

# **GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **Clinical Laboratory Science**

Clinical laboratory scientists perform complex analyses in order to develop data on the blood, tissues, and fluids of the human body, which may be used by a physician in determining the presence, extent, and as far as possible, cause of a disease. These laboratory tests play an important role in the detection, diagnosis, and treatment, of many diseases. Clinical laboratory scientists work in conjunction with pathologists and other physicians or scientists who specialize in clinical chemistry, microbiology, hematology, and other biological sciences.

Clinical laboratory scientists are held accountable for accurate results. They establish and monitor quality assurance and quality improvement programs and design or modify procedures as necessary. Tests and procedures performed by clinical laboratory scientists focus on the major areas of hematology, microbiology, immunology, clinical chemistry, immunohematology, and urinalysis.

Clinical Laboratory Science students will complete their general education courses and core science courses in the freshman, sophomore, and junior years. During the sophomore year, students will apply for the professional portion of the program. After admission to the program, the second semester of the junior and the senior year will be spent in Grand Valley's Center for Health Sciences in Grand Rapids. During the junior and senior year, students will integrate the theories of clinical medicine with the practice of clinical laboratory procedures. The students first learn basic theories and skills in hematology, clinical chemistry, immunoserology, and clinical microbiology and progress through advanced courses in these areas during the senior year. Senior students will apply the knowledge and technical skills learned in the classroom as they rotate through the laboratories of the hospitals in the cooperative. At the end of the senior year, students will be awarded a baccalaureate from Grand Valley in Clinical Laboratory Science and be able to sit for the national certification exam.

### **Admission to the Clinical Laboratory Science Program**

Admission to the Clinical Laboratory Science Program will be competitive, requiring completion of a secondary application. Applications are due February 1 of the sophomore year. Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- (1) Academic Achievement. Students must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.8 or above and a science GPA of 2.8 or above.
- (2) Completion of 45 hours
- (3) Having completed or being enrolled in BMS 208, BIO 120, and CHM 109.
- (4) Communication and interpersonal skills: On-site interviews are required.
- (5) Recommendations. Three recommendations must be submitted on university forms - one from a chemistry faculty, one from any science faculty, and the third source is the choice of the applying student.
- (6) Additional activities. Additional educational, professional, leadership, scholarly, and volunteer activities are valued and should be documented.