

The DPT Curriculum

The three-year curriculum combines classroom learning with extensive clinical experience. An emphasis on evidence-based health care prepares students for excellence in clinical practice.

Curriculum Elements

- Coursework in Foundation Sciences:** Neuroscience, physiology, kinesiology and anatomy
- Professional Application Training:** Coursework and training about ethics, policies and business practices within the profession
- Coursework in Clinical Sciences:** Diagnosis and management of patient conditions
- Clinical Education:** Hands-on experience in a professional physical therapy clinic

Year One

Coursework emphasizes the foundation sciences. Patient contact begins.

Fall <i>Aug-Dec</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neuroscience • Kinesiology I • Cells, Systems & Disease I • Diagnosis & Evidence Analysis I 	Essential Clinical Skills in PT I	Professional Issues & Skill Development I	Early Clinical Experience
Spring <i>Jan-April</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Anatomy • Kinesiology II • Cells, Systems & Disease II • Diagnosis & Evidence Analysis II 	Diagnosis & Management of Musculoskeletal Conditions I	Professional Issues & Skill Development II	Early Clinical Experience
Summer <i>May-July</i>	Clinical Experience I: 8-week, full-time internship			

Year Two

Focus shifts to learning clinical diagnosis and management of patient conditions.

Fall <i>Aug-Dec</i>	Exercise Physiology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis & Management of Neuromuscular Conditions I • Diagnosis & Management of Musculoskeletal Conditions II • Essential Clinical Skills in PT II 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis & Management of Cardiopulmonary Conditions • Neurology Medicine • Orthopedic Medicine • Case Integration Lab I
Winter <i>Jan-Feb</i>	Clinical Experience II: 8-week, full-time internship		
Spring <i>March-June</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis & Management of General Medical Conditions • Diagnosis & Management of Neuromuscular Conditions II 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis & Management of Musculoskeletal Conditions III • Case Integration Lab II • Moderators of Health, Wellness & Rehabilitation 	Professional Issues & Skill Development III

Year Three

Clinical internships and final coursework integrate the curriculum and reinforce learning.

Summer <i>July-Sept</i>	Clinical Experience III: 10-week, full-time internship		
Fall <i>Sept-Dec</i>	Clinical Experience IV: 12-week, full-time internship		
Winter-Spring <i>Jan-May</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis & Evidence Analysis III • Alternative Skills & Practice Environments • Health, Fitness & Prevention • Case Integration Lab III 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Issues & Skill Development IV • Organizational & Management Issues 	Focused Clinical Study (30 hours)