

# Pre-Professional Advising

Undergraduate  
and Graduate

Pre-professional studies define the intentions, not the majors, of our students who plan to attend professional school after undergraduate or graduate work. Our advisors are here for you from the beginning. They help you choose the right classes and explore the right schools, and, ultimately, prepare you for those tough entrance exams.

## ADVANTAGE UIS

- **Advising.** You have to graduate from UIS first, so you'll have an academic advisor who will become a friend and trusted resource during your years here. In addition, you'll have a pre-professional advisor – a professor who knows the field you're interested in and will help you find the right professional school for your abilities.
- **Resources.** We've got them. You'll have complete access to guides for professional school preparation, study guides for entrance exams, current course catalogs and bulletins from various professional schools, the best websites to explore, and more.

**Strong foundation.** Yes, all majors can seek admittance to professional school, but those who build a strong base of appropriate coursework are at a distinct advantage. It's no coincidence that pre-professional students seek out our outstanding science programs in Biology, Chemistry, and Clinical Laboratory Science and nationally renowned programs in Legal Studies, Political Studies, and Public Affairs Reporting.

**The Club set.** Our science and law clubs are chock full of pre-professional students. They explore their fields, hone their skills and sweat through the application process together. We have a UIS Chapter of the ACLU, Biology Club, Chemistry Club, The Innocence Project, and Medical Discoveries Club.

**Pre-Law Center.** Think of this as your pre-law guidance office. Professors who have been to law school staff the center, providing career counseling, LSAT preparation courses, and more.

**Undergraduate research.** This is the edge you'll have over applicants from other universities. We offer the same high-level research opportunities as the larger universities. Our smaller size ensures that all of our students who want to, participate. Our connections to Central Illinois' primary medical district and our proximity to the courts in the state capital don't hurt, either.

**WHERE OUR GRADUATES GO:**  
We offer preparation for professional schools including law, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, optometry, podiatry, veterinary medicine, chiropractic medicine, osteopathic medicine, physician's assistant training, occupational therapy, and physical therapy.

Recent placements:

- Dartmouth Medical School
- Pepperdine University Law School
- SIU School of Dental Medicine, Alton, IL
- SIU School of Medicine, Springfield
- Washington University School of Medicine
- Washburn University School of Law, Kansas
- University of Illinois Law School
- Chicago-Kent College of Law
- Logan College of Chiropractic Medicine
- University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston



## Wise Words

Handel Metcalf  
Biology (B.S. '06), Medical Student  
Logan College of Chiropractic  
Chesterfield, MO

"UIS gave me the opportunity to do real cancer research with a cancer institute in Springfield for several months as part of my coursework. I believe this was key to being accepted into the chiropractic program at Logan. I plan to give back by becoming a natural health care practitioner and provide options for people who may be able to avoid surgery."

A major advantage of UIS is the close relationship of faculty to students and the consequent opportunity for personal advising as a student seeks admission to professional school. We strongly urge students considering professional school to contact their programs and request a pre-professional advisor as early as possible after enrollment at UIS in order to follow a smooth and efficient path toward professional school.

**PRE-PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS**

**Science:** Paula Garrott  
**Law:** Dennis Rendleman

**Ten Reasons to Choose UIS**

1. Multiple options for high-quality academic programs that will prepare you for professional school.
2. Small class sizes, even for introductory courses.
3. Classes and labs are taught by professors (no graduate assistants.)
4. Individual attention from professors primarily focused on teaching.
5. Outstanding opportunities for undergraduate research projects directed by faculty.
6. Relatively low tuition costs.
7. Well-equipped science laboratories; Pre-Law Center.
8. All required courses are taught on campus.
9. Extensive online offerings for non-laboratory classes.
10. Pre-professional websites and clubs.

UIS' Pre-med, pre-dent, pre-pharmacy, pre-vet, pre-optometry, and pre-podiatry students typically major in:

**Biology**

[www.uis.edu/biology](http://www.uis.edu/biology)

**Chemistry**

[www.uis.edu/chemistry](http://www.uis.edu/chemistry)

**Clinical Laboratory Science**

[www.uis.edu/clinicallabscience](http://www.uis.edu/clinicallabscience)

UIS' Pre-law students typically major in:

**Legal Studies**

[www.uis.edu/legalstudies](http://www.uis.edu/legalstudies)

**Political Studies**

[www.uis.edu/politicalstudies](http://www.uis.edu/politicalstudies)

**Philosophy**

[www.uis.edu/philosophy](http://www.uis.edu/philosophy)

**Public Affairs Reporting**

[www.uis.edu/publicaffairsreporting](http://www.uis.edu/publicaffairsreporting)

**Criminal Justice**

[www.uis.edu/criminaljustice](http://www.uis.edu/criminaljustice)

**English**

[www.uis.edu/english](http://www.uis.edu/english)

**History**

[www.uis.edu/history](http://www.uis.edu/history)

**Business Administration**

[www.uis.edu/bba](http://www.uis.edu/bba)

**Visit our website for more information on**

- UIS Admission Requirements
- Application for Admission
- Academic major requirements
- Undergraduate and Graduate Research Opportunities
- Honors programs
- Year by Year Guide to Professional School

**To view course descriptions**

[uis.edu/uiscatalog](http://uis.edu/uiscatalog)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Science programs  
(217) 206-6630 [bio@uis.edu](mailto:bio@uis.edu)  
Legal Studies  
(217) 206-6535 [les@uis.edu](mailto:les@uis.edu)

**Website**

[uis.edu/preprofessional](http://uis.edu/preprofessional)

Office of Admissions  
(217) 206-4847  
Or Toll free at (888) 977-4847  
[admissions@uis.edu](mailto:admissions@uis.edu)  
[uis.edu/admissions](http://uis.edu/admissions)

*IMPORTANT* — Information effective fall 2009. Subject to change without notice. The information is not to be considered final, nor does it constitute a contract between the student and UIS. See [www.uis.edu/uiscatalog](http://www.uis.edu/uiscatalog) for current program requirements.

**Popular Myths about Pre-Professional Education**

- I must obtain my undergraduate degree from a large university with a high-powered reputation.
- Only certain undergraduate majors are acceptable to professional schools.
- My chances of admission improve if I choose the major with the highest acceptance rates to professional schools in a recent survey.
- There is a formula for admission to professional school, and if I can divine its secrets, I am assured success.
- I will not be admitted to professional school if I have more than two Bs on my transcript.
- Once I am admitted to professional school, I am home free: it will be much easier than all of those hard undergraduate classes.
- I should avoid taking a wide variety of undergraduate courses, and concentrate on courses similar to those in professional school.
- An A in an easy course looks better on my transcript than a C in a difficult course.

For responses to these myths and answers to other questions, see one of the pre-professional advisors and visit the new UIS pre-professional website at [uis.edu/preprofessional](http://uis.edu/preprofessional)

