Calculating your Science GPA on the Pre-application

One of the things we ask you for on your pre-application is to tell us your GPA in the prerequisite courses you’ve taken in preparing for health professions schools. This is helpful for us to know, and also is something that the various centralized application services will do when you submit your primary application to them. While the centralized services may use slightly different formulae, the easiest way for you to come up with an accurate number to report is to generate a weighted average of all of the Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Math (including Stats) courses you have taken. This is often referred to as your BCPM GPA, and is important to health professions schools. Don’t include English or other non-science courses, even if they are “prerequisites” for your particular program.

It’s easy to calculate, as follows. From your transcript(s), convert all of your letter grades in every BCPM course you have taken (at MHC or elsewhere) to their numerical values using the following equivalents:

A = 4.00  
A- = 3.67  
B+ = 3.33  
B = 3.00  
B- = 2.67  
C+ = 2.33  
C = 2.00  
C- = 1.67  
D+ = 1.33  
D = 1.00  
D- = 0.67  
F = 0

Multiply the number of courses in which you earned each of the letter grades by the grade value, and add all of those together. Divide by the number of courses. This will give your BCPM GPA. You may want to create an Excel spreadsheet to do this for you, so you can update it as you go along. (Don’t worry about courses with different credit values. Using this formula is close enough.)

An example: Let’s say you have completed fourteen courses in the BCPM category. You’ve earned five A’s, two A-minuses, three B+’s, two B’s, a B-minus, and a D (oops!) Your calculation would be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 46.67

Divided by 14 courses

BCPM GPA: 3.33