**OVERVIEW**

The UVM Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program’s mission is to prepare graduates to lead and collaborate in the quest of promoting the health of individuals, communities and society through movement and exercise in order to optimize function, activity, and participation across environments. UVM graduates provide ethical, evidence-based, client-centered services in a culturally sensitive manner as they serve society to enhance quality of life. Graduates are decision-makers in the primary care team who have a clear understanding of the importance of lifelong learning that will support their client, patient, and professional needs. Faculty model and support student learning of these expected educational outcomes.

The program’s vision is to be recognized for leadership in its contribution to the creation, advancement, and dissemination of translational research while striving toward excellence to educate DPT scholars who collaborate to "transform society by optimizing movement," for the promotion of individual and population health of our communities and society.

**DEGREES**

- Physical Therapy D.P.T. ([http://catalogue.uvm.edu/graduate/physicaltherapy/physicaltherapydpt/](http://catalogue.uvm.edu/graduate/physicaltherapy/physicaltherapydpt/))

**FACULTY**

Escorpizo, Reuben; Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; DPT, Des Moines University

Failla, Matthew; Assistant Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; PHD, University of Delaware

Mohapatra, Sambit; Associate Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; PHD, University of Illinois, Chicago

Ouellette-Morton, Rebecca; Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; DPT, University of New England

Peters, Denise; Assistant Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; PHD, DPT, University of South Carolina

Sargent, Elizabeth; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; SCD, Texas Tech University

Westervelt, Karen C.; Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science; PHD, Bond University-Robina, Queensland, Australia

**Courses**

DPT 401. Health Systems I - Policy. 2 Credits.

