GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

Advisors: Coleman, Kazarian, Silverman

Program Scope
The SF State Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) Internship Certificate program provides students with the theoretical and practical skills necessary to work in hospitals, clinics, or biomedical research environments. The program prepares students at the post-baccalaureate level to take the national board examination for certification as Clinical Laboratory Scientists. In addition, the program is fully accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) and meets the educational standards required for licensure as a CLS by the California State Department of Health, Laboratory Field Services (LFS). The program seeks to develop critical thinking skills for clinical and administrative decision making in the complex and ever-changing healthcare environment.

Career Outlook
Clinical laboratory scientists are employed in healthcare settings such as medical laboratories within large medical centers, community hospitals, public health, clinics and private industry. Excellent employment opportunities exist in research and development, medical informational technology, laboratory administration and education.

Admission to Program
Requirements are:

- Earned bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited university in related science major of microbiology, biology or equivalent. Students with international degrees should check the CLS website for more information (http://cls.sfsu.edu).
- Overall GPA of at least 3.0 or GPA of at least 3.0 in last 60 units (90 quarter) (3.0 GPA).
- A score of 4 or better on a proctored writing examination administered prior to admission or for international students, at least 80 on the internet-based TOEFL, or a 550 on the paper-based test with a Test of Written English (TWE) of at least 4.
- Science course preparation to include courses in hematology, immunology, medical microbiology, quantitative chemistry analysis, biochemistry, physics, and college-level mathematics.
- Eligibility for a trainee license from the State of California Department of Health, Laboratory Field Services.
- Completion of the application form, which includes three letters of reference.
- Proof of health insurance
- Background checks may be required.

Curriculum
The CLS program consists of
1. a 16-week semester of didactic and laboratory work and
2. a 40-week off-campus internship at affiliated clinical laboratory sites.

Students enroll for 18 units for the pre-clinical semester. For the 40-week off-campus portion, students enroll in a combination of regular university sessions and special sessions through the College of Extended Learning.

First Semester
CLS 701  Clinical Chemistry and Urinalysis  4
CLS 706  Contemporary Clinical Science Issues  2
CLS 731  Clinical Hematology and Laboratory Application  4
CLS 753  Clinical Microbiology for the CLS Intern  4
CLS 790  Clinical Serology and Immunohematology  4

Total Units First Semester: 18

Subsequent 40 Weeks
CLS 702  Clinical Laboratory Science Internship I (4 units taken twice)  8
CLS 705  Clinical Laboratory Science Internship II (3 units taken twice)  6
CLS 709  Clinical Laboratory Science Internship III  3
CLS 707  CLS Bridge to Clinical Practice  3

Total Units Subsequent 40 Weeks: 20
Total Units for Entire Program: 38

English Proficiency Requirement
Level One
Students complete a proctored essay at the time of their application interview. If necessary, remediation will be fulfilled by successful completion of SCI 614 or equivalent course.

Level Two
Successful completion of written professional documents as required for a leadership role in professional environments.