencement for my Bachelor’s degree?** [www.uwosh.edu/registrar/graduation/graduation-1](http://www.uwosh.edu/registrar/graduation/graduation-1)

### Transferring to UWO for Rad Sci

- **I’m thinking about transferring to UWO for the Rad Sci major. Which of my classes will count?** Until you are actually admitted to UWO, it’s not possible to be 100% sure, but if you are transferring to UWO from another program in the State of WI System, we can get very close. First, download a copy of the BSRS Course list. Then, go to [www.uwsa.edu/tis/](http://www.uwsa.edu/tis/) and do a “Wizard” for each of your classes from prior or current college/university. Whenever you find a class that is equal to a UWO course, write it in on the BSRS Course list sheet next to the appropriate UWO course. This gives us a pretty good idea of where you’d stand on entry to UWO.

- **I’m transferring to UWO. What is this USP thing?** [www.uwosh.edu/usp/transfer-students](http://www.uwosh.edu/usp/transfer-students)
Classes & registering

- **It’s really important for me to get done with my Bachelor’s degree on the 2+2 schedule. How do I make that happen?**
  - See the sample 2+2 schedule embedded in the advising podcasts and try to follow it.
  - Register for classes on TitanWeb the very first moment you are able to (your registration day/time is on your STAR).
  - Plan to complete at least 16 credits per Fall or Spring semester. Spread them out using Interims to protect your GPA.
  - Take one “Gen Ed” course per Interim (3 week accelerated session; no extra tuition).
  - Plan to take at least 4 credits during the summer session between Freshman and Sophomore year. Extra tuition applies but worth it if it saves you a year.
  - Be prepared to work very hard and to limit your extracurricular obligations so that you can protect your GPA. Don’t get such low grades that you have to repeat a class, because that will make a 2+2 impossible to follow.

- **How do I register for Medical Terminology when I’m not a Kinesiology major?** Since you are not a Kinesiology major, you will not be able to register for Kin 170 on your regular date shown on your STAR. Registration for Rad Sci majors will instead open as follows: On Dec 1 (for Spring class), On May 1 (for Fall class), and on Feb 25 (for Summer class).
  - If Kin 170 fills before you get a chance to register, TitanWeb will offer you a chance to sign up on a wait list. GET ON THE WAIT LIST. The Kinesiology Department checks the wait lists once per week. At that time, if a seat is open, Kinesiology will email the top student on the wait list and offer the seat. The student is then given a few days to enroll in the class or turn down the seat. As the beginning of the semester approaches, they check the enrollments more often and in the week before and the first week of class they check the wait list nearly every day.
  - Hint: take Kin 1708 before Bio 211 Anatomy. That way you know the language ahead of time.

- **How do I register for Chem 101 when I’m not a Nursing major?** Visit the Chemistry Department in Halsey 432 or phone 424-1400. Be ready to provide the class number you need (lecture and lab) and your TitanID number.

- **What do I do if a class I need to take is full?** Visit or phone the Main Office of the Department that is offering the class. Explain your situation. Ask:
  - Is there a waiting list? (If so, may I please be added to it?)
  - Do you think it’s possible another section may open up? (If so, when will you know?)
  - Will you be doing any administrative drops that will open up seats on TitanWeb? (If so, when will you be doing that?)

- **What are good summer session classes?** Bio 105, Bio 211, and Bio 212 (Intro Bio, Anatomy, and Physiology). Kin 170 (Medical Terminology). Any of your “Gen Eds” (Quest, HU, SS).

- **How do I repeat a class?** [www.uwosh.edu/registrar/policies/the-repeat-policy](http://www.uwosh.edu/registrar/policies/the-repeat-policy)

- **I need more credits. Beyond the BSRS course list, what are some good classes to take?** Since Rad Sci is an anatomy-based career, you can’t go wrong with more anatomy. Consider Anthro 300 Human Osteology (3 cr, Fall only, counts as SS Gen Ed), which is essentially forensic anatomy (figuring out cause of death from skeletal remains). Or Bio 308 Comparative Anatomy (5 cr, Spring only, has lab). Additional Psych helps, as does any bilinguality (Spanish or Hmong, in WI).

Advising

- **How can I decide if this major is right for me?**
  - Certain criminal or academic misconduct (cheating) episodes on your record make you ineligible for this career. See [www.arrt.org/ethics/](http://www.arrt.org/ethics/).
You must be comfortable, confident, and reassuring while touching patients who may be uncooperative, frightened, sick, injured, in pain, unconscious, young, old, and/or not in control of their body functions.

You must tolerate all body fluids well.

You must be comfortable operating computer-assisted instrumentation.

You must have no substance abuse problems (even smoking/vaping can be an issue).

All good so far? See www.asrt.org for more information.