DPT 402. Health Sys II-Quality Improvmt. 2 Credits.
Principles and practices of health care quality, quality improvement, and design and management of continual improvement activities. Topics will include quality measurement, management, and patient safety and their application in a variety of health care delivery settings and organizations. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 403. Health Sys III-Business Mgt. 2 Credits.
Physical therapist practice management including evidence-based business and financial management, administration, and health informatics. Topics will incorporate business management from a physical therapist perspective, while expanding knowledge on health systems and the role of physical therapist in various practice settings. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 404. Health Sys IV-Health Promotion. 3 Credits.
Fundamental concepts of health behavior, health education, and health promotion. Examination of health promotion programs at the level of policy, community, social spheres, and individuals. Experiential learning through health promotion in consideration of health behavior science and evidence-based practice. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 405. Clinical Medicine. 4 Credits.
Foundational knowledge and application of pathophysiology as it pertains general health and systemic disease and its relationship to the role of the physical therapist as a movement system expert and a primary care practitioner. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 406. Exercise Science. 3 Credits.
Principles and applications of exercise assessment/testing, prescription and progression of the exercise program, including response to exercise. Course will emphasize understanding and application of the ACSM guidelines to exercise testing and prescription to individuals across the lifespan. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 407. Pharmacology and Nutrition. 1 Credit.
Foundational knowledge of pharmacology and nutrition pertinent to physical therapist practice. Introduction to pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, mechanisms of action of various drugs, and adverse reactions. Topics will also include nutrition in relation to primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.
DPT 408. Fundamentals Critical Inquiry. 3 Credits.
In-depth application of scientific inquiry inclusive of research design, statistical methods, research question development, critical appraisal and interpretation of evidence related to clinical practice are explored. Diagnostic, intervention, and prognostic studies are used in the application of the inquiry process. Prerequisite: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 410. Fundamentals of Clinical Pract. 3 Credits.
Fundamental skills for physical therapists including patient/client management principles and practices such as examination techniques, history taking and interviewing skills, fundamental patient handling skills, clinical documentation and patient handling skills. Prerequisite: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 411. Movement System I. 3 Credits.
Application of kinesiology and biomechanical principles to the analysis and management of human movement, posture, joint structure and function, and gait. Examination of mechanical properties of tissue with respect to lifespan, injury and healing, and principles of diagnostic imaging. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 412. Movement System II. 4 Credits.
Motor control/learning and development across the lifespan, and a theoretical framework to develop intervention strategies. Principles of examination and evaluation of normal and dysfunctional movement will be discussed, including posture, gait, reach and grasp. Electrodiagnostic testing will also be covered. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 413. Movement System III. 4 Credits.
Utilize a movement systems approach to address the management of patients with multi-system involvement. Focus on the role of the physical therapist as primary care practitioner including emergency scenarios across the lifespan. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 414. Clinical Reasoning. 2 Credits.
Fundamental clinical-decision making frameworks in contemporary physical therapy practice, using the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) and the Hypothesis Oriented Algorithm for Clinicians within the context of patient/client management model. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 415. Psychsoc Aspcts Hlth Wellbeing. 3 Credits.
Psychosocial dimensions of health, illness, and disability across the lifespan and in consideration of diverse perspectives. Consideration of physical therapy implications for management of common mental health conditions and integrate patient and family-centered communication skills in simulated clinical situations. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 416. Rehabilitation Technology. 3 Credits.
Evaluation, prescription, and patient/client education of rehabilitation technology used in physical therapy management of individuals to address or enhance movement across the lifespan. Topics will include prescription of and training with technology, devices, and environmental modifications. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 420. Musculoskeletal Management I. 4 Credits.
Screening, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, management and outcomes for patients with musculoskeletal dysfunction of the extremities are covered. Topics include pathophysiology, risk appraisal, medical and surgical management, and biopsychosocial considerations in the management of these conditions across the lifespan. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 421. Musculoskeletal Management II. 4 Credits.
Screening, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, management and outcomes for patients with musculoskeletal dysfunction of the spine are covered. Topics include pathophysiology, risk appraisal, medical and surgical management, and biopsychosocial considerations in the management of these conditions across the lifespan. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 422. Musculoskeletal Management III. 3 Credits.
Screening, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, intervention and outcomes for patients with complex musculoskeletal system dysfunction are covered. Case management as movement system experts of patient/client populations with complex primary or underlying conditions across the lifespan are explored. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 423. Neurological Management I. 4 Credits.
Focus on movement system dysfunction among individuals with neuromuscular conditions across the lifespan. Introduction to the principles and components of neurological examination and interventions emphasizing body structure/function with neuropathology considerations will be discussed. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 424. Neurological Management II. 3 Credits.
Screening, examination, diagnosis, prognosis, management and outcomes for individuals with neurological impairments across the lifespan are covered. Evaluation and interventions of the movement system deficits considering pathophysiology and biopsychosocial framework will be addressed through case-based learning. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.
DPT 425. Neurological Management III. 3 Credits.
Incorporate advanced clinical decision making in the plan of care of complex patients across the lifespan. Consideration of differential diagnosis, patient environment and case management will be discussed. Prevention, risk reduction strategies and continuum of care will be emphasized. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 426. Cardiovasc and Pulmonary Mgt. 3 Credits.
Screening, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, management and outcomes for patients with cardiovascular and pulmonary conditions are covered. Topics include pathophysiology, risk appraisal, medical and surgical management, and biopsychosocial considerations in the management of these conditions across the lifespan. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 427. Integmnt, Endocrine, Multi Sys. 3 Credits.
Screening, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, management and outcomes for patients with integumentary, endocrine, lymphatic, oncology, autoimmune and multisystem conditions are covered. Topics include pathophysiology, risk appraisal, medical and surgical management, and biopsychosocial considerations across the lifespan. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 450. Professional Form/Leadership I. 1 Credit.
Introduces professionalism, leadership, ethics, cultural competence, interprofessional education-practice and teaching-learning within the role of a doctoring professional, physical therapist contemporary practice and the healthcare environment. Prerequisite: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 451. Prof Formation/Leadership II-ICE. 2 Credits.
Advanced study of professional formation and personal leadership development within the role of a doctoring professional. Focuses on role identity, professional practice expectations within ethical/legal standards of practice, teaching-learning, supervision/delegation, and introduces IPE role within Integrated Clinical Experiences (ICE). Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 452. Prof Formatn/Leadrshp III-ICE. 2 Credits.
Advanced concepts of professional formation and personal leadership development within the role of a doctoring professional. Focuses on collaborative practice expectations within ethical/legal standards of practice, teaching-learning, supervision/delegation, and IPE. Prepares for assuming responsibilities within Integrated Clinical Experiences (ICE). Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 453. Prof Form/Leadrshp IV-ICE/IPE. 2 Credits.
Integrates professional formation and leadership development as a doctoring professional. Emphasizes interprofessional practice, education and support of health and well-being of others. Justifies ethical/legal decisions, social responsibility and advocacy. Expands Integrated Clinical Experiences (ICE) to community engagement and health promotion. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 460. Clinical Edu Experience I. 2 Credits.
Eight week supervised clinical experience in one of the following settings: outpatient, inpatient, or specialty clinics. Experience will include safe, effective, and comprehensive patient care. Students will demonstrate proficiency with skills applying foundational knowledge associated with patient care and management. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 461. Clinical Edu Experience IIIA. 2 Credits.
Six week supervised clinical experience in one of the following settings: outpatient, inpatient, or specialty clinics. Experience will include safe, effective, and comprehensive patient care. Students will demonstrate proficiency with skills applying foundational knowledge associated with patient care and management. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 462. Clinical Edu Experience IIB. 2 Credits.
Six week supervised clinical experience in one of the following settings: outpatient, inpatient, or specialty clinics. Experience will include safe, effective, and comprehensive patient care. Students will demonstrate proficiency with skills applying foundational knowledge associated with patient care and management. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 463. Clinical Edu Experience III. 4 Credits.
Twelve week supervised clinical experience in one of the following settings: outpatient, inpatient, or specialty clinics. Experience will include safe, effective, and comprehensive patient care. Students will demonstrate proficiency with skills applying foundational knowledge associated with patient care and management. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 491. Doctoral Dissertation Research. 1-18 Credits.

DPT 493. Doctoral Research Project I. 1 Credit.
Advanced research methods, including development of a research question (PICO), research design, proposal and IRB submission. Research questions might be systematic reviews, intervention, diagnostic, or prognostic studies and may use qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods design. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.
DPT 494. Doctoral Research Project II. 2 Credits.
Implementation of research proposal including data collection and analysis. Research question might be systematic reviews, intervention, diagnostic, or prognostic studies; and may utilize qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods design. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 495. Doctoral Research Project III. 2 Credits.
Completion of research project inclusive of comprehensive analysis, synthesis of findings based on research question, implications to practice and dissemination of finding via manuscript and presentations. This project fulfills a component of the Doctoral Comprehensive Examination. Prerequisites: Graduate student enrollment in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

DPT 496. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

DPT 498. Independent Graduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Graduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.