PHYSICAL THERAPY

OVERVIEW

The Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) is a professional entry-level degree. The D.P.T. program requires full-time study over a period of 3 years, including summers. The curriculum includes course work related to the basic sciences of anatomy and neuroscience, the clinical sciences of pathophysiology and pharmacology, and the applied clinical sciences related to management of patients across the lifespan. In addition, students engage in 36 weeks of full-time clinical internships in a variety of settings under the supervision of clinical instructors who are licensed physical therapists.

The Clinical Education program is an integral part of the curriculum, offering students opportunities to apply knowledge and practice skills and behaviors in the clinical setting. Clinical internships are provided across the U.S. and offer a wide variety of experiences. Internships are assigned based on students’ educational needs and availability of clinical sites in each time frame. Students are responsible for all costs associated with their clinical internships throughout the curriculum. Most of the clinical internships occur outside of the Burlington, Vermont area. Students must be prepared to travel and secure living arrangements during those clinical internships. Internships are scheduled as indicated in the curriculum plan unless insufficient clinical sites are available; in that case, students may be required to complete internship in an alternate time period.

All students in the program are required to carry professional liability insurance and have all required health clearances prior to engaging in any clinical education experience. Students should plan their finances to include these expenses. Clinical sites have varying requirements which may include criminal background checks, drug testing, etc. Clinical placements are dependent on students fully meeting the specific requirements of the internship site. Evidence of a Criminal Record may prevent students from being eligible for clinical placement, and/or professional licensure.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program at the University of Vermont is accredited by:

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education
1111 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 706-3245
email: accreditation@apta.org

DEGREES

- Physical Therapy D.P.T.

FACULTY

Reed, Brian; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; MS, University of Vermont

Ouellette-Morton, Rebecca; Clinical Instructor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; MS, University of Vermont

Henry, Sharon Margaret; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; MS, University of Vermont

O’Rourke, Deborah A.; Clinical Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; DPT, Simmons College

Kunsman, Michelle; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; DPT, Simmons College

Gell, Nancy M.; Assistant Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; PHD, Auburn University

Henry, Sharon Margaret; Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; PHD, University of Vermont

Courses

PT 206. Professional Seminar 4.0 Credits.
Students discuss professional issues and practices encountered in the clinical environment, allowing them to build a framework of knowledge and skills that supports excellent practice. S/U grading only. Pre/co-requisite: Enrollment in DPT program.

PT 302. Quality in Health Care. 3 Credits.
This course provides students with the skills and knowledge needed to apply quality improvement approaches to the design and management of health care services. Pre/co-requisite: Graduate Standing. Cross-listed with: CTS 302, NH 302.

PT 303. Health Promotion & Disease Prvnt. 3 Credits.
Examines the value of and barriers to health promotion, health protection, and disease prevention, factors that influence personal health decisions, and preventive interventions. Prerequisite: Doctor of Physical Therapy students only.

PT 305. Pathophysiology/Pharmacology. 6 Credits.
Study of diseases of the human body and their pharmacological treatments. Emphasis on common diseases in USA populations and most germane to physical therapy practice. Pre/co-requisite: Enrolled as DPT student.

PT 306. Intro to PT&Hlth Care. 1 Credit.
Explores professionalism, ethics, the healthcare environment, interprofessional education, leadership, and clinical education practices. The focus is on preparing for the first clinical internship. Prerequisites: Doctor of Physical Therapy students and APTA members only.

PT 307. Prep for PT Practice. 1 Credit.
Examines selected professional topics including the development of reflective practices and self-assessment skills. Health literacy is also explored in preparation for clinical practice. Prerequisites: PT 306 or Instructor permission; Doctor of Physical Therapy students and APTA members only.

PT 308. Ethics & Career Prep. 1 Credit.
Utilizes frameworks to analyze ethical issues in healthcare. Topics also include preparation for the national PT examination, professional license issues, continuing competence expectations and career planning. Prerequisites: PT 307 or Instructor permission; Doctor of Physical Therapy students and APTA members only.
PT 318. Movt Sci 1: Kinesiology. 3 Credits.
Application of kinesiology and biomechanical principles and concepts to the analysis of human movement, posture, joint structure and function, and gait. Prerequisite: ANNB 201; Doctor of Physical Therapy students only.

PT 319. Movt Sci 2: Lifespan Mtr Devel. 3 Credits.
Lecture and laboratory experiences related to theory, concepts, and measurement of normal motor development, motor control, and motor learning across the lifespan. Prerequisites: NSCI 302, PT 318, PT 344; Doctor of Physical Therapy student.

PT 320. Undrstng Evidence in PT Pract. 3 Credits.
Students critically analyze and interpret research in terms of applicability to practice, examine methods for measuring practice outcomes and apply data to answer clinical questions. Pre/co-requisites: Statistics course; enrollment as DPT student.

PT 322. Adv Evidence Based Pract Skills. 2 Credits.
Develops advanced skills in critically analyzing research literature, including systematic reviews and clinical practice guidelines. Students analyze clinical data and apply results to decision-making. Prerequisites: PT 320 or equivalent.

PT 328. Independent Study. 1-4 Credits.
Students work with faculty member to assist in research, applying previously learned skills in critical appraisal, library searches, research methods and writing. Pre/co-requisites: RMS 220 or PT 320 or equivalents; enrollment in DPT program.

