Welcome to UTEP and I am delighted that you are considering a career in the medical professions. As you begin selecting your coursework for the first two years of your undergraduate education, here are some points to keep in mind as you prepare for medical school.

**Freshman Year**
- Any major is appropriate for application to medical school
- Non-science majors, however, may require extra time to complete their major requirements plus the prerequisites for application to medical school – for example, BS Psychology majors will require approximately 8 hours in addition to what is required in the degree plan
- BS PsyC majors should choose the Chemistry Minor to maximize efficiency
- You should choose your major based on your academic interest and time willing to commit to undergraduate preparation
- Biology majors do better in dental school, but it is not required for application to dental school
- Pre-Med students must prioritize math and science classes when choosing classes:
  - Take math every semester from the beginning until the math requirement is complete – including calculus and statistics
  - Science courses should be started early - chemistry and biology in freshmen year
  - Take non-science core courses throughout the entire degree plan to have a healthy mix of science and non-science classes each semester
  - PHIL 2306 Ethics (Humanities) and PSYC 1301 Introduction to Psychology 1301 (Social & Behavioral Sciences) are good core curriculum selections
- TAMU Vet school requires an English Lit course for the Humanities Core selection or ENGL 1313 Writing about Literature
- It is too early to begin Physics unless you are a Physics major

**Sophomore Advising**
- PHYS 1403/1404 is appropriate for the Physics requirement – except for Physics majors, who must take PHYS 2420 / 2421
- Non-Physics majors should begin Physics in the spring semester of the sophomore year
- If you are not a Biology major and plan to take only two Biology courses in addition to BIOL 1305 / 1306 in order to fulfill medical school application prerequisites, BIOL 3414 (CHEM 1301 and 1302 are prerequisite) and BIOL 3320 are most highly recommended.

**Other Information Sources**
- The best source for students to obtain pre-professional information and opportunities to professionalize themselves is the Medical Professions Organization (MPO). There is also a Pre-Dental Society (PDS) for pre-dental students. Students can join either throughout the year with a $30 dues payment to the Medical Professions Institute (MPI) office (Academic Advising Center Room 110).
- You are STRONGLY encouraged to join MPO or PDS the fall semester of your freshmen year. MPO is one of the top student organizations on campus and will benefit you in many ways as you begin your time at UTEP.
- You are also encouraged to search the web and visit the professional school sites of interest to gain up-to-date information on admission requirements and necessary preparation. The MPI website also offers information at [http://academics.utep.edu/mpi](http://academics.utep.edu/mpi).
- If you are interested in early acceptance programs for medical or dental school, you should contact me to set up an appointment at 747 6230.

After you have earned 60 semester credit hours and have a GPA of at least 2.75, or if you are a participant in an early acceptance program, you may receive individual advising with me. The Medical Professions Institute is a national award winning professional development center and we are nationally ranked in the number of Hispanic applicants to medical schools. I look forward to seeing you at the next MPO meeting and working with you as you prepare for your application to medical school.

If you have questions, please leave a detailed message at: 747 6230.