The Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Science (B.S.C.L.S.)

degree with a major in Clinical Laboratory Science prepares students to
function as clinical laboratory scientists (medical laboratory scientists) or
medical technologists in a wide variety of settings from physician office
laboratories to modern tertiary care hospital laboratories. The clinical
laboratory scientist can become an indispensable top-level laboratory
worker, a supervisor, a specialist, a researcher, or an educator.

The requirements during the first two years of study include courses
in biology, chemistry, and mathematics, along with courses in the
humanities and social and behavioral sciences. The junior and senior
years combine clinical experiences in the affiliated clinical laboratories
with advanced academic study in the CLS disciplines.

The program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical
Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). Graduates of the program are eligible
to take the national certification examination for the Medical Laboratory
Scientist (MLS) given by the Board of Certification of the American
Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP).

Program Progression
Successful program progression requires students to complete each
semester in a lock-step sequence with a grade of “C” or higher in all
major courses. Each course is offered only once each academic year;
therefore, progress in the program is affected should a student fall out of
the sequence due to failure to successfully complete a course. A student
who falls out of sequence (whether due to illness, course failure, or other
reasons) will be delayed one year to repeat the course. According to CLS
program policy, students with a grade of less than a “C” in a CLS course
will be stepped out of the program and individuals must reapply to the
program for admission. To be considered for program readmission,
anoriginal program admission criteria and an approved schedule for
retaking courses must be met. In addition, a student may repeat a CLS
course only once. If the student does not earn a grade of at least “C”
upon repeating the course, the student cannot continue in the program.
All non-CLS coursework must be completed prior to the senior year,
2nd semester (spring), due to students beginning off-campus clinical
rotations.

Graduation
To graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Science,
students must successfully complete all CLS courses with a “C” or
higher. Requirements for BSCLS completion and graduation include
a Texas State GPA of 2.0 with a CLS major GPA of 2.25. During the
second semester (spring) and final semester (summer) of the senior year,
students are required to successfully complete five clinical laboratory
rotations/experiences in CLS Clinical Practice courses. These courses
require that the students spend clinical time in other facilities, primarily
hospitals and reference laboratories, away from campus. Students must
furnish their own transportation, and if necessary, housing. Because of
the time and distances involved, typically no courses other than those
listed in the CLS Program can be taken in the final two semesters of the
senior year.

Immunization Requirements
It is a policy of the College of Health Professions that each student must
provide a Health Report completed by a physician or licensed healthcare
provider, and must take certain immunizations before the student can
be placed in a clinical or internship assignment. Information on these
requirements and forms to be supplied may be obtained through the
program office.

Background Check and Drug Screening
As a condition for placement in professional practice sites, students
will be required to have a background check and drug screening and
meet other requirements set by individual sites. Information on the drug
screening process will be provided by the CLS Program.

Clinical Placement (rotation)
Requirements
The Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) Program at Texas State provides
clinical placements for all CLS students entering the clinical year (senior
year / 2nd year of post baccalaureate) in good academic standing. Clinical
placements are carefully and methodically assigned while taking into
account transportation issues, types of clinical affiliates, and student
characteristics. In the event a clinical affiliate is unable to fulfill their prior
obligation, alternative clinical rotations will be sought at other affiliate
institutions. In the very unlikely event alternative clinical rotations are
unable to be secured; affected students will be reassigned to the first
available rotation site. The next available clinical rotation will occur as
soon as possible but no later than one year after the time the rotation
was cancelled. If the clinical rotation cancellation occurs after clinical
rotations have commenced, the affected student will be placed first
in the queue to receive the first available clinical rotation slot that will
occur no later than one year after the cancellation. If the clinical rotation
cancellation occurs prior to the start of clinical rotations, affected
students will be selected based on GPA calculated from performance
in the CLS courses. Students with the lowest GPAs will be required to
relinquish their clinical rotation slots which will delay clinical rotations.

Admissions Requirements
1. University application deadlines are different than the Clinical
Laboratory Science (CLS) Program deadline. Any student entering
Texas State may declare Pre-Clinical Laboratory Science as their
major. It is recommended that students arrange academic advising
at least once prior to making application, and, if possible, arrange
to learn about the profession through clinical laboratory tours,
personal research, and interviewing a practicing CLS professional.
Admission and acceptance to Texas State and declaration as a
clinical laboratory science major does not guarantee admission to the
program. Admission to the program is competitive and selective. The
academic sequence begins during the fall semester of the junior year.
Students are selected in the spring semester of their sophomore year.
Enrollment is limited by student/faculty ratios and clinical placement
availability.

2. The deadline for submission of applications to the CLS program is
February 15th. A typical cohort size of 20 students will be admitted.
Applicants will be notified of their status by April 30th or sooner. The
criteria for student selection for the junior class includes scholastic
ability, particularly in the sciences, essays, and a personal interview,
and not on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, veteran status or condition of disability, or national origin. Due to performance standards of the profession, students must meet specific ADA standards in accordance with physical and emotional requirements of the academic program to qualify for admission.