PT 329. Knowl Imp Trans & Exch of EBPT. 1 Credit.
Develops skills to disseminate evidence from the scientific literature to facilitate knowledge transfer and exchange. The field of implementation science will also be introduced. Prerequisite: PT 322 or PT 328 or equivalent.

PT 330. Psychosocial Issues in Health. 3 Credits.
Psychosocial dimensions of health, illness and disability will be examined from lifespan and multicultural perspectives. Pre/co-requisites: Psychology course; enrolled as DPT student.

PT 331. Hlth Care Pcly & Pract Mgmt PT. 3 Credits.
Explores the structure and function of physical therapy practice management and health care policy and strategies for changing at state and national levels. Pre/co-requisite: Doctor of Physical Therapy student.

PT 340. Patient Mgmt Fndmntl Skills. 6 Credits.
Introduction to principles and practices of patient/client management including fundamental patient handling skills, physical examination techniques, history taking and interviewing skills, and clinical documentation. Prerequisites: ANNB 201; Doctor of Physical Therapy students only. Co-requisite: PT 305.

PT 344. Patient Mgmt Musculoskeletal 1. 8 Credits.
Lecture/Lab experiences in which students will apply fundamental biomechanical and kinesiology principles of the trunk, spine, and extremities. Prerequisites: PT 305, PT 318, PT 340; Doctor of Physical Therapy student.

PT 345. Patient Mgt-Neuromuscular 1. 6 Credits.
Lecture and laboratory experiences re evidence-based medical and physical therapy management of adults with neuromuscular conditions including stroke, multiple sclerosis, and spinal cord injury. Prerequisites: NSCI 302, PT 305, PT 319; Doctor of Physical Therapy student.

PT 346. Patient Mgt-Neuromuscular 2. 5 Credits.
Lecture and laboratory experiences re evidence-based medical and physical therapy management of children with neuromuscular conditions such as cerebral palsy and adults with developmental disabilities. Prerequisites: PT 345; Doctor of Physical Therapy student.

PT 347. Patient Mgt:Cardiopulmonary. 4 Credits.
Explores disease risk and prevention, as well as medical, surgical, pharmacological, psychological, and physical therapies in the management of individuals with cardiopulmonary related diseases. Prerequisites: PT 305, PT 340; Doctor of Physical Therapy student.

PT 348. Patient Mgt:Medical/Surgical. 4 Credits.
Explores medical, surgical, pharmacological, psychological, and physical therapies in the management of individuals with vascular, integumentary, lymphatic disorders and cancer. Pre/co-requisites: PT 305, PT 347; DPT student.

PT 349. Patient Mgt:Musculoskeletal 2. 4 Credits.
Lecture/lab applying foundational and advanced biomechanical, neurophysiological, kinesiological, and anatomical principles of the trunk, TMJ, spine, and extremities. Pre/co-requisites: PT 242; Enrolled as DPT student.

PT 351. Community Health in PT. 1-3 Credits.
DPT students travel internationally to experience and reflect on structures, processes and outcomes of healthcare for patients receiving rehabilitation services in another country. Pre/co-requisite: second year DPT student.

PT 352. Intl Collaborative in PT. 3 Credits.
This Faculty Lead Program Abroad is an elective for PT students and licensed PT’s interested in learning advanced manual physical therapy skills while studying abroad. Pre/co-requisites: PT 349 or PT license.

PT 360. Integrated Patient Mgmt Sem. 1 Credit.
Integrates information learned in prior clinical and foundational science courses, as well as contemporary research findings, into a comprehensive model of physical therapy for individuals with complex and multi-system conditions. Pre/co-requisites: DPT student standing; successful completion of all previous DPT courses.

PT 370. Clinical Internship 1. 3 Credits.
Full-time (six weeks) Clinical Education Internship in an out-patient Orthopedic clinical setting. Pre/co-requisite: Completion of year one DPT curriculum.

PT 371. Clinical Internship 2. 5 Credits.
Full-time (ten weeks) Clinical Education Internship in various practice settings including out-patient, acute care, rehabilitation, home health, pediatric, long term care and specialty practices. Pre/co-requisite: Completion of all academic courses in DPT curriculum.
PT 372. Clinical Internship 3A. 2 Credits.
Full-time (four weeks) Clinical Education Internship in various practice settings including out-patient, acute care, rehabilitation, home health, pediatric, long term care and specialty practices. Pre/co- requisite: Completion of all academic courses in DPT curriculum.

PT 373. Clinical Internship 3B. 1 Credit.
Full-time (two weeks) Clinical Education Internship in various practice settings including out-patient, acute care, rehabilitation, home health, pediatric, long term care and specialty practices. Pre/co- requisite: Completion of all academic courses in DPT curriculum.

PT 374. Clinical Internship 3C. 2 Credits.
Full-time (four weeks) Clinical Education Internship in various practice settings including out-patient, acute care, rehabilitation, home health, pediatric, long term care and specialty practices. Pre/co- requisite: Completion of all academic courses in DPT curriculum.

PT 375. Clinical Internship 4. 5 Credits.
Full-time (ten weeks) Clinical Education Internship in various practice settings including out-patient, acute care, rehabilitation, home health, pediatric, long term care and specialty practices. Pre/co- requisite: Completion of all academic courses in DPT curriculum.

PT 395. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.