Make an appointment at Career Services www.uwosh.edu/career/

What is the UARC? www.uwosh.edu/advising Student Success Center Room 202

Who is the Rad Sci academic adviser at the UARC? Ms. Michele Schlinsog

How do I make an appointment with Ms. Schlinsog? www.uwosh.edu/advising/contact-us/

Who is my Rad Sci faculty adviser? Dr. Dana Merriman, Biology Department

How do I make an appointment with Dr. Merriman? Sign up on the sheet taped to her office door, Halsey 249. She often books up a week in advance. If you can’t get a slot, feel free to email her at merrimad@uwosh.edu to start the conversation.

What is some advice for getting the best GPA I can? Treat college as an 8am-5pm, Mon-Fri job (put in the time & effort). Get 8 hours of sound uninterrupted sleep every night. Get a flu shot. The first moment you struggle in a class, immediately seek help from the instructor at office hours, and attend tutoring and/or SI. At any hint of a general problem with your reading or study skills or test anxiety, get help at the CAR (www.uwosh.edu/car/). If you feel anxious, depressed, or stressed out by college, get help at the Counseling Center (www.uwosh.edu/couns_center/). Taking Anthro 202 and/or Kin 170 before Bio 211 Human Anatomy can help your Anatomy grade.

Applying to the Hospital programs

All UW Oshkosh students applying to a hospital program must notify Dr. Merriman including a list of those hospitals to which they will apply! This includes re-application after not getting in the first year.

What are the application procedures? Each hospital is different and can change year to year. See the hospital websites for instructions.

When do I apply? There is only one application cycle per year, during UWO’s Fall semester. Deadlines range from November – February depending on the hospital.

Which hospital programs are open to me? To earn your BSRS degree from UW Oshkosh, you must go through one of our affiliate hospitals. The current list of affiliates is reviewed and revised each year and is in Podcast 1 at http://www.uwosh.edu/biology/undergraduate-program/majors-and-emphases/radiologic-science-major.

If you are satisfied with just an Associate degree to go with your RT(R) credential, after earning your UWO AAS degree, you may go through any JRCERT-accredited hospital program. To identify these:

- Go to www.jrcert.org
- Click on Find A Program
- Click on Accredited Programs
- Select Type of Program: Radiography
- Select Degree/Certificate: Certificate
- Select State (if desired)

I’m interested in a hospital that’s not on UWO’s list. Am I just out of luck? Not at all. Notify Dr. Merriman ASAP and she will contact the hospital to see if they are open to affiliation with UWO. The paperwork to set up a new affiliation takes a couple of months, at least, so the sooner you inform Dr. Merriman of your interest, the better.
How do I know if I’m ready to apply? As soon as you declare the Rad Sci major, get yourself a copy of the “Ready to Apply?” Check-sheet from the Rad Sci Major website and start working on it.

I don’t have a CNA and/or experience caring for patients. Can I still apply? Check the application requirements of the hospitals to be sure. Be warned that even when a CNA and job experience using its skill set are not technically “required”, they add so many points to your application that they are really worth attaining.

When will I know if I’m in, or not? Admission letters are sent out by the hospitals anywhere from February through April. Bear in mind that applicants on the “alternate” list may get in, just a little later. In 2014, one UW Oshkosh student was admitted in August, just 3 weeks before the hospital program began!

Admitted to the Hospital Program

I’m admitted and I’m going! Now what?
- Notify Dr. Merriman immediately. She will contact UW Oshkosh Financial Aid to see if your award for next year needs to be adjusted.
- Follow any instructions given in the admission letter (e.g. for background checks, drug screens, vaccinations, orientations, etc.).

Will I need a physical before I start? Possibly, and proof of vaccinations for sure. Your hospital’s website, student handbook, and/or admission letter will let you know. You should expect a criminal background check and a drug screen.

How do I find housing for my 2 years at the hospital program? Dr. Merriman will know if there are any UWO students already at your hospital program, and can put you in touch. The hospital program itself may offer housing referrals.

Graduating with my BSRS and RT(R)

How do I get credit for passing the Registry and completing my BS degree requirements? When you know the date you will take the Registry exam, email this information to Dr. Merriman. That lets her enroll you in Bio 410 RT Registry (0 credits) for the current semester. Passing the Registry = passing Bio 410. The ARRT webpage (www.arrt.org) has an open access “Verify Credentials” search function, so Dr. Merriman will just look you up by name. Note: Any delay in notifying Dr. Merriman of your Registry exam date will delay your degree completion date.

Can I march in Commencement? Absolutely, but you must fill out a form the semester prior to the ceremony in which you will march. See www.uwosh.edu/commencement

What will my diploma say? It will display your Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Science. Your RT(R) credential is not University-based, so it will not appear on your diploma.