

## Doctor of Physical Therapy Courses 2025-2026

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### First Year – Fall Courses

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**PT 510 – Applied Clinical Anatomy. 5 Credits.**

Anatomy of the neuromusculoskeletal system and body cavities in relation to movement and function with clinical correlates. Course lab fee.

**PT 529 – Clinical Biomechanics. 5 Credits.**

The principles of biomechanics as applied to the practice of physical therapy.

**PT 503 – PT & Health Care System. 2 Credits.**

An introduction to physical therapy and its relationship to the health care system. Topics include introduction to PT as a profession, teaching and learning, ethics, laws, and professional issues in physical therapy.

**PT 516 – Movement System Examination & Evaluation. 4 Credits.**

Principles of musculoskeletal examination and evaluation including posture, palpation, measurement of ROM and muscle performance, assessment of muscle length, and joint play.

**PT 523 – Clinical Medicine I. 1 Credit.**

Introduction to medical screening and the PT exam within the Patient/Client Management model.

**PT 526 – Foundational Skills I. 3 Credits.**

Basic skills of documentation, medical terminology, transfers, bed mobility, and gait assistive device use.

### First Year – Spring Courses

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**PT 530 – Clinically Applied Exercise Physiology. 5 Credits.**

Principles and applications of the physiological adaptations to acute and chronic exercise stresses and adaptations in the clinical environment. Exercise assessment/testing, prescription and progression of the exercise program is discussed.

**PT 532 – Foundational Skills II. 1 Credit.**

Principles of soft tissue mobilization. Techniques covered include: superficial, petrissage, kneading, neuromuscular, friction massage and trigger point techniques. Instruction regarding indications, precautions, contraindications, draping, position, and privacy issues included.

**PT 536 – Neurosciences. 5 Credits.**

Anatomy of the head and neck, and neuroanatomy of the human nervous system with emphasis on evaluation of central nervous system lesions and pathological conditions, clinical applications to physical therapy.

**PT 582 – Clinical Experience Introductory Course. 1 Credit.**

A mix of classroom and clinical experiences to introduce students to the expectations of professional practice. CR/NCR grading.

**PT 519 – Musculoskeletal Management I. 3 Credits.**

Principles of musculoskeletal examination, evaluation, and intervention. The focus is application of clinical reasoning principles when examining movement patterns, and analysis of underlying musculoskeletal impairments.

**PT 520 – PT & the Aging Adult. 2 Credits.**

Presentation of changes in adults as they progress through the lifespan. Includes the functional changes associated with aging, assessing, and managing fall risk, performance, and interpretation of functional outcome measures.

**PT 527 – Physical & Electrophysical Agents. 3 Credits.**

Physiology, indications, contraindications, and application of electrotherapy and physical agents. Theory and application of electrodiagnostic and electrotherapeutic procedures.

**PT 560 – Clinical Reasoning I. 1 Credit.**

Introduction to the clinical reasoning process in physical therapy.

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First Year – Summer Semester

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**PT 587 – Full-Time Clinical Experience I. 6 Credits.**

Eight weeks of full-time clinical experience with emphasis on developing patient evaluation and treatment skills. CR/NCR grading.

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Second Year – Fall Courses

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**PT 524 - Clinical Medicine II. 2 Credits.**

Introduction to pharmacology, medical management of selected orthopedic and hematological conditions.

**PT 563 - Cardiopulmonary PT. 3 Credits.**

Physical therapy assessment and interventions for patients with cardiovascular and/or pulmonary disease. Includes cardiovascular and pulmonary pathology, pharmacology, and differential diagnosis.

**PT 567 - Neurorehabilitation I. 4 Credits.**

Neurologic physical therapy assessment and intervention of adults. Principles of neuroplasticity, motor control, motor learning and application to physical therapy neurorehabilitation. Includes wheelchair seating, mobility assessment and prescription.

**PT 576 - Clinical Reasoning II. 3 Credits.**

This course will build on the foundations established in Clinical Reasoning I and utilize reflections from the first summer Clinical Experience. The principles of evidence-based practice (EBP), including the application of evidence and the creation of evidence (both quantitative and qualitative), limitations of EBP and its role in the changing health care environment, critical appraisal of the literature, statistical knowledge, and weighing evidence for clinical decision making will be discussed. Issues related to clinical and research ethics will also be discussed.

**PT 525 – Clinical Medicine III. 2 Credits.**

Pathophysiology, medical and pharmacological management of oncological, immunological diseases and organ transplantation.

