Dr. Julia Grimwade
Associate Professor,
Biological Sciences Department

“Since Florida Tech is a small research university specializing in science and technology, students are taught by, and have direct contact with, nationally and internationally known research scientists. Florida Tech also has an outstanding record in placing students in medical school.

Most pre-med students spend several semesters volunteering at Holmes Regional Medical Center (HRMC). There they participate in a program that allows them to interact with doctors and nurses, and let them observe, (and participate, when feasible) the practice of medicine. Because they are Florida Tech pre-med students, their volunteer activities are focused toward medical training rather than activities not directly related to patient care.

Students can also participate in a number of summer research internships both at Florida Tech and at other universities and corporations such as the American Society for Microbiology Fellowships, Purdue University, Michigan State University and Pfizer Pharmaceuticals.

Pre-vet students work with a variety of local vets, either as volunteers or paid employees. Some have also interned at Brevard Zoo, Sea World, and other animal rescue organizations in the area.

Students interested in a research career, or in combining research and the practice of medicine, may join a faculty research lab. Current research includes work in the physiology of vision; how cells grow and divide; egg development following fertilization; the treatment of tuberculosis; and much more. In the chemistry department students work with faculty to develop new drug treatments for asthma and Alzheimer’s disease.”

Why in the WORLD would you go anywhere else?

- According to the latest survey of Florida Tech graduates, 96% are working in their major or are in graduate school within six months of graduation.
- The only independent, scientific and technological university in the Southeastern United States.
- Located in Florida’s High Tech Corridor, home to more than 5,000 high-tech companies and the nation’s fifth largest high-tech workforce.
- For the fourteenth consecutive year, U.S. News and World Report has ranked Florida Tech among the nation’s best national doctoral universities.
- The listing also places Florida Tech among the top seven percent of America’s colleges and universities.
- Classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a Doctoral Research Intensive University, a classification that separates it from institutions that only offer degrees at the bachelor’s or master’s level.
- Ranked among the highest SAT I scores of any private university in Florida.

For more information contact:

Department of Biological Sciences
Florida Institute of Technology
150 W. University Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32901
321.674.8034
www.fit.edu/biology

Office of Undergraduate Admission
Florida Institute of Technology
150 W. University Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32901
321.674.8030
321.674.8034
800.888.4348
www.fit.edu/admissions
admissions@fit.edu
Are you interested in medicine, research, genetics, biotechnology, DNA, dentistry, pharmacology, veterinary science or other health-related careers? Consider what a leading technological university is offering biochemistry, molecular biology and preprofessional biology majors.

**The chemistry of life.**
Biochemistry explores the chemistry of living organisms and the molecular basis for changes occurring in living cells. It seeks to unravel the complex reactions in a variety of life forms including human interaction with viruses. Biochemistry provides the fundamentals for advancement in medicine, veterinary medicine, and agriculture and includes the exciting fields of molecular biology and genetic engineering.

**The essence of living matter.**
Molecular biology deals with the studies of genetic engineering, control of gene expression, amplification of specific DNA sequences (PCR) and DNA fingerprinting and sequencing, to name a few. The explosion of discoveries in molecular biology has led to a rising number of new industries worldwide, and has created great demand for highly trained and skilled Florida Tech graduates. In addition to course work in biology, mathematics and physics, students take a full year of biochemistry including lab work in biological macromolecules. The program culminates in senior laboratory experiments in the current techniques used by molecular biology researchers.

**The key to unlocking the medical profession.**
The preprofessional biology, chemistry, and physics programs at Florida Tech prepare students for health-related careers in medicine, veterinary sciences, osteopathy and pharmacology. The advantages of the preprofessional option are fulfillment of course requirements for most medical schools, preparation for entrance exams, help with admission processes and overall preprofessional advising with the most up-to-date applications, entrance and testing information. The acceptance rate to medical schools, for Florida Tech graduates, is approximately 80% — well over the national average. Florida Tech is proud to have placed its graduates in outstanding medical schools such as Johns Hopkins, University of Florida, University of South Florida, SUNY-Buffalo, Albert Einstein, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Illinois, Howard University, Cornell School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania College of Veterinary Medicine, and Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine.

---

**Nicole Simpson,** Senior, biology major with a concentration in chemistry

“I transferred to Florida Tech because it offers a small, concentrated, pre-med program. Having already been in the state university system, I knew what it’s like to be a number where your professors don’t know you at all. Because the class sizes are small, learning is more interactive and I feel more prepared for what’s ahead.

I’m an active member in two research labs. I work in Dr. Carroll’s developmental biology and genetics lab and also in Dr. Nesnas’ organic chemistry lab. I also volunteer in an operating room with an orthopedic surgeon and I’m a member of the pre-med club. All these opportunities provide tons of hands-on experience while helping me prepare for medical school or a career in research.

I’m also involved in the Gamma Phi Beta sorority, the sailing club and intramural sports. All these activities keep me well-balanced and give me a break from school and studying. I enjoy hanging out with my sisters in Gamma Phi Beta, sailing on the weekends and playing co-ed soccer.”

For more information about preprofessional curricula at Florida Tech, visit: www.fit.edu