

The DPT Curriculum

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

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.

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: one day a week (80 hours)
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: one day a week (40 hours)
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 integrates the curriculum and reinforces 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)