**PT 533 – Musculoskeletal Management II. 2 Credit.**

Examination, evaluation, and intervention of musculoskeletal disorders of the lumbar spine and pelvis including sacroiliac dysfunction, genitourinary issues, obstetrics, incontinence, and pelvic pain.

**PT 569 – Musculoskeletal Management III. 4 Credits.**

Principles of musculoskeletal examination, evaluation, and intervention for the hip, knee, ankle, and foot.

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## Second Year – Spring Courses

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**PT 573 – Musculoskeletal Management IV. 6 Credits.**

Principles of musculoskeletal examination, evaluation, and intervention for the shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, temporomandibular joint (TMJ), thoracic and cervical spine.

**PT 583 – Integrated Clinical Experience I. 2 Credits.**

An integrated, part-time clinical experience with emphasis on patient evaluation, treatment, and professional development. CR/NCR grading.

**PT 565 – Pediatric Physical Therapy. 4 Credits.**

Typical and atypical development throughout childhood. Physical therapy examination, evaluation, and intervention of children with neuromotor and musculoskeletal dysfunction. Introduction to the various pediatric practice settings.

**PT 568 – Neurorehabilitation II. 3 Credits.**

Neurologic physical therapy assessment and intervention of adults. Principles of neuroplasticity, motor control, motor learning and application to physical therapy neurorehabilitation. Includes assessment and treatment of vestibular system and conditions.

**PT 572 – Practice & Administration. 3 Credits.**

Practice management and operations. Includes strategic planning, human resource management, regulatory compliance/risk management, quality improvement, clinical coding, billing instruction, and career development.

**PT 583 – Integrated Clinical Experience I. 2 Credits.**

An integrated, part-time clinical experience with emphasis on patient evaluation, treatment, and professional development. CR/NCR grading.

**PT531 Prosthetics** will not be offered in AY26 as this course is being updated and will be offered in combination with orthotics during Fall 2026 for the Class of 2027. (Prior course description: Information pertinent to pathology, examination, and evaluation of patients with amputations and conditions requiring prosthetics. The basic components of the course include types of devices, fitting, exercise programs, gait analysis and gait training. An overview of upper extremity prosthetics will be provided.)

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## Second Year – Summer Semester

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**PT 589 – Full-Time Clinical Experience II. 6 Credits.**

Eight weeks of full-time clinical experience with emphasis on learning about administrative issues, problem solving, time management, and communication skills. Continuation of development of patient treatment and evaluation skills. CR/NCR grading.

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## Third Year – Fall Courses

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**PT 584 – Integrated Clinical Experience II. 2 Credits.**

An integrated, part-time clinical experience with emphasis on patient evaluation, treatment, and professional development.

**PT 626 – Clinical Medicine IV. 2 Credits.**

Course will focus on the role of the physical therapist in a Direct Access environment. Pathology, differential screening, pharmacotherapeutics, evaluation and management of gastrointestinal, endocrine/metabolic, and hepatobiliary disease.

**PT 627 – Prevention & Wellness Education. 3 Credits.**

Principles of public health and epidemiology as they relate to health prevention and wellness with an emphasis on clinical application and face-to-face patient interaction in the physical therapy setting.

**PT 629 – Clinical Medicine V. 2 Credits.**

Course will focus on evaluation, differential screening, pharmacology, and management of integumentary disorders. Includes wound assessment and treatment.

**PT 679 – Trends & Scholarly Activity. 1-6 Credits.**

Students are required to complete at least 6 credits during their 2nd and 3rd years. Seminar sections that focus on advanced clinical topics in physical therapy and/or engagement in research with an individual faculty advisor. Traditional or CR/NCR grading as determined by instructor.

**PT 584 – Integrated Clinical Experience II. 2 Credits.**

An integrated, part-time clinical experience with emphasis on patient evaluation, treatment, and professional development. CR/NCR grading.

**PT 570 – Psychosocial Aspects of Health & Wellness. 2 Credits.**

Psychosocial aspects of health and wellness including social/societal determinants for people from diverse backgrounds throughout the lifespan.

**PT 676 – Clinical Reasoning III. 3 Credits.**

Course addresses critical appraisal of complex research designs and clinical reasoning related to the provision of evidence-informed care.

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Third Year – Spring Semester

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**PT 680 – Full-Time Clinical Experience III. 11 Credits.**

Final summative experience is a 15-week clinical internship. Includes writing and presentation of case study or special project. CR/NCR grading.