3. Potential applicants are encouraged to complete the University process early (six to eight weeks prior to the CLS application deadline of February 15th) to facilitate review of transcripts during the CLS Program application process.

4. A minimum overall GPA and science GPA of 2.50; however, an overall GPA and a science GPA of 3.0 is recommended in order to be competitive in the application process.

5. Science courses require a minimum grade of “C” or higher.

6. Students must complete the following five prerequisite courses prior to submitting the CLS application: BIO 1330/1130, BIO 1331/1131, CHEM 1341/1141, CHEM 1342/1142, and the mathematics course. Students may only have a maximum of the nine remaining prerequisite hours, with no remaining credit hours in prerequisite science and mathematics courses prior to beginning the CLS Program. While students are encouraged to complete all prerequisite courses prior to admission, the CLS course sequence only offers 10 hours in the first fall semester and 11 hours in the first spring semester. For students requiring 12 hours for full-time status, please contact the CLS Program.

7. Completion of the CLS application packet for admission is required by the deadline (February 15th).

8. Successful interview of selected candidate with admission committee is also required.

9. Other requirements are necessary by clinical placements (e.g. immunization, background check, and drug testing).

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- Major in Clinical Laboratory Science (http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/undergraduate/health-professions/clinical-laboratory-science-program/bscls)

Courses in Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS)

CLS 3305. Introduction to Clinical Laboratory Techniques.
Clinical Laboratory Science students will be introduced to techniques, procedures, and instrumentation commonly used in clinical laboratories. (WI).
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required/Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 3323. Clinical Microscopy and Analysis of Body Fluids.
Study of body fluids present in the various anatomical compartments of the body as they differ in health and disease. Physical and chemical tests, and microscopic examination of select body fluids are performed.
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 3326. Medical Parasitology.
This course includes lecture and laboratory instruction in medically important parasites producing disease in humans with emphasis on epidemiology, life cycles, identifying characteristics, and pathology of these parasites.
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 3410. Clinical Chemistry I.
Designed to acquaint the clinical laboratory science student with some of the concepts, techniques, procedures, and instrumentation used in clinical chemistry.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 4 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 3412. Hematology/Coagulation I.
Qualitative and quantitative evaluation of formed elements of the blood and studies in coagulation abnormalities.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 4 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 3424. Clinical Immunology.
Principles of immune response and underlying immunologic procedures of diagnostic value are discussed. Lectures and laboratory emphasize detection, identification, nature of antigens and antibodies, and the antigen-antibody reactions encountered.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 4225. Laboratory Management and Supervision.
Lectures and discussions of general principles of management and supervision of the clinical laboratory and its personnel. (WI).
2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 4318. Hematology II.
In-depth study of theoretical and practical aspects of clinical hematology and hemostasis with emphasis on principles, methodology, problems encountered, and clinical applications.
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 4321. Directed Study in Clinical Laboratory Science.
An indepth study of a narrow range of topics or a related problem in the clinical laboratory sciences. Topics to be announced; may be repeated for credit when topics vary.
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 6 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing/Lab Required
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
CLS 4333. Bridge to Clinical Practice.
Study of professional and technical requirements for clinical laboratory science students and their role as part of the healthcare team. Students will demonstrate entry-level technical competency. The student's knowledge of all course material presented from the beginning of the CLS program through the spring semester will be evaluated. (WI).
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 1 Lab Contact Hour.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 4340. Clinical Microbiology II.
Study of medically important fungi, viruses, chlamydiae, rickettsiae, and advanced topics in clinical microbiology. Automated identification of microorganisms, database management, and epidemiologic techniques will be discussed.
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 4341. Molecular Diagnostics.
This course consists of an introduction to the principles, methodologies and applications of molecular diagnostic procedures used in clinical laboratories. Emphasis is placed on the procedures used in the identification of infectious agents that cause human disease, in the diagnosis of inherited diseases, and the diagnosis of cancer.
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Directed independent research covering the principles of research and development of clinical laboratory methodology. (WI).
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required|Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 4364. CLS Clinical Practice II.
This course offers a continuation of CLS Clinical Practice I which includes structured clinical experience assigned on an individual basis for observation, study, and practical application of techniques and methodology in the clinical laboratory.
3 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 16 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 4370. Clinical Chemistry II.
A study of the theoretical and practical aspects of clinical chemistry. Manual and automated laboratory procedures for quantitative analysis of various body fluids.
3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 4440. Clinical Microbiology I.
Study of pathogenic and nonpathogenic bacteria, fungi, and viruses with special emphasis on methods of isolation from body fluids, cultural and differential biochemical characteristics of body pathogens.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 6 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 4460. Immunohematology.
Study of theoretical and practical consideration of major blood groups with emphasis on grouping and typing, antibody detection and identification, compatibility testing and component therapy in blood transfusion service.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 4 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CLS 4463. CLS Clinical Practice I.
Structured clinical experience assigned on an individual basis for observation, study, and practical application of techniques and methodology in the clinical laboratory.
4 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 16 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter