

**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY  
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE**

**PROGRAM POLICY DOCUMENT**

**SECTION I**

**DPT PROGRAMMATIC OVERVIEW**

**SUBSECTIONS**

PURPOSE  
MISSION  
PHILOSOPHY  
STUDENT OUTCOMES  
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TECHNICAL STANDARDS

## PURPOSE

This handbook should serve as the primary resource for students enrolled in the Doctor of Physical Therapy (“DPT”) Program (the “Program”) at the University of Delaware (the “University”). Contained within is important information on the philosophy of the Program, as well as Program-specific policies and procedures related to academic and student affairs. Policies and procedures not addressed in this manual will default to those existent within the University *Graduate Catalog* or other University publications. Students are urged to obtain and read all relevant University publications and to keep abreast of changes in practice and / or governance.

## MISSION

The mission of the Department of Physical Therapy is to optimize quality of life and human function by transforming physical therapy. The mission of the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program is to educate outstanding entry-level physical therapists who provide excellent physical therapy services, integrate scientific inquiry into their clinical practice, and have a well-developed sense of professionalism and social responsibility.

*(Modified and approved, 12/2023)*

## PHILOSOPHY

The University of Delaware DPT Program is a University based physical therapist educational program housed within the College of Health Sciences. The DPT program faculty members believe that the University is an appropriate environment for the education and development of future entry-level physical therapists at the level of the doctorate degree.

In addition to graduates being prepared as entry-level, doctor of physical therapy generalists, they are also capable of pursuing a specialty area within the profession or further graduate work in a research environment. As a program within a State supported institution of higher learning, we recognize the need and obligation to address the continually changing physical therapy needs of the State of Delaware. We also recognize the considerable commitment the State and University of Delaware have made to the growth and development of this program. As a member of the College of Health Sciences, we are invested in the development of partnerships throughout the state, in an era of interdisciplinary collaborative healthcare, to enhance our student learning, research diversity, and post professional training. We recognize that the accomplishment of these aims is optimized when educational and training resources are accessible to all individuals. Thus, the DPT program is committed to facilitating accessible and affordable education for students across the socioeconomic spectrum.

The physical therapist is a professional member of a health care team who views the patient as a unique, multi-identified individual with physical, intellectual, and psychosocial needs. It is the unity and dynamic nature of these dimensions that must be recognized and respected in each individual if the health care team is to serve humanity adequately in a multi-cultural society. Interwoven in this philosophy is the belief in the value and dignity of humankind, the right of equity in access to quality health care services, and the potential of the individual as a consumer to actively participate in the health care process. It is the patient centered care concept, with the patient as an active participant, that best serves the needs of the patient in maintaining or restoring their state of health and wellbeing. Physical therapists must be excellent communicators as well as facilitators of communication if this goal is to be reached. They must also reflect the diversity of our society in regard to race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual

orientation, socioeconomic and geographic background, along with the various intersectionality of such identities.

Physical therapists serve many roles. Their primary professional duty is to provide excellent health care within the context of social justice and to act as an advocate for the patients and clients that they serve. They also act as administrators, consultants, educators, and researchers. As such, the educational preparation of the physical therapist is an integrative process, drawing from liberal arts, basic sciences, natural sciences, and applied sciences.

The University of Delaware DPT curriculum is predicated on evidence-based practice. Clinically oriented courses draw extensively from primary source research as well as traditional theory and practice. A strong foundation in basic science is established early in the curriculum, alongside courses in which students learn the skills necessary for the practice of physical therapy. Integration between didactic courses and clinical practice takes place in our on-site outpatient PT clinics, which are a fundamental component of our program.

A major goal of the curriculum is to encourage students to develop lifelong learning skills as a means to remain up-to-date throughout their careers. This is accomplished, in part, by educating students to be consumers of relevant literature and to make informed choices for their future continuing education experiences. Recognized clinical experts are regularly utilized as instructors in the program to further integrate the relationships between expert clinical practice and research.

The future of health care has always rested on the art and scientific inquiry of its practitioners. Physical Therapy is a profession that, like other health care professions, is ever- evolving and advancing in the quality, nature, and extent of services offered. The body of knowledge of Physical Therapy will only grow if its practitioners engage in basic and clinical research. The PT Program at the University of Delaware is firmly committed to developing new knowledge and advancing the profession of physical therapy.

The DPT Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

*(Modified and approved, 3/2021)*

## **STUDENT OUTCOMES**

Graduates of the Program will enter the profession as physical therapist practitioners who:

1. Have demonstrated knowledge of the foundational and clinical sciences necessary to practice physical therapy.
2. Are competent in performing physical therapy examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, intervention, and assessment of patients and clients across the lifespan and in a multitude of physical therapy settings.
3. Possess the skills to use the literature to direct their everyday clinical decision making.
4. Participate in the administration of physical therapy services including delegation and supervision of support personnel, scheduling, and reimbursement activities.
5. Display professional behaviors that reflect APTA's core values of accountability, altruism, compassion/caring, excellence, integrity, professional duty and social responsibility in all professional interactions.
6. Demonstrate effective written, verbal and non-verbal communication skills.

7. Demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning through participation in continuing education courses, formal post-graduate coursework, professional development, self-directed learning, and mentoring activities.

### **SUITABILITY FOR THE PRACTICE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**

The collective faculty reserve the right to determine whether a student may matriculate or graduate on academic or ethical grounds, including traits of character pertaining to professional performance. Therefore, it is the judgment and expertise of the faculty that shall authorize and ultimately determine student appropriateness for the practice of physical therapy. Students are evaluated not only on their scholastic achievement, but also on their intellectual, physical, and emotional capacities to meet the technical standards of the program's curriculum (refer to Appendices for [Technical Standards](#) and [Professional Behaviors for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century](#)). Students must demonstrate good judgment, responsibility, morality, sensitivity, and compassion, while simultaneously being able to accurately synthesize and apply knowledge in a time efficient and safe manner. Deficiencies in these standards or the inability to function accordingly may jeopardize patient care and therefore may preclude matriculation or graduation from the program.

### **TECHNICAL STANDARDS**

The Department faculty have outlined the Technical Standards deemed essential for successful completion of the DPT curriculum. These standards, located in the [Appendix](#), represent the essential requirements for admission, academic advancement, and graduation.

The Department acknowledges Section 504 of the 1973 Vocational Rehabilitation Act, and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (collectively "Disability Laws"), but maintains certain minimum technical standards must be present in the student seeking the DPT degree. While state and federal law requires the provision of reasonable accommodations in situations of documented disability, there are disabilities that cannot be accommodated based upon professional practice demands. The program does seek to be supportive of individuals who can, through reasonable accommodation, meet the core performance standards expected of a physical therapist. Accommodation is viewed as a means of assisting students with disabilities to meet essential standards by providing them with equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of a course or clinical experience. Reasonable accommodation is not intended to guarantee that students will be successful in meeting the requirements of the course or clinical experience.

To determine if requested accommodations are feasible and reasonable, students should follow the established procedures of the University's Office of Disability Support Services ("DSS") to discuss educational needs and resources. For newly enrolled students, requests should occur with as much advance notice as possible before the start of the Program and for matriculating students, this should occur as soon as the need is identified. As there will be no retroactive accommodations, students are encouraged to request accommodation in a timely fashion.

The use of trained intermediaries to assist a student in accomplishing the curriculum requirements in the five skill areas identified in the Technical Standards document will not be permitted by the Department. Intermediaries, no matter how well trained, are applying their own powers of selection and observation, which could affect the student's judgment and performance. Therefore, no disabilities can be reasonably accommodated with an intermediary that provides cognitive support or that supplements clinical and ethical judgment.

Incoming students are required to sign the Handbook Acknowledgement and Consent to Lab Participation document prior to the completion of the first day of class. Matriculating students are encouraged to review the document on a yearly basis as the Technical Standards are subject to periodic updates (updated revision date will be reflected on the document). To assist applicants, students, and faculty in screening for deficiencies in meeting the Technical Standards of the Department, the following questions, while not inclusive, serve to highlight pertinent aspects of the document:

1. Is the student, with or without reasonable accommodations, able to observe demonstrations and fully participate in psychomotor laboratory activities?
2. Is the student, with or without reasonable accommodations, able to analyze, synthesize, extrapolate, solve problems, and make accurate and timely therapeutic judgments?
3. Does the student, with or without reasonable accommodations, have sufficient use of the senses and adequate motor and coordination skills to monitor and ensure patient safety while performing physical therapy examinations and interventions?
4. Can the student, with or without reasonable accommodations, relate to patients and establish sensitive, professional relationships with patients and others?
5. Can the student, with or without reasonable accommodations, communicate results of a physical therapy examination, or progress made with intervention, to patients, colleagues, instructors, and other providers with accuracy, clarity and efficiency?
6. Can the student, with or without reasonable accommodations, perform with precise, quick and appropriate actions in emergency situations?
7. Can the student, with or without reasonable accommodations, display good judgment and assume responsibility in the assessment and treatment of patients?
8. Can the student, with or without reasonable accommodations accept constructive feedback and respond by appropriate modifications of behavior?
9. Can the student, with or without reasonable accommodations, possess the perseverance, diligence, and consistency to complete the physical therapy curriculum and enter the independent practice of physical therapy?

After accommodations have been approved/sanctioned by ODSS, the qualifying student is solely responsible for sending out eligibility letters to course coordinators each semester. Students will not be accommodated in a course until the eligibility letter is received by the course coordinator. Students should be advised that didactic and clinical accommodations may vary, and the presence of classroom accommodations while at UDPT does not guarantee such accommodations will be permitted on the National Physical Therapy Examination.

**SECTION II**

**DPT PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS  
AND  
RELATED POLICIES**

**SUBSECTIONS**

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR  
PROFESSIONAL DRESS CODE  
CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR  
DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, AND PROFESSIONALISM COMMITMENT  
ACADEMIC HONESTY  
POLICY ON USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
POLICY ON COPYRIGHT PROTECTION OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL  
ATTENDANCE POLICY  
ILLNESS  
PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

## PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR

In addition to a core of cognitive and psychomotor skills, it has been recognized by educators and practicing professionals that a repertoire of behaviors is required for success in any given profession (Alverno College Faculty, Assessment at Alverno, 1979). Students are educated about the specific professional behaviors that relate to the physical therapy profession at multiple points throughout the curriculum. In addition to facilitated discussion on related topics, students are provided opportunities to develop self-reflective skills to determine appropriate venues / directions for professional growth and development. Professional behaviors are emphasized both in the classroom and clinical environment. A supporting document utilized throughout the curriculum on Professional Behaviors is located in the Appendix.

Violations of dress or professional behavior may result in a documented [Professional Behaviors Feedback Form](#) (see Appendix) that will be discussed and then signed by the student and the reporting faculty member. Feedback forms will be retained by the Program Director. If concerning behavior persists or if deemed egregious, the student will be required to meet with the Chair, a University official, or an otherwise designated group of faculty. At that point, a decision will be rendered relative to an appropriate course of action. The student has the right to appeal the decision through appropriate University processes.

It is also the expectation that students not disturb the learning environment or general wellbeing of others outside of the classroom on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, handicap, marital status or sexual orientation. Civil right offenses lack compatibility with an inclusive philosophy rooted in respect for differences. As with all other offenses (civil, federal, etc.), students will be held accountable for their actions and behaviors while in the program. Upon awareness of an offense, the faculty will provide input to appropriate officials on the degree to which such behaviors violate departmental and professional standards.

Additional behavioral expectations may be required to ensure safety in light of existing pathogens within the community. For example, specific to coronavirus, students are expected to comply with all UD, CHS, and PT guidelines including but not limited to social distancing, use of masks (and other essential PPE), hand/surface sanitization, compliance with screening protocols, space usage, and isolation/quarantine requirements. Such expectations exist both during and outside of class hours. Reckless behavior that demonstrates blatant disregard for the safety and health of self/others will be treated as would any disruption or offense. Disciplinary action and/or sanctions will be taken as prescribed by program policies.

## PROFESSIONAL DRESS CODE

Whether on-site or off-site, whenever physical therapy students interact with other health professionals or patients, professional attire is expected. Such interactions include, but are not limited to, patients serving as subjects in classes, professionals from outside the University presenting guest lectures, and visits to health care facilities. It is the responsibility of the student to seek guidance from the course instructor if there is any doubt on the acceptability of a chosen outfit. Students should be mindful that some outfits, although neat and stylish, may not be appropriate for a professional/clinical environment. Students are reminded that additional dress-code expectations may be specified within course syllabi.

### General guidelines

1. Regular classroom: Students will refrain from wearing clothing that is disruptive to the educational process. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- a. The length of shirts / tops should be adequate to cover the entire trunk at rest and during all movements by the student. Tops exposing the midriff/abdomen or breasts are unacceptable.
  - b. Clothing should not contain inappropriate language or symbols (i.e. – profanity or sexual innuendo).
  - c. Clothing is expected to be clean and not ripped, stained, malodorous, see-through, or low cut so as to expose under clothing with movement.
2. Laboratory sessions: Students are required to come to lab ready to work and donned in the appropriate attire. Unless otherwise specified, students are required to wear shorts and T-shirts. Women will require a halter-type top when practice involves the chest and trunk regions. Tennis shoes or sneakers that are clean and in good repair should be worn. Frequently, students move directly from lecture to lab and must be prepared to dress appropriately for both environments. Students seeking lab accommodations for cultural reasons should provide such requests, in writing, to the Program Director at the start of the term for discussion and consideration.
3. Off-site clinical site visits: When PT students are interacting on or off campus with health professionals or patients, they should dress professionally. Flat shoes in good condition that fully enclose the toe and heel must be worn. Requirements for professional dress are the same as in the classroom with the following additional requirements:
- a. No jeans.
  - b. No sweatpants, sweatshirts, shorts, or T-shirts.
  - c. No hats (religious head coverings are permissible).
  - d. No mini-skirts or high-slit skirts.
4. On-site clinical education experiences: The dress code outlined in the UD Clinic Orientation Manual will prevail.
5. Off-site clinical education experiences: The dress code outlined in the respective facilities Orientation Manual or Clinic Policy Document will prevail.

Faculty may document violations of the dress code on the Professional Behaviors Feedback Form. In addition, students may experience consequences including dismissal from class, lab, and/or other patient care activities, as well as loss of credit for time missed. Repeated infractions may result in consequences of a more serious nature.

### **CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

Students are expected to behave in a manner commensurate with their status as mature, intelligent, and professional adults. Actions and behaviors should reflect the student's awareness and appreciation of the importance of all instructed material. Examples of unacceptable classroom behavior include but are not limited to: tardiness; early departure; excessive talking during lecture or the passing of written notes between students; cell phone use; and inattentive or distracting behavior, such as head on desk, feet on table, sleeping, doing unrelated activities during class. Computers used in the classroom are to be used for course related activities. Checking email or engaging in course related activities not directly related to the course being instructed is prohibited.

## HEALTH EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, AND PROFESSIONALISM COMMITMENT

The Department of Physical Therapy embraces **health equity and professionalism** as core values. We are committed to health equity and professionalism as it relates to the diverse patients and populations for whom physical therapists provide care and services.

In the College of Health Sciences, we **commit** to:

1. Exhibit appropriate professional conduct and represent our prospective professions effectively.
2. Uphold a culture that is inclusive, where all students, faculty, and staff feel welcome and free from discrimination.
3. Interact respectfully with **all** students, faculty, and staff within the University and individuals in the community.
4. Interact respectfully with **all** students, faculty, staff, and individuals in the online environment (i.e., email, social media), including avoiding the use of racist, sexist, or other discriminatory remarks.
5. Report experienced or observed discrimination or harassment through the appropriate channels (e.g., UD Discrimination/Harassment Reporting Form).
6. Engage in courageous conversations and activities that empower students, faculty and staff to stand up against injustice and discrimination.
7. Strive to develop as students who become leaders, scholars, and health professionals who promote health for **all** individuals and help dismantle barriers to the best possible quality of care for **all**.
8. Promote well-being, balance, and resilience for **all** students, faculty, and staff, through diverse tools, resources, and offerings to allow everyone to thrive.
9. Provide the highest quality of clinical care, that is responsive to the individual needs of our patients and their caregivers, with an understanding of the needs of patients within a larger sociocultural context (e.g., race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, socioeconomic realities), both during and beyond our clinical training.

It is the expectation that students honor and abide by these principles in all aspects of their school, work, and external environment.

### ACADEMIC HONESTY

*(updated and approved by Legal Counsel, 8/1/2019)*

Academic dishonesty in any form, be it plagiarism, fabrication, cheating or academic misconduct, will not be tolerated and will be treated severely. The Code of Conduct serves to remind students that while each individual strives for the pursuit of excellence, behavior should align with and respect the societal standards in which the effort takes place. As such, students should ensure their actions are demonstrative of the highest virtues of truth, honesty and fairness. Students are encouraged to review the Code of Conduct as posted in the Student Guide to University Policies for a more comprehensive review of the standards by which students are bound. In addition, as members of an established profession, the program faculty and students will adhere to the American Physical Therapy Association Code of Ethics. Any violation of that code is subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the program. A copy of the Code of Ethics will be provided in PHYT 600, Physical Therapy as a Profession.

Additional standards reflective of academic integrity and appropriate conduct on examinations / assignments follow.

1. All formal assignments and assessments are required activities. Failure to take seriously the understanding and mastery of knowledge necessary for patient care will be recorded in the student's file as a breach of professionalism.
2. The following principles apply to all mechanisms of evaluation, be it oral, written or psychomotor (practical) in nature:
  - a. It is expected that all students demonstrate academic integrity and demonstrate awareness and affirmation of the fact that one's physical therapy education is the product of one's individual effort. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and is considered a violation of the spirit of physical therapy education and, in such, will result in judicial action. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: plagiarism, the transmission (giving and / or receiving) of examination content to others, use of past assessments not authorized by the faculty member of record, and the transmission or electronic capture of information during or following an assessment inconsistent with the format / directions.

NB: As digital communications and social media have become increasingly common and integral to the fabric of University life, students are reminded and strongly encouraged to exercise rigorous discretion to ensure that their online activities meet or exceed the standards of the University Code of Conduct, including but not limited to those pertaining to academic honesty, and the professional standards of the APTA, including but not limited to the Code of Ethics. Policies concerning academic honesty extend to all spoken, written, and graphic forms of communication, including but not limited to photography, screen shots, text messages, group chats, social media, apps, and online forums, whether public or private. Students are expected to maintain these standards of conduct online as well as offline. All internet-based and digital communications are regarded as permanent, public records of student behavior and are subject to applicable course policies and codes of student and professional conduct. Participation in discussions or correspondences (online or offline) that transmit examination or assessment content, irrespective of the "intent to cheat," will be treated as potential breaches of student conduct policies and may be subject to consequences as outlined in the Program Policy Document, Graduate Student Catalog and the Student Guide to University Policies.

- b. Unless otherwise specified, students are reminded that all work should be completed individually. Assignments and assessments given in the spirit of individual initiative should be carried out in that same fashion. Representing the contributions of others as one's own is not permitted.
- c. Collaboration with others to prepare for exams and to complete group projects is permissible up to the limits set by the instructor of record.
- d. Copyright restrictions and computer hardware/software should be utilized fairly and appropriately up to the limits set by the instructor of record.
- e. Students and faculty have a responsibility to report known or suspected violations of academic integrity as this ethical responsibility rests with each individual. Making accusations in the absence of reporting such information demonstrates unethical and unprofessional behavior.

### **POLICY ON USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

It is the expectation that AI tools be used with integrity and honesty. To that end, student use of AI-based tools must not violate copyright or intellectual property laws, nor should they be used in a manner that violates academic honesty/integrity, including cheating and other forms of plagiarism. AI tools may be appropriately used when they supplement and not replace unique student work. Students are cautioned that AI-tools may not provide accurate content and may not provide clear attribution to the authors of original sources. Students will be held responsible for any misinformation or improper citations incorporated into submitted work. If permitted and used to complete class assignments, students are required to cite and describe the use of AI. Students who violate the parameters provided for responsible and ethical use of AI may be subject to disciplinary action. Faculty also reserve the right to utilize plagiarism checking software and tools to screen for AI-generated content. Use of AI software for purposes of self-study is allowable.

### **POLICY ON COPYRIGHT PROTECTION OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL**

Students may not copy or redistribute educational materials (print, audio and/or visual) they receive through their education at the University or the Department, without the express written consent of the course instructor. Dissemination or unauthorized duplication of educational materials will be considered a violation of this policy and a breach of academic integrity.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

1. Attendance is defined as presence during the *entire* scheduled activity or until completion of an examination.
2. If a student is unable to attend a scheduled activity (i.e., lecture, laboratory sessions, exams, etc.), it is their responsibility to discuss the reason with the faculty member of record *in advance* of the activity in order to obtain approval for the absence. In situations of emergency, the faculty member of record should be notified by email as soon as possible.
3. The faculty member of record retains the right to determine if an absence is excused or unexcused.
4. Unexcused absences will follow the penalties as outlined in the course syllabus and should be reflected in student Professional Behaviors assessments. If not explicitly outlined in the syllabus, the following policies for assessments will prevail when an absence is deemed unexcused:
  - a. Zero credit on quizzes or other written examinations / assignments; at the discretion of the course instructor, the student may be permitted to engage in the assessment for a maximum score not to exceed half the total point value for that assignment or assessment.
  - b. Zero credit for a psychomotor assessment or other practical examination; students will be permitted to take the psychomotor assessment or practical examination one time (considered 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt) and must earn the passing standard for that attempt (there are no further repeat opportunities beyond this attempt).
5. In situations of absence, the student remains responsible for the acquisition of missed material / content.

6. Unless otherwise noted in the syllabus, attendance at all scheduled activities (lecture, labs, exams, etc.) is expected. This expectation exists for the following reasons.  
Scheduled activities:
  - a. provide information, concepts, and skills that are essential for learning safe, effective patient management.
  - b. provide cooperative learning experiences for students that promote group interactions, teamwork, and self, as well as group feedback and assessment.
  - c. allow for experiential learning via direct mentorship by faculty, and the opportunity to learn from/teach peers.
  - d. promote effective communication skills (verbal and listening) as well as skills essential for team dynamics.
7. Attendance is mandatory when a guest lecturer is delivering the material.
8. Attendance at clinical experiences (integrated clinical experiences, full-time clinical experiences, or lecture/laboratory sessions held off-site) is mandatory. Unexcused absences will follow the penalties as outlined in the course syllabus.
9. Students who do not demonstrate appropriate levels of preparedness (i.e. – assignments not completed in advance of class, inappropriate attire to participate fully in activities, absence of needed supplies for participation) may be asked to leave class and may be subject to an “unexcused” absence for the session. Unexcused absences will follow the penalties as outlined in the course syllabus.

### **ILLNESS**

Any student who must miss a required class to attend to a health concern may be asked to submit medical clearance for return to lecture, lab and / or clinic to the DPT program director. As a general guideline, medical clearance will be required by students in the following situations:

1. After undergoing a surgical procedure, whether inpatient or outpatient in nature.
2. Upon seeking medical attention at an Emergency Department or other Urgent Care Center given a traumatic or other high-acuity health concern.
3. After missing class or clinic greater than 3 days consecutively.
4. If experiencing a change in bone, joint or ligament stability that required medical attention.
5. If experiencing a change in central nervous system function that required medical attention.
6. If experiencing a change in cardiopulmonary system function that required medical attention.

The director of the DPT program will assist students unable to return to full and unrestricted class, lab, and/or clinic participation or who experience significant time out of class, lab, and/or clinic due to prolonged illness.

The Department is committed to assisting students with illness in keeping pace with their academic work during their recovery. In the setting of relatively short-term changes in health status wherein classroom participation is disallowed, the recording of classroom instruction can be requested to help maximize student achievement and minimize disruption to matriculation. Should temporary physical accommodations be necessary (given student inability to engage in the essential functions required for course objective fulfillment), an academic contract may be implemented that specifies practice expectations and assessment timeframes. However, a medical leave of absence may be recommended in situations wherein too much time is missed or a student is unable to fulfill the technical standards of a course / requirements of the academic contract.

Instructors who need to cancel classes due to illness will provide notification to students in as timely of a manner as possible. Please understand that emergency situations do arise, though every effort will be made to minimize interference with planned student learning objectives.

Departmental policy forbids a student or employee from returning to the clinical or teaching environment until fever-free (un-medicated) for at least 24 hours.

The Chair of the SAC and the Director of Clinical Services are responsible for the coordination of efforts and protocols required to minimize transmission of contaminants during the flu season in the Department and clinic, respectively. Questions or consultations on infection control procedures in order to reduce illness should be directed to the appropriate point of contact.

### **PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

Involvement in professional activities of any sort is strongly encouraged. This includes attendance at professional meetings, when possible. However, such attendance will depend on the student's responsibilities in regularly scheduled courses, particularly clinic. There is no guarantee that classes will be cancelled for professional meetings, nor that students will be able to attend the meeting of their choice. In the event that classes are cancelled for a professional meeting in the nearby geographical area, all students will be encouraged to attend. There may be instances when course instructors require attendance at professional conferences.

Students who wish to attend non-mandatory conferences should request permission from the Program Director in advance of the professional meeting. This also includes students contemplating submission of an abstract to a professional conference. The timing of this communication is necessary to allow for individualized student planning. Students failing to communicate with the Program Director within the established timeframe will not receive special consideration and will be permitted to attend conference only when their absence will not interfere with scheduled classroom and/or clinical obligations.

In consultation with the Program Director, Chair of the SAC, faculty, and clinical staff, the Program Director will render a decision on each student's individual request. Students may be prohibited from attending conference if clinic needs (direct patient care obligations) would go unmet, if academic concerns warrant decreased outside distractions, if prior conference participation has already occurred, if other professional growth must be displayed prior to attending a national conference, or if the request fell outside established timeframes. Students should also remain aware that permission granted by the Program Director to submit an abstract does not guarantee attendance at the conference, especially for abstracts with multiple authors.

As funds are available, the Department will contribute toward the cost of conference registration for one APTA national meeting (e.g., CSM, Capitol Hill Day) for DPT students who are in good standing and are presenting or are attending on UDPT business (Marquette challenge, APTA role, etc.). Students should request funding assistance to the Program Director when seeking permission to attend the meeting. Supplemental funds will be made available for student attendance at additional conferences at the Chair's discretion. For costs not offset by the Program, each student remains personally responsible for funds needed to support participation.

Students should also be aware that the Program Director, on behalf of the faculty, reserves the right to revoke student permission to attend a conference should additional concerns (professional, academic, and/or clinical) present. For example, a student who experiences a downward trend in academic performance may be instructed to forego the additional enrichment experience of conference so needed effort could be applied toward solidifying knowledge of essential material. In light of this policy, students are encouraged to consider

refundable or transferrable flight and lodging accommodations.

**SECTION III**

**DPT ACADEMIC STANDARDS  
AND  
RELATED POLICIES**

**SUBSECTIONS**

GRADING  
EXTRA CREDIT  
CRITERIA FOR MATRICULATION  
CRITERIA FOR DISMISSAL  
WRITTEN EXAMS  
PRACTICAL EXAMS  
MISSED EXAMS  
TARDINESS TO EXAMS  
CLINICAL EDUCATION  
COURSE CONTENT  
GPA REQUIREMENTS  
PROBATIONARY STATUS  
TIME TO COMPLETE DPT DEGREE

## GRADING

The Department will utilize the following scale for all graded courses not considered pass/fail in nature. Please note that graded clinical courses may not offer all letter grades noted below. As such, students are advised to consult the course syllabi for letter grade options.

\*\* Note: The grade of B- will not be awarded.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Numeric Equivalent (if appropriate)</u>	<u>Quality Points</u>
A	92.50 – 100.00	4.00
A-	89.50 – 92.49	3.67
B+	84.50 – 89.49	3.33
B	79.50 – 84.49	3.00
C+	76.50 – 79.49	2.33
C	72.50 – 76.49	2.00
C-	69.50 – 72.49	1.67
D+	66.50 – 69.49	1.33
D	62.50 – 66.49	1.00
D-	59.50 – 62.59	0.67
F	< 59.49	0.00

Other grading codes:

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Explanation</u>
I	Incomplete. This grade is awarded when mitigating circumstances exist that have precluded a student from satisfactorily completing all requirements of a given course. This is an exceptional grade that should only be used when situations arise beyond the student's control (i.e. – illness or other unavoidable absence) that require additional time for fulfillment of remaining academic obligations. An "I" will convert to an "F" within 6 weeks if outstanding academic obligations are not reconciled.
**W	Official Withdrawal. Students must petition the Program Director to withdraw from a core course within the curriculum. Compelling evidence of extenuating circumstances necessitating the withdrawal must be provided as the Department will not allow for the withdrawal solely for poor academic performance.
P	Pass. Satisfactory completion of all course requirements. Performance must be commensurate with a "C" or above if equating to letter-grade scale.
F	Fail. Unsatisfactory level of performance or completion of course requirements.
S	Satisfactory progress. Utilized for classes that span semesters.

\*\*The above withdrawal policy applies to all published University drop-add deadlines.

Elective courses will not count towards a student's core degree grade point average.

## EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit projects and assignments (outside those required for the class entity at large) designed for purposes of "pulling up" a student's grade are not permitted. Students whose academic performance places them at risk of failing should be identified as soon as possible to

enable discussion on additional resources that might be of value to promote successful completion of academic requirements.

### CRITERIA FOR MATRICULATION

1. Students must achieve an initial minimum grade of 'C' in PHYT 622 (Clinical Gross Anatomy) to proceed in the curriculum. There are no opportunities to repeat this course.
2. Students must achieve an initial minimum grade of 'pass' or 'C' in all required didactic courses. A grade of C minus (C-) or below does not satisfy the passing benchmark. Those that do not will be permitted to repeat the course *one time* to achieve the passing standard, but only after successful completion of a required didactic enrichment independent study ("DEIS"). This course will be registered under codes 666 or 866. It is important to note that registration in a DEIS may be required in multiple terms while awaiting re-entry as a full-time matriculated student.

Students initially unsuccessful in achieving the passing standards of a required course must successfully pass all criteria outlined within a DEIS. Favorable completion of the DEIS will allow the student to repeat the previously failed course. Should the passing standard for the course be met during this repeat, the student may matriculate to other degree-mandated courses in subsequent semesters. The DEIS is a variable-credit, individualized independent study designed to:

- Strengthen the knowledge, skills, and / or behaviors contributory to the academic deficiency, and
- Re-expose students to foundational content areas necessary for maintenance of continued competence in anticipation of return to full-time student status.

To best promote a meaningful learning opportunity, the Program Director will work with the course coordinator to outline the learning activities and standards of performance for the DEIS. While student input will be solicited when developing this enrichment plan, it should be noted that faculty retain final authority in determining such requirements and standards. To confirm agreement of content, the student, course coordinator, and Program Director will sign the DEIS. Pending successful completion of all DEIS criteria as outlined, the student will repeat the failed course the next time it is offered. There are no opportunities to repeat the DEIS if the outlined standards are not achieved. While required for ongoing matriculation in the program, the credits received through enrollment in the DEIS are above, not in lieu of, those required for graduation. Students are advised to remain in the local area when completing the DEIS as many of the learning opportunities occur on-campus.

3. Students who qualify for a LOA at any point after full completion of the first semester (summer) of the DPT Program must have necessary clearances to return to a full-time matriculated student status. Additionally, they must meet with the program director to develop a plan to ensure they have the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that must be retained and carried forward to maximize success in the curriculum upon their return.

4. Students must have an overall cumulative 3.00 grade point average (“GPA”) and an overall 3.00 GPA in the courses required for the degree to participate in terminal full-time clinical education experiences.

Students who do not have a 3.00 overall cumulative and 3.00 degree-specific GPA prior to the terminal full-time clinical experiences will not be permitted to engage in those clinical experiences and will be required to repeat core curricular courses to facilitate a rise in GPA to the threshold clinical matriculation standard as outlined above. Students should be reminded of the maximum four-year time frame for completion of the DPT degree.

5. Students must achieve a grade outlined/ specified/offered in syllabus that is higher than, but not inclusive of, a C- (C minus) in all clinical courses (two integrated clinical experiences and three terminal full-time clinical experiences) to meet passing standards. Students who receive a grade of ‘F’ will be recommended for dismissal from the program. This recommendation will be formally reviewed at the department level and may result in a recommendation of dismissal from the Program to the Graduate College. Students who receive an initial intermediate grade outlined/specified/offered in syllabus between, and inclusive of, C- (C minus) and D (D), will be permitted to repeat the course *one time* to achieve the passing standard, but only after successful completion of a required clinical enrichment independent study (“CEIS”). This course will be registered under codes 666 or 866. It is important to note that registration in a CEIS may be required in multiple terms until objectives are satisfied that would permit repeat of the clinical experience.

Students who qualify to participate in CEIS given an intermediate grade outlined/specified/offered in syllabus between, and inclusive of, C- (C minus) and D (D ), in PHYT 821 or PHYT 822 (integrated clinical experiences, ICEs) may matriculate in the curriculum but may not participate in any further ICEs until successfully completing the required CEIS. There are no opportunities to repeat the CEIS if the outlined standards are not achieved. A student permitted to repeat PHYT 821 or PHYT 822 must obtain the passing standard on the repeat experience of the previously taken ICE prior to enrolling in a different ICE course. The Director of Clinical Education (DCE) may recommend to the Program Director that a change in sequence be granted should such modification minimize delays to student completion.

Students who qualify to participate in a CEIS given an intermediate grade outlined/specified/offered in syllabus between, and inclusive of, C- (C minus) and D (D ), in any terminal full-time clinical experience (PHYT 831, PHYT 833, PHYT 834) may not proceed to other full-time clinical experiences until satisfactory completion of the CEIS has occurred. There are no opportunities to repeat the CEIS if the outlined standards are not achieved. A student permitted to repeat a terminal full-time clinical experience must obtain the passing standard on the repeat experience prior to enrolling in a different full-time clinical experience.

To best promote a meaningful learning opportunity, the DCE in conjunction with the respective ADCE will outline the learning activities and standards of performance for the CEIS. While student input on activities beneficial to address clinical deficiencies will be sought, faculty retain final authority in determining CEIS requirements and standards. To confirm agreement of content, both the student and DCE (and ADCE if applicable) will sign the CEIS. Pending successful completion of all criteria as outlined, the student may repeat the clinical experience. There are no opportunities to repeat the CEIS if the outlined standards are not achieved. Students are advised to remain in the local area when completing the CEIS as many of the learning opportunities occur on- campus. While required for ongoing matriculation in the Program, the credits received through enrollment in the CEIS are above, not in lieu of, those required for graduation.

Essentially, the CEIS is a variable-credit, individualized independent study designed to:

- Strengthen the knowledge, skills and / or behaviors contributory to the clinical deficiency, and
  - Promote student self-reflection of past performance and provide opportunity to establish goal-directed learning experiences to maximize potential for future clinical success.
6. There are no decelerated curriculum options. If, under extreme circumstances, a change in academic progression needs to occur, the pre-requisite and co-requisite curricular table will govern academic progression.
  7. Unless stated otherwise in the course syllabus, students must individually pass both the laboratory and didactic components of a course in order to proceed in the curriculum, despite overall (cumulative) course grade calculations.
  8. Courses that have distinct learning components / sections may be structured so that a student must individually pass each section in order to pass the course. The passing standards as outlined in the course syllabi will prevail.
  9. Students must earn the grade of P (pass) in all required pass / fail courses in order to proceed in the curriculum.
  10. Student matriculation into clinical education experiences requires faculty approval of readiness, regardless of passing all prior coursework. This determination is made through consideration of academic, affective, and professional standards of performance as demonstrated by the student. Students are reminded of the Suitability for the Practice of Physical Therapy policy that is located in Section I of this document and the Professional Behavior policy located in Section II.

Students must possess all needed clearances (e.g. – health, criminal background check, etc.) as required by the setting / location wherein core DPT courses for the matriculated cohort are delivered. In the event a student is unable to meet the requirements of the setting/ location, the student may be unable to fulfill the course objectives and may need to consider / request a leave of absence to work towards compliance. With the exception of full-time clinical education experiences, alternate locations outside those used for the matriculated cohort will not be considered.

### **CRITERIA FOR DISMISSAL**

1. Achieving a grade less than 'C' in PHYT 622 (Clinical Gross Anatomy) will result in a recommendation for dismissal from the Program to the Graduate College.
2. Achieving a grade less than 'pass' or 'C' during the *repeat* (second attempt) of any required didactic course will result in a recommendation for dismissal from the Program to the Graduate College.

3. Achieving an initial grade of 'F' or 'fail' on any integrated clinical experience or terminal full-time clinical experience will result in a recommendation for dismissal from the program. This recommendation will be reviewed at the department level and may result in a recommendation of dismissal from the Program to the Graduate College.
4. Achieving a grade of C- or lower during the *repeat* (second attempt) of any integrated clinical experience or terminal full-time clinical experience will result in a recommendation for dismissal recommendation from the Program to the Graduate College.
5. Failing to achieve the *initial* minimum passing grade in two required (didactic and / or clinical) courses (including a DEIS or CEIS) will result in a recommendation for dismissal from the Program to the Graduate College. Note to clarify: Failing to successfully achieve (pass) all standards as outlined within a DEIS or CEIS will count as the second failure in the curriculum and will be grounds for student dismissal.
6. Electing not to participate in a DEIS or CEIS (lack of agreement to stipulations as written) will result in a recommendation for dismissal from the Program to the Graduate College.
7. Inability to obtain an overall cumulative 3.00 GPA and an overall 3.00 GPA in courses required for the degree (as required for matriculation to full-time clinical experiences) within the 4-year established timeframe for completion of the DPT degree will result in a recommendation for dismissal from the Program to the Graduate College.
8. In addition to the factors above, faculty may also vote to recommend dismissal of a student to the Graduate College for reasons including, but not limited to:
  - a. Inability to function adequately in a professional capacity
  - b. Inability to demonstrate competence or to ensure patient safety despite reasonable and appropriate accommodation of a qualifying physical and / or mental health problem (refer to [Technical Standards](#))
  - c. Behavior determined illegal, unethical, or so objectionable as to be inconsistent with the suitability for the physical therapy profession
  - d. Inability to obtain needed clearance for participation in course-specific settings given findings within the criminal background report that are unable to be resolved

### WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS

1. The acceptance of oral questions during written examinations will occur at the discretion of the faculty member of record. There is no uniform policy to preclude the arrangement of an external proctor with the prohibition of asking questions during the assessment.
2. Faculty will review examination data to determine the clarity or appropriateness of exam questions. Faculty retain the right to accept multiple answers, retain the question "as-is," or eliminate the question entirely from the examination (including reducing the total number of questions by which the examination is calculated).
3. Test questions may be formulated from required readings (whether discussed directly in class or not) and may be retained, at the discretion of the faculty member, regardless of the percentage of students responding appropriately.

4. No class-wide curves are permitted.

### **PRACTICAL (OR OTHER CLINICAL SKILL-BASED / INTEGRATIVE) EXAMINATIONS**

1. For courses wherein a laboratory component exists, unless otherwise stated in the course syllabus, a passing grade must be achieved on all practical examinations to successfully pass the course, regardless of the overall combined point total in the class.
  - a. A passing grade for a practical examination is deemed a 72.5%, unless otherwise noted in course syllabus.
2. Practical examinations not passed on the first attempt can be repeated a second time. Failure to pass on the second attempt will result in failure of the laboratory component and therefore failure of the course.
  - a. Faculty reserve the right to require a higher passing standard on the repeat of the practical. Such passing standards will be outlined in the course syllabus.
  - b. Students who repeat practical examinations and pass on the second attempt will retain their initial score for grade calculation, unless otherwise specified in the course syllabus.
  - c. Repeat assessments will consist of a new practical examination (different case / scenario / skill). However, faculty reserve the right to require a student to demonstrate mastery over the initial practical examination content as well should the repeat assessment embody different knowledge, skills, and behaviors than the initial assessment.

### **MISSED EXAMINATIONS**

Unless pre-approved by the faculty member of record, make-up examinations will not be permitted and a grade of zero will be awarded. Exceptions will be made only in the most extreme of situations where prior notification and excuse was not possible under the circumstances. In situations where the absence is excused, the faculty member of record will determine a suitable time for the make-up examination. The student will not incur academic penalty when absences are pre-approved and deemed "excused."

### **TARDINESS TO EXAMINATIONS**

A student who, without prior notification and excuse, arrives late to a required examination or assessment will not be allowed extra time to compensate for the late arrival unless the student demonstrates good cause for the late arrival and that prior notification and excuse could not reasonably be given under the circumstances.

### **CLINICAL EDUCATION**

The clinical education team is committed to maximizing the clinical learning opportunities for all students. Integrated clinical experiences (ICEs) will occur in our SO and NOA clinics wherein students will be exposed to best clinical practice in a manner that seamlessly reinforces the clinical philosophies of the department. Students will be assigned to full time clinical education experiences based upon knowledge of the clinical environment, as well as the demonstrated academic performance and professional behaviors of students throughout their tenure in the curriculum.

Students participating in integrated clinical experiences and full-time clinical education experiences will be held to standards as outlined within the Clinical Education Manual and course syllabus.

### **COURSE CONTENT**

Faculty reserve the right to modify curricular content and alter course requirements on a yearly basis if deemed to be in the best interest of student learning or if required by availability of resources. Students will be held accountable for content, assignments, and assessments as outlined in the syllabus corresponding to their enrollment in the particular course. Students may, however, be referred to, and to some degree held accountable for, information in courses not yet taken if required for clinical care.

### **GPA REQUIREMENTS**

Commensurate with the University policy, a student will be required to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.000 at the end of each semester to be considered in good academic standing. In addition, the University will require an overall cumulative 3.000 GPA and an overall 3.000 GPA in courses required for the degree to allow a student to graduate.

### **PROBATIONARY STATUS**

The Program will adhere to the University guidelines regarding academic probation for graduate students. This policy is clearly outlined in the [Graduate Catalog](#). All academic course work must be successfully completed before a student will be allowed to participate in the full-time clinical education phase of the program.

### **TIME TO COMPLETE DPT DEGREE**

Students in the Program have a maximum of four years to complete the DPT degree.

**SECTION IV**

**MS IN CLINICAL HEALTH SCIENCE  
PROGRAMMATIC OVERVIEW**

**SUBSECTIONS**

PURPOSE  
STUDENT OUTCOMES  
ELIGIBILITY  
DEGREE COMPLETION PATHWAYS  
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS  
REQUIRED COURSEWORK  
CRITERIA FOR MATRICULATION  
CRITERIA RENDERING STUDENT INELIGIBLE FOR DEGREE

## **PURPOSE**

The Master of Science in Clinical Health Science provides students with advanced knowledge and understanding of human anatomy, physiology, and pathology and the ability to apply that information to normal and pathological movements. Proficient identification and analysis of health outcomes research, combined with intricate knowledge of system structure and function, will enable graduates to maximize client wellness through education, advocacy, and research coordination.

## **STUDENT OUTCOMES**

Upon obtainment of the MS in Clinical Health Science, the graduate will:

1. Demonstrate a firm understanding of human anatomy, physiology, and pathology.
2. Apply sound principles related to human anatomy, physiology, and pathology to the evaluation of the structure and function of the human body.
3. Understand and apply sound principles of research design, measurement, and statistical approaches to the evaluation of the literature supporting current and newly developing methods used to evaluate the structure and function of the human body.
4. Obtain pathways for lifelong professional and personal development, and
5. Demonstrate civic leadership that promotes attainment of resources to address community health needs.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Eligibility for the MS in Clinical Health Science is restricted to students admitted into the DPT Program. No students will be admitted directly into the MS program in Clinical Health Science.

## **DEGREE COMPLETION PATHWAY**

The pathway for a student to earn the MS in Clinical Health Science is when a student has discontinued enrollment in the DPT Program but has satisfied graduate requirements specific to the MS degree.

## **DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

1. 33+ credit hours of degree-required coursework.
2. Successful completion of all degree-required courses with the established grade minimum.
3. Cumulative GPA of 3.00 in degree-required courses.

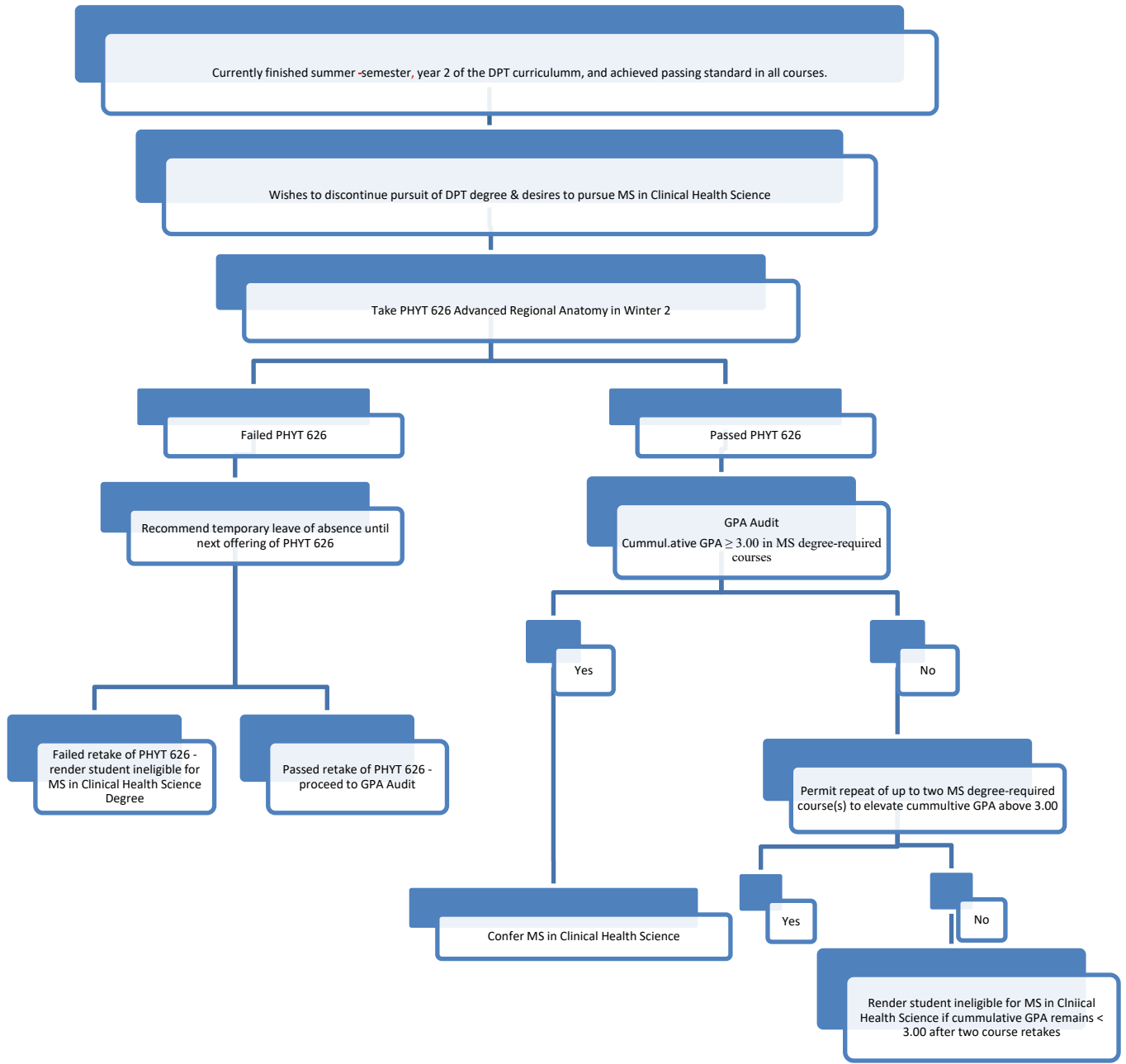
## REQUIRED COURSEWORK

The following courses are required for the MS in Clinical Health Science. Course descriptions are located in the appendix of this document.

PHYT 622: Clinical Gross Anatomy (6 credits, letter-graded)
PHYT 604: Kinesiology for Physical Therapists (5 credits, letter-graded)
PHYT 801: Medical Sciences-General Medicine (2 credits, letter-graded)
PHYT 620: Communicating in Patient Care Settings (2 credits, letter-graded)
PHYT 606: Research (3 credits, letter-graded)
PHYT 813 Pain Science and Patient Management (3 credits, letter-graded)
PHYT 623: Neurologic Physical Therapy I: Clinical Neuroscience (4 credits, letter-graded)
PHYT 632: Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Evaluation and Treatment (5 credits, letter-graded)
PHYT 626: Advanced Regional Anatomy (3 credits, letter-graded)

## CRITERIA FOR MATRICULATION

1. For students no longer enrolled in the DPT Program who opt to graduate with the MS degree, the matriculation pathway will follow this algorithm.



Currently finished summer -semester, year 2 of the DPT curriculum, and achieved passing standard in all courses.

Wishes to discontinue pursuit of DPT degree & desires to pursue MS in Clinical Health Science

Take PHYT 626 Advanced Regional Anatomy in Winter 2

Failed PHYT 626

Passed PHYT 626

Recommend temporary leave of absence until next offering of PHYT 626

GPA Audit  
Cumulative GPA  $\geq 3.00$  in MS degree-required courses

Failed retake of PHYT 626 - render student ineligible for MS in Clinical Health Science Degree

Passed retake of PHYT 626 - proceed to GPA Audit

Yes

No

Permit repeat of up to two MS degree-required course(s) to elevate cumulative GPA above 3.00

Confer MS in Clinical Health Science

Yes

No

Render student ineligible for MS in Clinical Health Science if cumulative GPA remains < 3.00 after two course retakes

### **CRITERIA RENDERING STUDENT INELIGIBLE FOR DEGREE**

Students will be deemed ineligible to continue studies toward an MS in Clinical Health Science and will be recommended for dismissal if any of the following are encountered:

1. Unsuccessful completion of PHYT 622: Clinical Gross Anatomy at time of first administration.
2. Inability to successfully pass the repeat (second attempt) of an already failed MS degree-required course.
3. Inability to successfully achieve a cumulative GPA > 3.00 in MS degree-required courses after repeating up to 2 degree-required courses for a higher grade.
4. Demonstration of non-academic factors not commensurate with the moral or ethical standards of a healthcare champion (e.g. – professional, ethical, egregious legal breaches, etc).

**SECTION V**

**DEPARTMENT STANDARDS  
AND  
RELATED POLICIES**

**SUBSECTIONS**

PROGRAMMATIC REQUIREMENTS  
CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS  
NOTIFICATION OF VIOLATIONS OF LAW  
TRANSFER CREDIT AND CREDIT BY EXAMINATION  
DEFERMENT POLICY  
WITHDRAWAL POLICY  
LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY  
DROP - ADD POLICY  
BLOOD BORNE PATHOGEN EXPOSURE AND INJURY POLICY  
RIGHTS OF CLASSROOM VOLUNTEERS  
STUDENT RIGHTS  
GRADE GRIEVANCE AND OTHER RELATED ACADEMIC COMPLAINTS  
COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE DEPARTMENT  
COMPLAINTS TO CAPTE  
UNIVERSITY'S STATEMENT ON HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, AND SEXUAL MISCONDUCT  
UNIVERSITY'S TITLE IX STATEMENT  
ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

## PROGRAMMATIC REQUIREMENTS

Immediately upon entering the program, and every year thereafter, the student must demonstrate proof of the following:

1. APTA membership
2. Health / medical insurance
3. Professional liability insurance
4. Other vaccinations and/or boosters as required by the University for all students

The student will not be permitted to participate in any coursework (lecture, laboratory or clinical) until all requirements are fulfilled and the student has been deemed to be in good standing. Class, lab and/or clinic absences secondary to unfulfilled requirements will be deemed “unexcused” with consequences as outlined in the course syllabus or student handbook.

There are additional requirements for students throughout the curriculum (CPR, criminal background checks, HIPAA, blood-borne pathogens training, immunizations / titers / other health clearances, Protection of Minors on Campus training, etc.). While completion of many of these items have been embedded into the first year of instruction, the student will be required to fulfill the unique requirements outlined by each clinical site prior to engaging in full-time clinical education experiences or other clinical experiences at that facility. The student is referred to the Clinical Education Manual for additional information.

Additional testing and/or vaccinations specific to COVID-19 may be required.

## CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

All students in the Program undergo various forms of criminal background checks during their tenure at the University. Many of the hospitals and clinical sites affiliated with the Program require background checks of all student interns to ensure the safety of patients, including the University’s own Early Learning Center which will not allow any intern placements without the successful completion of a criminal background check. In addition, most state licensing boards will inquire about prior criminal activity as part of the licensure process and/or require a recent / updated criminal background check. Any student concerned about possible findings on a criminal background check is encouraged to discuss the situation with the Program Director in a timely manner to determine how such findings may impact the ability to participate in core curricular courses, clinical education experiences and licensure.

## NOTIFICATION OF VIOLATIONS OF LAW

All students in the program are subject to the policies described within the Graduate Code of Conduct. The violations of law policy reads, “Students who violate local, state or federal law and have pleaded guilty to or otherwise accepted responsibility for a violation (e.g. Probation Before Judgment or no lo contendere) or been adjudicated as guilty of such a violation should be aware that the University may also sanction the Student.”

The following procedure is required should a student undergo criminal arrest while a matriculant in the program.

1. Notification of Criminal Arrest
  - A. A student is responsible for notifying the University (both the Program Director and Graduate College) of any off-campus arrest.
  - B. When the Graduate College is informed of the arrest of a student, the University will send notice to the student requiring that he or she make an appointment for an interview. During this interview, the facts involved in the student’s arrest, the student’s obligation to keep the University informed of the progress of the criminal charge(s), and the student’s obligation to advise the University of the final disposition of the criminal charge(s) will be discussed with the student.

2. Withdrawal When Certain Criminal Charges are Pending
  - A. The University may withdraw any student when certain charges are pending against that student, subject to the procedures set forth in the Student Conduct System.
  - B. Specifically, withdrawal may be mandated where the crime involves an act of violence, the sale, manufacture or delivery of drugs, or any other conduct that is egregiously offensive to the University's mission.

### **TRANSFER CREDIT AND CREDIT BY EXAMINATION**

While no transfer credit is permitted toward the DPT degree, it is recognized that students who enroll in the Program may have previously earned graduate credits or degrees. Some courses may be eligible for credit by examination if the student feels he / she is adequately prepared in that area. It should be clearly noted that students may only utilize a course toward fulfilling the credit requirements of a single degree. Credits used to complete other degrees may not be transferred into a different degree at the University of Delaware. Clinical courses or other courses with lab components are not eligible for credit by examination.

To challenge a course, the student must obtain a copy of the course syllabus and review it, consult with the instructor of the course and inform him / her of their intent to challenge, have the course challenge approved by the faculty, and take a comprehensive test written by the primary instructor of the course. If the test is passed with a minimum grade of eighty percent, the Office of Graduate Studies will be notified that this course requirement has been satisfied via examination. (See the [Graduate Catalog](#) for more details regarding this process). In certain instances, the student may be required to attend specific lectures or labs within the waived course if the instructor feels it is necessary. This process must be completed by the second week of classes to allow the student to withdraw or enroll in the course without penalty.

### **DEFERMENT POLICY**

Any student who wishes to request deferment of their enrollment in the Program must do so in writing to the Program Director. The reasons for deferment must be clearly articulated. The request will be considered by the Admissions Committee at the earliest possible time. Except in the most extreme of situations, a student may not defer enrollment greater than one year.

### **WITHDRAWAL POLICY**

Any student who wishes to withdraw from a core course must petition the Program Director in writing. Compelling evidence of extenuating circumstances necessitating the withdrawal must be provided as the Department will not allow for the withdrawal solely for poor academic performance.

### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY**

Any student who wishes to request a leave of absence (LOA) for personal, professional, or medical reasons must do so in writing to the Program Director. The reasons for the leave must be clearly articulated. Pending agreement, the Department will forward support for the leave of absence to the Graduate College for final approval. Except in the most extreme of situations, an approved LOA will not be greater than one year. Academic policy requires students to have a plan in place to ensure they have the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that must be retained and carried forward to maximize success in the curriculum upon their return.

### **DROP – ADD POLICY**

The Department's withdrawal policy as outlined above applies to all published University drop-add deadlines.

## **BLOOD BORNE PATHOGEN EXPOSURE AND INJURY POLICY**

Per University standards, all blood borne pathogen exposures and personal injuries are to be treated and reported immediately. The full policy for treating and reporting blood borne pathogen exposures and personal injuries is located within the [appendix](#) of this Program Policy document.

Prior to the start of classes, all students are required to sign and complete Blood Borne Pathogen training through University of Delaware's SCISHIELD system.

## **RIGHTS OF CLASSROOM VOLUNTEERS**

It is the expectation that all human subjects who volunteer to participate in laboratory exercises and classroom demonstrations will be treated with dignity and respect. Students should uphold the highest standards of professionalism when interacting with classroom volunteers. It must also be made clear that subjects should be a willing volunteer and should never experience coercion or penalty for not participating (e.g., the threat of denial of services if they are a patient in our clinic). Subject confidentiality will be handled in the same manner that it is handled for all patients in our PT practice clinic. The rights and dignity of each subject will always be maintained. Subjects will always retain the right to withdraw their participation in laboratory or classroom activities without penalty. All subjects will be informed of their rights prior to participation in any classroom activity. Any violations of this policy should immediately be reported to the Department Chair.

## **STUDENT RIGHTS**

Physical therapy students enjoy the same rights and privileges as all other graduate students who attend the University of Delaware. Students should consult the [Graduate Catalog](#) and [The Student Guide to University Policy](#) for a detailed description of student rights and due process.

## **GRADE GRIEVANCE AND OTHER RELATED ACADEMIC COMPLAINTS**

Students incurring academic or behavioral sanctions that impact matriculation will meet with the Director of the DPT Program to review the incident, unique circumstances, and existing policies. To ensure full exploration of the issue, the Director of the DPT Program will also meet with faculty and review all records relative to the incident. If resolution cannot be obtained at this level, students will be advised on their grievance options as outlined in the [The Student Guide to University Policy](#).

It is a violation of University policy to retaliate in any way against any individual who has lodged a complaint. Person(s) against whom the complaint is lodged also bear a responsibility to abstain from retaliatory behavior toward the complainant(s) and/or any individual participating in the investigation.

## **COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE DEPARTMENT**

Any individual or organization that is unsatisfied with their experience or encounter with any student, faculty or staff member of the Department at the University of Delaware is advised to file a timely written complaint with the Department.

The process for handling complaints is as follows:

1. When possible, the Department Chair shall discuss the complaint directly with the party involved within fourteen (14) business days. If at all possible, the matter shall be reconciled at this point. A letter from the Department Chair outlining the resolution of the complaint will be sent to the complainant and the matter will be closed.

2. If a resolution of the complaint is not achieved, or if the complaint is against the Department Chair, the involved party may submit a written complaint to the Dean of the College. In the event a resolution was attempted by the Department Chair but was unsuccessful, the initial complaint and records of attempted resolution shall be forwarded to the Dean. The Dean or Dean's designee shall discuss the complaint directly with the party involved, either separately or together as the circumstances require. A letter from the Dean or Dean's designee outlining the resolution of the complaint will be sent to the complainant and the matter will be closed.
3. If satisfactory resolution is not achieved, the involved party may submit a written complaint to the Provost of the University.

Complaints should be addressed to the appropriate person or persons below:

Chair Physical Therapy Department University of Delaware Newark, DE 19716	Dean College of Health Sciences University of Delaware Newark, DE 19716	Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education University of Delaware Newark, DE 19716
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It is a violation of University policy to retaliate in any way against any individual who has lodged a complaint. Person(s) against whom the complaint is lodged also bear a responsibility to abstain from retaliatory behavior toward the complainant(s) and/or any individual participating in the investigation.

### **COMPLAINTS TO THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION (CAPTE)**

The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education ("CAPTE") is an accrediting agency that is nationally recognized by the US Department of Education ("USDE") and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation ("CHEA"). CAPTE grants specialized accreditation status to qualified entry-level education programs for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

**The only mechanism through which CAPTE can act on an individual's concerns is through a formal complaint process. For more information please visit the CAPTE Website <https://www.capteonline.org/>. The formal complaint process is outlined in the CAPTE Accreditation Handbook: CAPTE Rules of Practice and Procedures: Part 11 <https://www.capteonline.org/globalassets/capte-docs/capte-rules-practice-procedure.pdf>**  
**UNIVERSITY'S STATEMENT ON HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, AND SEXUAL MISCONDUCT**

The University of Delaware works to promote an academic and work environment that is free from all forms of discrimination, including harassment and sexual misconduct. The rights of students are reflected in the Non-Discrimination, Sexual Misconduct, and Title IX policy.

Read the [full policy](#)

The University of Delaware does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, marital status, disability, religion, age, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by applicable law in its employment, educational programs and activities, admissions policies, and scholarship and loan programs as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and other applicable statutes and University policies. The University of Delaware also prohibits unlawful harassment including sexual harassment and sexual violence.

[More information on Accessibility at UD](#)

<p>For inquiries or complaints related to non-discrimination policies, please contact: Office of Equity and Inclusion 302-831-8063 <a href="mailto:oei@udel.edu">oei@udel.edu</a> OR email the Title IX Coordinator at <a href="mailto:titleixcoordinator@udel.edu">titleixcoordinator@udel.edu</a> OR report anonymously through UD Police (302) 831-2222 or the <a href="#">EthicsPoint Compliance Hotline</a></p>	<p>For complaints related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact: Director, Office of Disability Support Services Alison Hall, Suite 130 Newark, DE 19716 302-831-4643 OR contact the <a href="#">U.S. Department of Education - Office for Civil Rights</a></p>
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### UNIVERSITY'S TITLE IX STATEMENT

Should a faculty member, at any time during this course, be made aware that a student may have been the victim of sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual violence, domestic/dating violence, or stalking), the faculty member is obligated by federal law to inform the university's Title IX coordinator. The university needs to know information about such incidents to not only offer resources, but to ensure a safe campus environment. The Title IX coordinator will decide if the incident should be examined further. Should a student make such a disclosure to a faculty member, be it in written or oral form, the incident will be maintained as private with the exception of disclosure to the Title IX coordinator. Twenty-four-hour crisis assistance, victim advocacy, and counseling is available by contacting sexual offense support advocates at [302-831-2226](tel:302-831-2226), student health services. Additional information on sexual misconduct policies, where to get help, and reporting information can be found at <https://sites.udel.edu/sexualmisconduct/>.

### ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Any student who may need disability-related accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) office as soon as possible. For more information, please visit [Getting Registered at DSS](#). Contact DSS by phone: 302-831-4643; fax: 302-831-3261; website: [www.udel.edu/dss](http://www.udel.edu/dss); or email: [dssoffice@udel.edu](mailto:dssoffice@udel.edu)

**SECTION VI**  
**STUDENT LIFE**

**SUBSECTIONS**

USE OF CLASSROOM/LAB SPACE OUTSIDE OF SCHEDULED HOURS  
COUNSELING  
CLASS OFFICERS / LEADERSHIP  
STUDENT COMMITTEES  
PHYSICAL THERAPY AWARDS

## USE OF CLASSROOM / LAB SPACE OUTSIDE OF SCHEDULED HOURS

Students may utilize physical therapy controlled classroom and laboratory space outside of scheduled class time should the rooms be available. Students should inquire with the office staff to determine room availability. Students will have access to the STAR facility 24 hours/day, seven days/week.

## COUNSELING

Physical therapy students are expected to make their studies top priority. The Department recognizes, however, that students must balance their strong commitment to physical therapy with their commitments to their families and communities and, in as much, must engage in the self-care practices that allow them to be healthy and fully engaged with patients / clients and with the profession of physical therapy.

Students are encouraged to utilize the services of the [Center for Counseling and Student Development](#) ("CCSD"). Counseling, both individual and group, is one of the major functions of the CCSD. Students who seek such services present a wide variety of personal, career, and educational concerns. It is the CCSD's goal to assist such individuals in identifying problems, developing alternatives, and making decisions, either by using the services offered at the CCSD or those provided by others on or off campus. Appointments to see a counselor may be made in person or by telephone (302-831-2141). The student's first contact with the CCSD will typically be an assessment in which the student and the counselor make decisions about the type of help needed.

CCSD also partners with [TimelyCare](#) to provide support for a wide range of common stressors and mental health concerns. All enrolled students at University of Delaware can use TimelyCare with no additional fees. TimelyCare offers the following services:

- TalkNow: 24/7, on-demand emotional support to talk about anything, including anxiety, relationships, depression and school-related issues.
- Scheduled counseling: 45-minute appointments with a licensed mental health provider in your state (coverage limits apply).
- Health coaching: Unlimited appointments with a certified health coach to help you adopt strategies for optimal sleep, nutrition and stress management.
- Self-care resources: Guided self-care content and resources, including yoga, meditation and other recordings.

Students requiring immediate assistance because of psychological difficulties are directed to the following resources:

- UD Helpline 24/7/365: 302-831-1001
- Crisis Text Line: Text "UDTEXT", or "STEVE" for students of color, to 741741
- Student Health Services: 302-831-2226
- UD Police and/or Ambulance: 911

Visit [CCSD's website](#) for additional information and resources.

## CLASS OFFICERS / LEADERSHIP

*\*\*Officer positions subject to change.*

Class Officer Mission Statement: The purpose of the DPT Class Officers is to provide a collaborative leadership team representing all members of the DPT class and functioning as a deciding body to ensure all needs and requirements are met for the common success and advancement of the Department and the DPT Class. The executive board is comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Social Chair(s), Fundraising Chair(s), APTA Representative, Graduate Student Senator, Historian, and Social Media Chair(s).

Elections: The selection of executive office members shall take place by secret ballot within the first 3 weeks of the fall semester of year 1. The President of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year class will extend an initial invitation for nominations whereby each class member can nominate one person for each office. Self-nominations are also permissible. Following a one-week nomination period, each class member receiving a nomination will be notified of all positions for which they were selected and asked to identify the one position for which they wish to run. Students will then write a brief narrative explaining their reasoning for accepting the nomination. Upon review of all responses, a final ballot will be produced and a formal election process scheduled at a time mutually acceptable by the 1<sup>st</sup> year class and the 2<sup>nd</sup> year class President or representative. The candidate for each office who receives a simple majority of the cast votes will be brought before the Director of the Entry Level DPT Program for approval. In the event of a tie vote, a ballot of the leading contenders will be created and votes will be recast.

Requirements: The process listed above shall elect the officers for each entry level DPT class. In order to be considered and to remain an officer, each member shall meet all requirements of good academic standing.

Removal: Removal of any officer unwilling or unable to carry out the duties of his / her office may be initiated by a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority vote of their classmates or by directive of the Director of the Entry Level DPT Program, Chair of the Department and / or majority of the UDPT Faculty.

Vacancy: A vacancy in any office shall be filled by the vote of the executive committee in conjunction with an additional vote from the Director of the Entry Level DPT Program. An abbreviated election will occur wherein classmates will nominate one person they wish to fill the vacancy. There must be affirmation by the candidate to be placed on the ballot.

Officer Descriptions (please note, list below may not be exhaustive of executive board positions; further, the number of individuals serving in each office may vary based upon needs/interests)

President: The President, in conjunction with the Vice President, serves as the direct liaison between the DPT class and faculty and is responsible for initiation and maintenance of open, professional conversation between classmates, faculty, and staff to serve the needs of the class. The President is accountable for the planning and execution of activities set forth by the executive officers, as well as for the coordination and implementation of initiatives introduced by the faculty and staff of the Department. Further, the President is directly responsible for the election process for the subsequent executive officers.

Vice President: The Vice President works in conjunction with the President to ensure class-wide issues are presented in a timely fashion to the faculty and in a manner that accurately reflects the opinions and preference of the entire class. Class members may contact either the Vice Presidents or President with concerns as both officers may serve as a liaison to the faculty on behalf of that / those individual(s). It is the responsibility of the Vice President and President to delegate projects, monitor progress of those projects, and offer assistance to other class officers who are in charge of specific projects. The Vice President acts as a committee liaison & facilitates communication between the 3 student led committees. In addition, the Vice President is in charge of outreach for financial aid.

Secretary: The Secretary is responsible for coordinating biannual merchandise orders, serving as the point of contact for orders as well as helping distribute orders if necessary. The Secretary is also bestowed the task of recording and distributing official meeting minutes for class officer meetings. Assisting with the planning and coordination of class events and activities is another responsibility of the Secretary. Furthermore, the Secretary is responsible for updating the "DPT New Student Manual" in conjunction with the input from other executive officers. Finally, the Secretary provides assistance for departmental events wherein student representation is desired or required.

Treasurer: Once elected, the Treasurer is responsible for managing a class AGCY bank account assigned to their cohort and linked to expense management software Concur. The Treasurer is also responsible for collecting class dues. The fee structure governing class dues is determined by the class officers. Dues should be collected by the beginning of October in the manner discussed with the executive board, with checks made payable to University of Delaware. Finally, the Treasurer is responsible for organizing mass purchases for the class / department (i.e. - name tags, clipboards, etc.) and filing subsequent expense reports in Concur.

Social Chair(s): The Social Chair(s) organize class and Department social events, and promotes the positive attitude and well-being of classmates through the coordination of social activities. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to planning, preparing and organizing committees to arrange events such as PT Gala, fall hayride, evening social outings, Thanksgiving dinner, Halloween luncheon, and staff / faculty appreciation events.

Fundraising Chair(s): The fundraising chairs are responsible for planning and coordinating activities that will fiscally support the efforts of the class. Eboard in supporting student operations and advancing the profession. These efforts include, but are not limited to planning, preparing and organizing committees to arrange events such as the Marquette challenge, PT Gala, and staff / faculty appreciation events.

APTA Representative: The APTA Representative is the primary liaison between the students of UDPT and both the APTA DE state chapter, as well as the APTA as a whole. The APTA Representative is responsible for keeping the class updated on legislative and organizational changes, as well as, events hosted by both organizations. In this position, the APTA Representative is also expected to run to be a Core Ambassador.: The Core Ambassador (CA) is the primary link between the Student Assembly Board of Directors and the PT/PTA students of Delaware. CAs are responsible for implementing strategies and initiatives to promote student engagement and should encourage student attendance at professional meetings/conferences as permissible given academic and clinical responsibilities. Ultimately, the CA serves to create awareness of advocacy efforts at state and national levels and to provide students with opportunities to increase involvement within APTA. CAs communicate and develop student initiatives to enhance the student experience. If applicable, this person also serves as the contact person for the SSIG within APTA DE. If this person does not win the Core Ambassador election, it is expected that they work closely with the Core Ambassador to keep UDPT students updated.

Graduate Student Senator: The Graduate Student Senator will represent the Department within the Graduate Student Senate ("GSS"). The GSS seeks to create a forum for graduate student advocacy while acting as a conduit between students, faculty, and administration at the University. The GSS supports campus-wide activities facilitating graduate student professionalism and collegiality. It also seeks to influence the course of the University through representation on University committees, by expressing views of the student body to the administration, and by communicating accomplishments to the media and administration. The 1<sup>st</sup> year senator is considered the junior and the 2<sup>nd</sup> year senator is the senior. The GSS meets once a month with each meeting lasting approximately 2 hours. Active members of the GSS are also expected to contribute to one of the GSS's internal committees which meet once a month for approximately 1 hour. It is the expectation that both the junior and senior senators remain active throughout their terms and coordinate attendance and participation in GSS and committee meetings. Finally, the Graduate Student Senator is responsible for updating the Department, including both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year classes, on the University policies that affect the Department.

Historian: The historian will document the activities of the class throughout its tenure to ensure accurate representation of the academic, professional, and personal growth of all students. Further, the accomplishments and unique happenings of the Department impacting the DPT Program will be recorded. The historian is also responsible for organizing and planning the class photo.

Social Media Chair(s): The social media chair(s) work(s) with the Department Chair and Administrative Specialist on the social media strategy for the Department. The goal of our social media is to promote

activities in the UDPT department in all three of our primary areas: education, clinic, and research. These individuals are responsible for running the Instagram, Twitter and some of the Facebook groups for the Department.

IT Volunteers: These volunteers (2) work closely with faculty and CHS IT specialists to ensure classroom technology is fully functional during instructional periods. The student IT volunteers will serve as the point of contact for triaging difficulties that arise during class. This position is not included within the Executive Board for the class.

PT Moves Me Education Ambassador. The ambassador will help to raise awareness of the physical therapy profession, recruit the next generation of physical therapists and physical therapy assistants, and increase the diversity of the applicant pool for physical therapy programs. As the liaison between the academic institution and the American Physical Therapy Association's Department of Student Recruitment, the ambassador will participate in quarterly virtual meetings hosted by the American Physical Therapy Association and organize local events to ensure that community engagement for student recruitment to the profession remains a priority. This role will include leadership within the UDPT student Mentorship Committee.

## **STUDENT COMMITTEES**

Students are invited to join committees beginning in Fall Semester of Year 1. With the exception of the Service of Gratitude Committee, there is no cap on the number of students able to serve on a committee.

### **Service of Gratitude Committee (SoGC)**

Purpose: To allow physical therapy students to recognize the importance of anatomical donor programs and to communicate the impact and gratitude of this gift to the loved ones of these donors.

Description: A student-led ceremony conducted annually to recognize the incredible impact the anatomical donor program has upon the education of health professionals. This interprofessional event is sponsored by the College of Health Sciences.

Student Involvement: Under the guidance of the anatomy professor and/or their designee, 3-5 DPT students from each class will meet throughout Fall and Spring semesters (mainly Spring) to solidify the details of the event, including itinerary, guests, speakers, and musicians. For further information, students should contact the anatomy professor for UDPT.

### **Advancing Cultural and Community Engagement in Physical Therapy (ACCEPT)**

Mission: To build a culture of cultural and community engagement for students at UDPT

Vision: Contribute to the development of future PT professionals that champion cultural and community engagement by increasing communication, collaboration, and accountability among students, faculty and clinicians.

Description: This initiative is intended to: 1) promote a culture of engagement within our program that can be translated to the greater profession of PT, 2) facilitate and support opportunities to learn, grow, and unite as a community, and 3) provide resources about upcoming university events surrounding ACCEPT.

Student Involvement: The committee is designed to have subcommittees or "task forces" responsible for different projects. Students may join one or more subcommittees based upon interest. Current task forces include: Spanish in healthcare, , ADaPT collaboration, and journal club organization. For further information, students should contact the Vice President of the class above them.

### **Mental Health Committee (MHC)**

Purpose: To share resources and plan events on topics supporting mental health, to develop student self-efficacy, and to jointly formulate with faculty strategies to enhance the student experience

Description: This committee provides resources for students to achieve mental wellbeing through directing students to services on/off campus and to events that promote self-care. Utilizing individual student talents, faculty/staff involvement, and the services of the Counseling Center, the committee hosts in-person and zoom social events for stress relief, mental health discussions, and conversation about current events. This group provides students with the opportunities and tools to optimize their wellness during their time at UDPT and

further allows them to contribute to a positive culture of mental health awareness and support within the program.

**Student Involvement:** This committee meets biweekly to discuss the status of ongoing projects and to plan new initiatives. Committee members serve as liaisons, hosts, and/or participants of journal clubs, newsletters, and focus groups. For further information, students should contact the Vice President of the class above them.

### **Mentorship Committee**

**Purpose:** To connect undergraduate students at UD who are pursuing a career in PT or are interested in this field. Students need not be committed to the field but may simply have interest in exploring the career further with DPT students.

**Description:** This committee will create an opportunity for UDPT graduate students with a passion for the PT profession to provide support to undergraduates who are walking in their footsteps. This support will manifest in a variety of ways but ultimately will be unique to a mentee's interests/goals/preferences.

**Student involvement:** Mentors will serve various roles including, but not limited to: (1) Fielding questions about PT school and the PT profession as a whole; (2) Providing academic support (e.g. studying tips, practicing hands-on skills etc.); and (3) Serving as a role model and mentor for undergraduate students

## **FACULTY STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Description:** A standing committee in the Department of Physical Therapy. The primary functions of the committee are to: (1) work with the Director of the DPT program to support the progression of students through the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program curriculum, and (2) provide student advisement on an as needed basis.

### **Responsibilities:**

1. Provide advisement to:
  - Eboard (student class officers)
  - Student Committees
  - Social activities supported by department
  - Fundraising activities
  - Community Building activities
2. Address general questions/concerns about DPT program (not related to individual course or faculty)
3. Individual faculty member concerns
  - Concerns that remain unresolved after student conversation with faculty member

For items #2 and #3 above, students should email the Chair of the SAC. For other matters, students should email [dpt-sac@udel.edu](mailto:dpt-sac@udel.edu) and the appropriate faculty member will respond.

## **PHYSICAL THERAPY AWARDS**

*\*\*Please note that not all awards are provided on a yearly basis; further, awards as outlined below are subject to change.*

**John P. Scholz Faculty Award:** In recognition of exemplary qualities of integrity, cooperation, initiative, and leadership in the University of Delaware Physical Therapy Program.

**Binder-Macleod Faculty Award:** Recognizes a student who has made significant contributions to the DPT Program. These include working to improve the DPT program, helping to fulfill the department's mission towards education, scholarship, and service, and demonstrating potential for leadership within the Physical Therapy profession.

**Clinical Impact and Leadership Award:** This award recognizes three graduating DPT students who, during the full-time clinical education phase of the curriculum, have demonstrated excellent professionalism, initiative, and leadership that has promoted remarkable impact upon a clinical facility through means of a value-added clinical project.

Barbara Cossoy Service Award: Recognizes an individual or organization outside of the Department who has made an extraordinary contribution to the UD Physical Therapy Program. The award is named for the founding director of the program, Barbara Cossoy.

Cathy Doetzer Kohlenstein Clinical Educator's Award: Recognizes a clinical educator who has made an outstanding contribution to the clinical education component of our department over the past year or has made an important and sustained contribution to clinical education for several years.

Alumni Award: For a University of Delaware Physical Therapy Program graduate who has made an outstanding contribution to the Department.

Cathy Doetzer Kohlenstein Memorial Award Scholarship: Awarded to a second-year student to assist with funding for clinical education expenses.

Cossoy/Lucca Scholarship: Awarded to a second year DPT student who demonstrates substantial promise and ability to contribute to the advancement of the profession.

Stauffer Scholarship: Given to a University of Delaware alumni pursuing doctoral training in the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Delaware.

Paul Mettler Military Service Award: Awarded to a second year student with current or previous military service or whose life in the Physical Therapy Program has been directly impacted by a first-generation family member serving their country.

Mae D. Hightower-Vandamm Memorial Graduate Tuition Scholarship: Awarded to a second year DPT student who demonstrates substantial promise and has expressed a financial need.

John P. Scholz Scholarship Award: Given to a second year Doctorate in Physical Therapy student who exemplifies excellence in academics and on the athletic field or in the arts.

Carol Van Dyke Physical Therapy Fellowship: Awarded to a second-year student to assist with funding of clinical education expenses.

The Tupin Family Fund for Physical Therapy Award: Presented to a second year DPT student for community service and engaging community partners as a DPT student or undergraduate. (Please note: This award is given based on availability of funds in a given year and may not be awarded annually)

**SECTION VII**

**APPENDICES**

**SUBSECTIONS**

TECHNICAL STANDARDS  
PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIORS FOR THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY  
PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR FEEDBACK FORM  
CODE OF ETHICS FOR THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST  
PRE-REQUISITE AND CO-REQUISITE CURRICULAR TABLE  
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS  
BLOOD BORNE PATHOGEN EXPOSURE AND INJURY POLICY AND PROCEDURE

## DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY, UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Students seeking a DPT degree from the University must meet the following technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation. These standards serve as the essential requirements for admission, academic advancement, and graduation and are grouped into five broad categories: communication; sensory and motor coordination and function; intellectual, conceptual, integrative and quantitative abilities; and behavioral, social and professional attributes.

I. Observation – The student must be able to accurately:

- Observe demonstrations in the classroom (including projected material, films, and videos) and laboratory setting.
- Interpret written and illustrated material both in print and in electronic form.
- Observe patients at a reasonable distance and close at hand, noting nonverbal as well as verbal signals.
- Perceive discriminating findings on radiographic images.
- Differentiate subtle and overt changes in body movement.
- Discern skin, subcutaneous masses, muscles, joints, lymph nodes and abdominal organs.
- Detect and identify changes in colors of fluids, skin, and other anatomical tissues.
- Observe and interpret changes in patient color, temperature, respiratory rate, heart rate, heart and lung sounds, muscle tone, facial expression, and vocal tone/volume.
- Discriminate numbers and patterns associated with diagnostic and therapeutic instruments and tests, such as sphygmomanometers, goniometers, therapeutic technologies, exercise equipment, and electrocardiograms.
- Observe environmental hazards to ensure safety of self and others.

*\*\*Observation necessitates the functional use of the sense of vision and is enhanced by the functional use of the sense of smell.*

II. Communication – The student must be able to skillfully:

- Read at a level sufficient to accomplish curricular requirements and provide clinical care for patients.
- Communicate logically and effectively in oral and written English with patients/clients, other members of the health care team, colleagues, insurance companies, families, and faculty.
- Read and record observations and plans legibly, efficiently, concisely, and accurately in both written and electronic form.
- Relate effectively and sensitively to patients / clients or all genders, ages, races, lifestyles, socioeconomic class, sexual orientation and cultural backgrounds.
- Convey compassion and empathy both verbally and nonverbally (actions and listening behaviors).
- Recognize and interpret significant emotional and /or non-verbal responses to promote appropriate, focused follow-up inquiry.
- Elicit and provide necessary information during interactions with patients/ clients, other members of health care team, colleagues, insurance companies, families, and faculty.
- Elicit a thorough history from patients / clients / care providers.
- Communicate complex findings in appropriate terms to patients and other members of the health care team.
- Function effectively as part of an interdisciplinary team.

III. Sensory and Motor Coordination and Function – The student must be able to accurately and adeptly:

- Attend and participate fully in all educational components within the PT curriculum in a safe and timely manner.
- Observe and process information with accuracy and efficiency via the senses: visual, auditory, exteroceptive (smell, touch, pain, temperature) and proprioceptive (position, pressure, movement, stereognosis, and vibratory) phenomena.

- Elicit information via palpation, auscultation, percussion and other diagnostic maneuvers and therapeutic procedures for patients across the lifespan.
- Palpate accurately for anatomical structures and appropriately handle involved body regions to reduce additional injury or threat of injury.
- Lift, transfer, guard, mobilize, and exercise patients of varying heights and weights, in a time efficient and safe manner, as necessary for clinical practice.
- Administer examination tests / measures, exercise protocols, and manual techniques that require resistance or facilitation for patients across the lifespan.
- Perform assessments and interventions that require manual dexterity and coordination, which include manipulating and operating physical therapy and other medical / therapeutic equipment and monitoring devices.
- Perceive, measure, and integrate information in both calm and chaotic environments.
- React safely and with appropriate body mechanics to sudden or unexpected movements of patients and / or classmates to prevent harm to self / others.
- Demonstrate ability to observe and follow universal precautions.
- Assist in emergency situations which may include responding rapidly when called, initiating CPR (moving an individual, repeatedly applying considerable chest pressure, delivering an adequate volume of artificial respiration and calling for help), and applying pressure to stop bleeding.
- Transport oneself to and within a variety of settings in a timely manner.
- Demonstrate the ability to function effectively in an environment that requires significant physical activity and attention to detail throughout the workday in a manner that does not compromise patient or therapist safety.

IV. Intellectual, Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities – The student must be able to accurately:

- Synthesize a large body of knowledge in the basic, clinical, and behavioral sciences at a level deemed appropriate by faculty and CAPTE in a short period of time.
- Incorporate new information from peers, instructors, and the literature in both the classroom and clinical settings.
- Comprehend, memorize, measure, calculate, reason, analyze, and synthesize information in an efficient and timely manner.
- Recall and retain information in an efficient and timely manner.
- Comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand the spatial relationships of structures.
- Interpret graphs (i.e. – EKG) describing biologic relationships
- Identify key findings from a history, examination or medical record; provide assessment (inclusive of diagnosis, prognosis and goals); construct an evidence-based plan of care; and modify interventions/approaches in a timely manner as warranted based upon patient presentation.
- Apply critical reasoning and problem-solving approaches during emergent and non-emergent situations.
- Function in complex environments that require simultaneous engagement in multiple tasks or activities.
- Create effective solutions to problems faced in clinical and academic settings.
- Identify and communicate the limits of one's knowledge to others when appropriate.
- Accurately self-assess performance to continually improve professional skills.

V. Behavioral, Social and Professional Attributes – The student must:

- Practice in a safe, ethical and legal manner, following guidelines for standard practice as established by federal, state, and local law, the University, clinical facilities, the APTA, and related professional organizations.
- Meet externally-imposed deadlines and time-requirements.
- Possess the emotional health for full use of intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, and the prompt completion of all responsibilities pursuant to the educational process and to the care of patients.
- Tolerate physically, emotionally, and mentally demanding workloads.

- Function effectively when stressed and proactively make use of available resources to help maintain both physical and mental health.
- Adapt to changing environments, and display flexibility to learn and function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of patients.
- Take responsibility for oneself and for one's behaviors (including all actions, reactions and inactions), during the academic and clinical phases of one's education with the intent of developing a plan for professional growth and lifelong learning.
- Accept appropriate suggestions and criticism and, when necessary, respond by modification of behavior.
- Develop mature, effective, and appropriate relationships with all members of the learning and working community.
- Demonstrate communications and mannerisms necessary for effective participation in a collegial, functionally-integrated group.
- Demonstrate personal hygiene and attendance necessary for effective participation in academic and clinical activities.
- Demonstrate tolerance, altruism, honesty, empathy, integrity, respect for self and others, diligence, interest, and motivation during interactions in both the classroom and clinical settings.

## PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIORS FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY 2009-2010

### **Definitions of Behavioral Criteria Levels**

**Beginning Level** – behaviors consistent with a learner in the beginning of the professional phase of physical therapy education and before the first significant internship

**Intermediate Level** – behaviors consistent with a learner after the first significant internship

**Entry Level** – behaviors consistent with a learner who has completed all didactic work and is able to independently manage a caseload with consultation as needed from clinical instructors, co-workers and other health care professionals

**Post-Entry Level** – behaviors consistent with an autonomous practitioner beyond entry level

### **Background Information**

In 1991 the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Physical Therapy Educational Program identified the original Physical Therapy - Specific *Generic Abilities*. Since that time these abilities have been used by academic programs to facilitate the development, measurement and assessment of professional behaviors of students during both the didactic and clinical phases of the programs of study.

Since the initial study was conducted, the profession of Physical Therapy and the curricula of the educational programs have undergone significant changes that mirror the changes in healthcare and the academy. These changes include managed care, expansion in the scope of physical therapist practice, increased patient direct access to physical therapists, evidenced-based practice, clinical specialization in physical therapy and the American Physical Therapy Association's Vision 2020 supporting doctors of physical therapy.

Today's physical therapy practitioner functions on a more autonomous level in the delivery of patient care which places a higher demand for professional development on the new graduates of the physical therapy educational programs. Most recently (2008-2009), the research team of Warren May, PT, MPH, Laurie Kotney PT, DPT, MS and Z. Annette Iglarsh, PT, PhD, MBA completed a research project that built on the work of other researchers to analyze the PT-Specific *Generic Abilities* in relation to the changing landscape of physical therapist practice and in relation to generational differences of the "Millennial" or "Y" Generation (born 1980-2000). These are the graduates of the classes of 2004 and beyond who will shape clinical practice in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The research project was twofold and consisted of 1) a research survey which identified and rank ordered professional behaviors expected of the newly licensed physical therapist upon employment (2008); and 2) 10 small work groups that took the 10 identified behaviors (statistically determined) and wrote/revised behavior definitions, behavioral criteria and placement within developmental levels (Beginning, Intermediate, Entry Level and Post Entry Level) (2009). Interestingly the 10 statistically significant behaviors identified were identical to the original 10 *Generic Abilities*, however, the rank orders of the behaviors changed. Participants in the research survey included Center Coordinators of Clinical Education (CCCE's) and Clinical Instructors (CI's) from all regions of the United States. Participants in the small work groups included Directors of Clinical Education (DCE's), Academic Faculty, CCCE's and CI's from all regions of the United States.

This resulting document, ***Professional Behaviors***, is the culmination of this research project. The definitions of each professional behavior have been revised along with the behavioral criteria for each developmental level. The 'developing level' was changed to the 'intermediate level' and the title of the document has been changed from *Generic Abilities* to ***Professional Behaviors***. The title of this important document was changed to differentiate it from the original *Generic Abilities* and to better reflect the intent of assessing professional behaviors deemed critical for professional growth and development in physical therapy education and practice.

## **Preamble**

In addition to a core of cognitive knowledge and psychomotor skills, it has been recognized by educators and practicing professionals that a repertoire of behaviors is required for success in any given profession (Alverno College Faculty, Assessment at Alverno, 1979). The identified repertoire of behaviors that constitute professional behavior reflect the values of any given profession and, at the same time, cross disciplinary lines (May et. al., 1991). Visualizing cognitive knowledge, psychomotor skills and a repertoire of behaviors as the legs of a three-legged stool serves to emphasize the importance of each. Remove one leg and the stool loses its stability and makes it very difficult to support professional growth, development, and ultimately, professional success. (May et. al., Opportunity Favors the Prepared: A Guide to Facilitating the Development of Professional Behavior, 2002)

The intent of the **Professional Behaviors** Assessment Tool is to identify and describe the repertoire of professional behaviors deemed necessary for success in the practice of physical therapy. This **Professional Behaviors** Assessment Tool is intended to represent and be applied to student growth and development in the classroom and the clinic. It also contains behavioral criteria for the practicing clinician. Each **Professional Behavior** is defined and then broken down into developmental levels with each level containing behavioral criteria that describe behaviors that represent possession of the **Professional Behavior** they represent. Each developmental level builds on the previous level such that the tool represents growth over time in physical therapy education and practice.

It is critical that students, academic and clinical faculty utilize the **Professional Behaviors** Assessment Tool in the context of physical therapy and not life experiences. For example, a learner may possess strong communication skills in the context of student life and work situations, however, may be in the process of developing their physical therapy communication skills, those necessary to be successful as a professional in a greater health care context. One does not necessarily translate to the other, and thus must be used in the appropriate context to be effective.

Opportunities to reflect on each **Professional Behavior** through self-assessment, and through peer and instructor assessment is critical for progress toward entry level performance in the classroom and clinic. A learner does not need to possess each behavioral criterion identified at each level within the tool, however, should demonstrate, and be able to provide examples of the majority in order to move from one level to the next. Likewise, the behavioral criteria are examples of behaviors one might demonstrate, however are not exhaustive. Academic and clinical facilities may decide to add or delete behavioral criteria based on the needs of their specific setting. Formal opportunities to reflect and discuss with an academic and/or clinical instructor is key to the tool's use, and ultimately professional growth of the learner. The **Professional Behaviors** Assessment Tool allows the learner to build and strengthen their third leg with skills in the affective domain to augment the cognitive and psychomotor domains.

## **PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIORS**

1. **Critical Thinking** - The ability to question logically; identify, generate and evaluate elements of logical argument; recognize and differentiate facts, appropriate or faulty inferences, and assumptions; and distinguish relevant from irrelevant information. The ability to appropriately utilize, analyze, and critically evaluate scientific evidence to develop a logical argument, and to identify and determine the impact of bias on the decision making process.

### ***Beginning Level:***

- ❖ Raises relevant questions
- ❖ Considers all available information
- ❖ Articulates ideas
- ❖ Understands the scientific method
- ❖ States the results of scientific literature but has not developed the consistent ability to critically appraise findings (i.e. methodology and conclusion)

- ❖ Recognizes holes in knowledge base
- ❖ Demonstrates acceptance of limited knowledge and experience

***Intermediate Level:***

- ❖ Feels challenged to examine ideas
- ❖ Critically analyzes the literature and applies it to patient management
- ❖ Utilizes didactic knowledge, research evidence, and clinical experience to formulate new ideas
- ❖ Seeks alternative ideas
- ❖ Formulates alternative hypotheses
- ❖ Critiques hypotheses and ideas at a level consistent with knowledge base
- ❖ Acknowledges presence of contradictions

***Entry Level:***

- ❖ Distinguishes relevant from irrelevant patient data
- ❖ Readily formulates and critiques alternative hypotheses and ideas
- ❖ Infers applicability of information across populations
- ❖ Exhibits openness to contradictory ideas
- ❖ Identifies appropriate measures and determines effectiveness of applied solutions efficiently
- ❖ Justifies solutions selected

***Post-Entry Level:***

- ❖ Develops new knowledge through research, professional writing and/or professional presentations
- ❖ Thoroughly critiques hypotheses and ideas often crossing disciplines in thought process
- ❖ Weighs information value based on source and level of evidence
- ❖ Identifies complex patterns of associations
- ❖ Distinguishes when to think intuitively vs. analytically
- ❖ Recognizes own biases and suspends judgmental thinking
- ❖ Challenges others to think critically

2. **Communication** - The ability to communicate effectively (i.e. verbal, non-verbal, reading, writing, and listening) for varied audiences and purposes.

***Beginning Level:***

- ❖ Demonstrates understanding of the English language (verbal and written): uses correct grammar, accurate spelling and expression, legible handwriting
- ❖ Recognizes impact of non-verbal communication in self and others
- ❖ Recognizes the verbal and non-verbal characteristics that portray confidence
- ❖ Utilizes electronic communication appropriately

***Intermediate Level:***

- ❖ Utilizes and modifies communication (verbal, non-verbal, written and electronic) to meet the needs of different audiences
- ❖ Restates, reflects and clarifies message(s)
- ❖ Communicates collaboratively with both individuals and groups
- ❖ Collects necessary information from all pertinent individuals in the patient/client management process
- ❖ Provides effective education (verbal, non-verbal, written and electronic)

***Entry Level:***

- ❖ Demonstrates the ability to maintain appropriate control of the communication exchange with individuals and groups
- ❖ Presents persuasive and explanatory verbal, written or electronic messages with logical organization and sequencing
- ❖ Maintains open and constructive communication

- ❖ Utilizes communication technology effectively and efficiently

**Post-Entry Level:**

- ❖ Adapts messages to address needs, expectations, and prior knowledge of the audience to maximize learning
- ❖ Effectively delivers messages capable of influencing patients, the community and society
- ❖ Provides education locally, regionally and/or nationally
- ❖ Mediates conflict

3. **Problem Solving** – The ability to recognize and define problems, analyze data, develop and implement solutions, and evaluate outcomes.

**Beginning Level:**

- ❖ Recognizes problems
- ❖ States problems clearly
- ❖ Describes known solutions to problems
- ❖ Identifies resources needed to develop solutions
- ❖ Uses technology to search for and locate resources
- ❖ Identifies possible solutions and probable outcomes

**Intermediate Level:**

- ❖ Prioritizes problems
- ❖ Identifies contributors to problems
- ❖ Consults with others to clarify problems
- ❖ Appropriately seeks input or guidance
- ❖ Prioritizes resources (analysis and critique of resources)
- ❖ Considers consequences of possible solutions

**Entry Level:**

- ❖ Independently locates, prioritizes and uses resources to solve problems
- ❖ Accepts responsibility for implementing solutions
- ❖ Implements solutions
- ❖ Reassesses solutions
- ❖ Evaluates outcomes
- ❖ Modifies solutions based on the outcome and current evidence
- ❖ Evaluates generalizability of current evidence to a particular problem

**Post-Entry Level:**

- ❖ Weighs advantages and disadvantages of a solution to a problem
- ❖ Participates in outcome studies
- ❖ Participates in formal quality assessment in work environment
- ❖ Seeks solutions to community health-related problems
- ❖ Considers second and third order effects of solutions chosen

4. **Interpersonal Skills** – The ability to interact effectively with patients, families, colleagues, other health care professionals, and the community in a culturally aware manner.

**Beginning Level:**

- ❖ Maintains professional demeanor in all interactions
- ❖ Demonstrates interest in patients as individuals
- ❖ Communicates with others in a respectful and confident manner
- ❖ Respects differences in personality, lifestyle and learning styles during interactions with all persons
- ❖ Maintains confidentiality in all interactions

- ❖ Recognizes the emotions and bias that one brings to all professional interactions

***Intermediate Level:***

- ❖ Recognizes the non-verbal communication and emotions that others bring to professional interactions
- ❖ Establishes trust
- ❖ Seeks to gain input from others
- ❖ Respects role of others
- ❖ Accommodates differences in learning styles as appropriate

***Entry Level:***

- ❖ Demonstrates active listening skills and reflects back to original concern to determine course of action
- ❖ Responds effectively to unexpected situations
- ❖ Demonstrates ability to build partnerships
- ❖ Applies conflict management strategies when dealing with challenging interactions
- ❖ Recognizes the impact of non-verbal communication and emotional responses during interactions and modifies own behaviors based on them

***Post-Entry Level:***

- ❖ Establishes mentor relationships
- ❖ Recognizes the impact that non-verbal communication and the emotions of self and others have during interactions and demonstrates the ability to modify the behaviors of self and others during the interaction

5. **Responsibility** – The ability to be accountable for the outcomes of personal and professional actions and to follow through on commitments that encompass the profession within the scope of work, community and social responsibilities.

***Beginning Level:***

- ❖ Demonstrates punctuality
- ❖ Provides a safe and secure environment for patients
- ❖ Assumes responsibility for actions
- ❖ Follows through on commitments
- ❖ Articulates limitations and readiness to learn
- ❖ Abides by all policies of academic program and clinical facility

***Intermediate Level:***

- ❖ Displays awareness of and sensitivity to diverse populations
- ❖ Completes projects without prompting
- ❖ Delegates tasks as needed
- ❖ Collaborates with team members, patients and families
- ❖ Provides evidence-based patient care

***Entry Level:***

- ❖ Educates patients as consumers of health care services
- ❖ Encourages patient accountability
- ❖ Directs patients to other health care professionals as needed
- ❖ Acts as a patient advocate
- ❖ Promotes evidence-based practice in health care settings
- ❖ Accepts responsibility for implementing solutions
- ❖ Demonstrates accountability for all decisions and behaviors in academic and clinical settings

***Post-Entry Level:***

- ❖ Recognizes role as a leader
- ❖ Encourages and displays leadership

- ❖ Facilitates program development and modification
- ❖ Promotes clinical training for students and coworkers
- ❖ Monitors and adapts to changes in the health care system
- ❖ Promotes service to the community

6. **Professionalism** – The ability to exhibit appropriate professional conduct and to represent the profession effectively while promoting the growth/development of the Physical Therapy profession.

***Beginning Level:***

- ❖ Abides by all aspects of the academic program honor code and the APTA Code of Ethics
- ❖ Demonstrates awareness of state licensure regulations
- ❖ Projects professional image
- ❖ Attends professional meetings
- ❖ Demonstrates cultural/generational awareness, ethical values, respect, and continuous regard for all classmates, academic and clinical faculty/staff, patients, families, and other healthcare providers

***Intermediate Level:***

- ❖ Identifies positive professional role models within the academic and clinical settings
- ❖ Acts on moral commitment during all academic and clinical activities
- ❖ Identifies when the input of classmates, co-workers and other healthcare professionals will result in optimal outcome and acts accordingly to attain such input and share decision making
- ❖ Discusses societal expectations of the profession

***Entry Level:***

- ❖ Demonstrates understanding of scope of practice as evidenced by treatment of patients within scope of practice, referring to other healthcare professionals as necessary
- ❖ Provides patient/family centered care at all times as evidenced by provision of patient/family education, seeking patient input and informed consent for all aspects of care and maintenance of patient dignity
- ❖ Seeks excellence in professional practice by participation in professional organizations and attendance at sessions or participation in activities that further education/professional development
- ❖ Utilizes evidence to guide clinical decision making and the provision of patient care, following guidelines for best practices
- ❖ Discusses role of physical therapy within the healthcare system and in population health
- ❖ Demonstrates leadership in collaboration with both individuals and groups

***Post-Entry Level:***

- ❖ Actively promotes and advocates for the profession
- ❖ Pursues leadership roles
- ❖ Supports research
- ❖ Participates in program development
- ❖ Participates in education of the community
- ❖ Demonstrates the ability to practice effectively in multiple settings
- ❖ Acts as a clinical instructor
- ❖ Advocates for the patient, the community and society

7. **Use of Constructive Feedback** – The ability to seek out and identify quality sources of feedback, reflect on and integrate the feedback, and provide meaningful feedback to others.

***Beginning Level:***

- ❖ Demonstrates active listening skills
- ❖ Assesses own performance
- ❖ Actively seeks feedback from appropriate sources
- ❖ Demonstrates receptive behavior and positive attitude toward feedback

- ❖ Incorporates specific feedback into behaviors
- ❖ Maintains two-way communication without defensiveness

***Intermediate Level:***

- ❖ Critiques own performance accurately
- ❖ Responds effectively to constructive feedback
- ❖ Utilizes feedback when establishing professional and patient related goals
- ❖ Develops and implements a plan of action in response to feedback
- ❖ Provides constructive and timely feedback

***Entry Level:***

- ❖ Independently engages in a continual process of self-evaluation of skills, knowledge and abilities
- ❖ Seeks feedback from patients/clients and peers/mentors
- ❖ Readily integrates feedback provided from a variety of sources to improve skills, knowledge and abilities
- ❖ Uses multiple approaches when responding to feedback
- ❖ Reconciles differences with sensitivity
- ❖ Modifies feedback given to patients/clients according to their learning styles

***Post-Entry Level:***

- ❖ Engages in non-judgmental, constructive problem-solving discussions
- ❖ Acts as conduit for feedback between multiple sources
- ❖ Seeks feedback from a variety of sources to include students/supervisees/peers/supervisors/patients
- ❖ Utilizes feedback when analyzing and updating professional goals

8. **Effective Use of Time and Resources** – The ability to manage time and resources effectively to obtain the maximum possible benefit.

***Beginning Level:***

- ❖ Comes prepared for the day's activities/responsibilities
- ❖ Identifies resource limitations (i.e. information, time, experience)
- ❖ Determines when and how much help/assistance is needed
- ❖ Accesses current evidence in a timely manner
- ❖ Verbalizes productivity standards and identifies barriers to meeting productivity standards
- ❖ Self-identifies and initiates learning opportunities during unscheduled time

***Intermediate Level:***

- ❖ Utilizes effective methods of searching for evidence for practice decisions
- ❖ Recognizes own resource contributions
- ❖ Shares knowledge and collaborates with staff to utilize best current evidence
- ❖ Discusses and implements strategies for meeting productivity standards
- ❖ Identifies need for and seeks referrals to other disciplines

***Entry Level:***

- ❖ Uses current best evidence
- ❖ Collaborates with members of the team to maximize the impact of treatment available
- ❖ Has the ability to set boundaries, negotiate, compromise, and set realistic expectations
- ❖ Gathers data and effectively interprets and assimilates the data to determine plan of care
- ❖ Utilizes community resources in discharge planning
- ❖ Adjusts plans, schedule etc. as patient needs and circumstances dictate
- ❖ Meets productivity standards of facility while providing quality care and completing non-productive work activities

**Post-Entry Level:**

- ❖ Advances profession by contributing to the body of knowledge (outcomes, case studies, etc.)
- ❖ Applies best evidence considering available resources and constraints
- ❖ Organizes and prioritizes effectively
- ❖ Prioritizes multiple demands and situations that arise on a given day
- ❖ Mentors peers and supervisees in increasing productivity and/or effectiveness without decrement in quality of care

9. **Stress Management** – The ability to identify sources of stress and to develop and implement effective coping behaviors; this applies for interactions for: self, patient/clients and their families, members of the health care team and in work/life scenarios.

**Beginning Level:**

- ❖ Recognizes own stressors
- ❖ Recognizes distress or problems in others
- ❖ Seeks assistance as needed
- ❖ Maintains professional demeanor in all situations

**Intermediate Level:**

- ❖ Actively employs stress management techniques
- ❖ Reconciles inconsistencies in the educational process
- ❖ Maintains balance between professional and personal life
- ❖ Accepts constructive feedback and clarifies expectations
- ❖ Establishes outlets to cope with stressors

**Entry Level:**

- ❖ Demonstrates appropriate affective responses in all situations
- ❖ Responds calmly to urgent situations with reflection and debriefing as needed
- ❖ Prioritizes multiple commitments
- ❖ Reconciles inconsistencies within professional, personal and work/life environments
- ❖ Demonstrates ability to defuse potential stressors with self and others

**Post-Entry Level:**

- ❖ Recognizes when problems are unsolvable
- ❖ Assists others in recognizing and managing stressors
- ❖ Demonstrates preventative approach to stress management
- ❖ Establishes support networks for self and others
- ❖ Offers solutions to the reduction of stress
- ❖ Models work/life balance through health/wellness behaviors in professional and personal life

10. **Commitment to Learning** – The ability to self-direct learning to include the identification of needs and sources of learning; and to continually seek and apply new knowledge, behaviors, and skills.

**Beginning Level:**

- ❖ Prioritizes information needs
- ❖ Analyzes and subdivides large questions into components
- ❖ Identifies own learning needs based on previous experiences
- ❖ Welcomes and/or seeks new learning opportunities
- ❖ Seeks out professional literature
- ❖ Plans and presents an in-service, research or cases studies

**Intermediate Level:**

- ❖ Researches and studies areas where own knowledge base is lacking in order to augment learning and practice
- ❖ Applies new information and re-evaluates performance
- ❖ Accepts that there may be more than one answer to a problem
- ❖ Recognizes the need to and is able to verify solutions to problems
- ❖ Reads articles critically and understands limits of application to professional practice

**Entry Level:**

- ❖ Respectfully questions conventional wisdom
- ❖ Formulates and re-evaluates position based on available evidence
- ❖ Demonstrates confidence in sharing new knowledge with all staff levels
- ❖ Modifies programs and treatments based on newly-learned skills and considerations
- ❖ Consults with other health professionals and physical therapists for treatment ideas

**Post Entry Level:**

- ❖ Acts as a mentor not only to other PT's, but to other health professionals
- ❖ Utilizes mentors who have knowledge available to them
- ❖ Continues to seek and review relevant literature
- ❖ Works towards clinical specialty certifications
- ❖ Seeks specialty training
- ❖ Is committed to understanding the PT's role in the health care environment today (i.e. wellness clinics, massage therapy, holistic medicine)
- ❖ Pursues participation in clinical education as an educational opportunity

## PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR FEEDBACK FORM

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Person Completing Report:**

The purpose of this form is to promote the student's awareness of their behavior (as it relates to one of the categories listed below) as witnessed in a recent situation.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Critical Thinking    | <input type="checkbox"/> Professionalism                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Constructive Feedback        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Problem Solving      | <input type="checkbox"/> Effective Use of Time and Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interpersonal Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Stress Management                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Responsibility       | <input type="checkbox"/> Commitment to Learning              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other                |  |

Describe situation observed:

Describe actions taken including student response:

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty member signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments from Student:

*Please forward signed original to Chair of Student Advisory Committee.*

## CODE OF ETHICS FOR THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST

**HOD S06-20-28-25** [Amended HOD S06-19-47-67; HOD S06-09-07-12; HOD S06-00-12-23; HOD 06-91-05-05; HOD 06-87-11-17; HOD 06-81-06-18; HOD 06-78-06-08; HOD 06-78-06-07; HOD 06-77-18-30; HOD 06-77-17-27; Initial HOD 06-73-13-24] [Standard]

### Preamble

The Code of Ethics for the Physical Therapist (Code of Ethics) delineates the ethical obligations of all physical therapists as determined by the House of Delegates of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

The purposes of this Code of Ethics are to:

1. Define the ethical principles that form the foundation of physical therapist practice in patient and client management, consultation, education, research, and administration.
2. Provide standards of behavior and performance that form the basis of professional accountability to the public.
3. Provide guidance for physical therapists facing ethical challenges, regardless of their professional roles and responsibilities.
4. Educate physical therapists, students, other health care professionals, regulators, and the public regarding the core values, ethical principles, and standards that guide the professional conduct of the physical therapist.
5. Establish the standards by which the American Physical Therapy Association can determine if a physical therapist has engaged in unethical conduct.

No code of ethics is exhaustive nor can it address every situation. Physical therapists are encouraged to seek additional advice or consultation in instances where the guidance of the Code of Ethics may not be definitive. The APTA Guide for Professional Conduct and Core Values for the Physical Therapist and Physical Therapist Assistant provide additional guidance.

This Code of Ethics describes the desired behavior of physical therapists in their multiple roles (eg, management of patients and clients, consultation, education, research, and administration), addresses multiple aspects of ethical action (individual, organizational, and societal), and reflects the core values of the physical therapist (accountability, altruism, collaboration, compassion and caring, duty, excellence, integrity, and social responsibility). Throughout the document the primary core values that support specific principles are indicated in parentheses. Unless a specific role is indicated in the principle, the duties and obligations being delineated pertain to the five roles of the physical therapist. Fundamental to the Code of Ethics is the special obligation of physical therapists to empower, educate, and enable those with impairments, activity limitations, participation restrictions, and disabilities to facilitate greater independence, health, wellness, and enhanced quality of life.

### Principles

#### **Principle #1: Physical therapists shall respect the inherent dignity and rights of all individuals.**

(Core Values: Compassion and Caring, Integrity)

- 1A. Physical therapists shall act in a respectful manner toward each person regardless of age, gender, race, nationality, religion, ethnicity, social or economic status, sexual orientation, health condition, or disability.
- 1B. Physical therapists shall recognize their personal biases and shall not discriminate against others in physical therapist practice, consultation, education, research, and administration.

#### **Principle #2: Physical therapists shall be trustworthy and compassionate in addressing the rights and needs of patients and clients.**

(Core Values: Altruism, Collaboration, Compassion and Caring, Duty)

- 2A. Physical therapists shall adhere to the core values of the profession and shall act in the best interests of patients and clients over the interests of the physical therapist.
- 2B. Physical therapists shall provide physical therapist services with compassionate and caring behaviors that incorporate the individual and cultural differences of patients and clients.
- 2C. Physical therapists shall provide the information necessary to allow patients or their surrogates to make informed decisions about physical therapist care or participation in clinical research.
- 2D. Physical therapists shall collaborate with patients and clients to empower them in decisions about their health care.
- 2E. Physical therapists shall protect confidential patient and client information and may disclose confidential information to appropriate authorities only when allowed or as required by law.

#### **Principle #3: Physical therapists shall be accountable for making sound professional judgments.**

(Core Values: Collaboration, Duty, Excellence, Integrity)

- 3A. Physical therapists shall demonstrate independent and objective professional judgment in the patient's or client's best interest in all practice settings.
- 3B. Physical therapists shall demonstrate professional judgment informed by professional standards, evidence (including current literature and established best practice), practitioner experience, and patient and client values.
- 3C. Physical therapists shall make judgments within their scope of practice and level of expertise and shall communicate with, collaborate with, or refer to peers or other health care professionals when necessary.

3D. Physical therapists shall not engage in conflicts of interest that interfere with professional judgment. 3E. Physical therapists shall provide appropriate direction of and communication with physical therapist assistants and support personnel.

**Principle #4: Physical therapists shall demonstrate integrity in their relationships with patients and clients, families, colleagues, students, research participants, other health care providers, employers, payers, and the public.**

(Core Value: Integrity)

- 4A. Physical therapists shall provide truthful, accurate, and relevant information and shall not make misleading representations.
- 4B. Physical therapists shall not exploit persons over whom they have supervisory, evaluative or other authority (eg, patients/clients, students, supervisees, research participants, or employees).
- 4C. Physical therapists shall not engage in any sexual relationship with any of their patients and clients, supervisees, or students.
- 4D. Physical therapists shall not harass anyone verbally, physically, emotionally, or sexually.
- 4E. Physical therapists shall discourage misconduct by physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, and other health care professionals and, when appropriate, report illegal or unethical acts, including verbal, physical, emotional, or sexual harassment, to an appropriate authority with jurisdiction over the conduct.
- 4F. Physical therapists shall report suspected cases of abuse involving children or vulnerable adults to the appropriate authority, subject to law.

**Principle #5: Physical therapists shall fulfill their legal and professional obligations.**

(Core Values: Accountability, Duty, Social Responsibility)

- 5A. Physical therapists shall comply with applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.
- 5B. Physical therapists shall have primary responsibility for supervision of physical therapist assistants and support personnel.
- 5C. Physical therapists involved in research shall abide by accepted standards governing protection of research participants.
- 5D. Physical therapists shall encourage colleagues with physical, psychological, or substance-related impairments that may adversely impact their professional responsibilities to seek assistance or counsel.
- 5E. Physical therapists who have knowledge that a colleague is unable to perform their professional responsibilities with reasonable skill and safety shall report this information to the appropriate authority.
- 5F. Physical therapists shall provide notice and information about alternatives for obtaining care in the event the physical therapist terminates the provider relationship while the patient or client continues to need physical therapist services.

**Principle #6: Physical therapists shall enhance their expertise through the lifelong acquisition and refinement of knowledge, skills, abilities, and professional behaviors.**

(Core Value: Excellence)

- 6A. Physical therapists shall achieve and maintain professional competence.
- 6B. Physical therapists shall take responsibility for their professional development based on critical self- assessment and reflection on changes in physical therapist practice, education, health care delivery, and technology.
- 6C. Physical therapists shall evaluate the strength of evidence and applicability of content presented during professional development activities before integrating the content or techniques into practice.
- 6D. Physical therapists shall cultivate practice environments that support professional development, lifelong learning, and excellence.

**Principle #7: Physical therapists shall promote organizational behaviors and business practices that benefit patients and clients and society.**

(Core Values: Integrity, Accountability)

- 7A. Physical therapists shall promote practice environments that support autonomous and accountable professional judgments.
- 7B. Physical therapists shall seek remuneration as is deserved and reasonable for physical therapist services. 7C. Physical therapists shall not accept gifts or other considerations that influence or give an appearance of influencing their professional judgment.
- 7D. Physical therapists shall fully disclose any financial interest they have in products or services that they recommend to patients and clients.
- 7E. Physical therapists shall be aware of charges and shall ensure that documentation and coding for physical therapist services accurately reflect the nature and extent of the services provided.
- 7F. Physical therapists shall refrain from employment arrangements, or other arrangements, that prevent physical therapists from fulfilling professional obligations to patients and clients.

**Principle #8: Physical therapists shall participate in efforts to meet the health needs of people locally, nationally, or globally.**

(Core Value: Social Responsibility)

- 8A. Physical therapists shall provide pro bono physical therapist services or support organizations that meet the health

needs of people who are economically disadvantaged, uninsured, and underinsured.

- 8B. Physical therapists shall advocate to reduce health disparities and health care inequities, improve access to health care services, and address the health, wellness, and preventive health care needs of people.
- 8C. Physical therapists shall be responsible stewards of health care resources and shall avoid overutilization or underutilization of physical therapist services.
- 8D. Physical therapists shall educate members of the public about the benefits of physical therapy and the unique role of the physical therapist.

**Explanation of Reference Numbers:**

HOD P00-00-00-00 stands for House of Delegates/month/year/page/vote in the House of Delegates minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, HOD P06-17-05-04 means that this position can be found in the June 2017 House of Delegates minutes on Page 5 and that it was Vote 4.

P: Position | S: Standard | G: Guideline | Y: Policy | R: Procedure

**Last Updated:** 8/12/2020

**CURRICULUM – CLASS of 2026**  
**PRE-REQUISITE AND CO-REQUISITE CURRICULAR TABLE**

*\*Faculty reserve the right to modify and/or alter this table to maximize educational outcomes.*

**KEY:**

▣ Enrollment restricted to DPT students.

⌘ Enrollment open to graduate students from other programs with permission of course instructor and agreement of DPT Program Director (student must submit petition for enrollment).

Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
<b>SUMMER DPT 1</b> <i>(second summer session)</i>			
<b>PHYT 600</b> (2-credits, pass/fail) <b>PT as a Profession</b>	▣	N/A	N/A
<b>PHYT 622</b> (6-credits, letter graded) <b>Clinical Gross Anatomy</b>	▣	N/A	N/A
<b>FALL DPT 1</b>			
<b>PHYT 641</b> (1-credit, pass/fail) <b>Rounds I</b>	⌘	N/A	N/A
<b>PHYT 604</b> (3 credits though variable-credits between 2-4, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Functional Anatomy and Biomechanics</b>	⌘	PHYT 622	N/A
<b>PHYT 624</b> (3 credits though variable-credits between 2-4, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Basic Evaluation Techniques</b>	▣	PHYT 622	PHYT 604 PHYT 635
<b>PHYT 631</b> (5-credits, letter graded) <b>Physical Therapy in the Acute Care Environment</b>	▣	PHYT 622	PHYT 801 PHYT 624
<b>PHYT 635</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Biophysical Agents</b>	▣	PHYT 622	PHYT 624 PHYT 604
<b>PHYT 801</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Medical Science I – General Medicine</b>	▣	PHYT 622	PHYT 631
<b>WINTER DPT 1</b>			
<b>PHYT 620</b> (1-credit, letter graded) <b>Educational Process in Community Health</b>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	PHYT 830
<b>PHYT 632</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Applied Physiology I</b>	▣	PHYT 622 PHYT 631 PHYT 801	N/A
<b>PHYT 830</b> (1-credit, pass/fail) <b>Introduction to Clinical Education</b>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	PHYT 620
<b>PHYT 626 (Elective)</b> (3-credits, letter-graded) <b>Advanced Regional Anatomy</b>	⌘	PHYT 622	N/A
<b>SPRING DPT 1</b>			
<b>PHYT 606</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Research</b>	⌘	Satisfied via DPT admission pre-requisites	N/A

Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
<b>PHYT 623</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Clinical Neuroscience</b>	∞	PHYT 622 PHYT 624 PHYT 631 PHYT 635 PHYT 801 PHYT 632	PHYT 633 PHYT 634
<b>PHYT 633</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Applied Physiology II</b>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	PHYT 634
<b>PHYT 634</b> (3 credits though variable-credits between 2-4, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Electrotherapy</b>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	PHYT 623 PHYT 633
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>SUMMER DPT 2</b>			
<b>PHYT 608</b> (5 credits though variable-credits between 4-6, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Musculoskeletal Evaluation and Treatment</b>	∞	PHYT 622 PHYT 604 PHYT 624 PHYT 632 PHYT 633 PHYT 634	PHYT 802
<b>PHYT 802</b> (3-credits though variable credits between 2-3, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Medical Science II – Orthopaedics and Musculoskeletal Imaging</b>	∞	PHYT 622 PHYT 604 PHYT 624 PHYT 632 PHYT 633 PHYT 634	PHYT 608 (for DPT-degree seeking students only)
<b>PHYT 807</b> (5 credits though variable-credits between 3-5, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Advanced Topics</b>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A

FALL DPT 2			
Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
<b>PHYT 643</b> (1-credit, pass/fail) <b>Rounds III</b>		N/A	N/A
<b>PHYT 803</b> (3 credits though variable-credits between 2-3, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Medical Science III – Neurology</b>	▣	PHYT 622 PHYT 623 PHYT 624 PHYT 801	PHYT 804 PHYT 805
<b>PHYT 804</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurophysiologic Evaluation and Treatment</b>	▣	PHYT 622 PHYT 604 PHYT 624 PHYT 631 PHYT 801 PHYT 632 PHYT 623 PHYT 633	PHYT 803 PHYT 805
<b>PHYT 805</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Rehabilitation</b>	▣	PHYT 600 PHYT 622 PHYT 604 PHYT 624 PHYT 631 PHYT 801 PHYT 620 PHYT 632 PHYT 623 PHYT 633	PHYT 803 PHYT 804
<b>PHYT 808</b> (5 credits though variable-credits between 4-6, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Spine Management</b>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 621 Elective</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Imaging in Clinical Practice &amp; Research</b>	⌘	PHYT622	N/A
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
WINTER DPT 2			
<b>PHYT 809</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Disease</b>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)

<b>PHYT 810</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Clinical Management and Administration</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 626 (Elective)</b> (3-credits, pass/fail) <b>Advanced Regional Anatomy</b>	☐	PHYT 622	N/A
<b>SPRING DPT 2</b>			
<b>PHYT 614 (Elective)</b> (variable credits between 1-3, student option) <b>Sports and Orthopaedics</b>	☐	PHYT 622 PHYT 604 PHYT 624 PHYT 608 PHYT 802	N/A
<b>PHYT 806</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Geriatrics</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 811</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Pediatrics</b>	⌘	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>SUMMER / FALL DPT 3</b>			
<b>PHYT 831</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Full-time Clinical Education Experience - Inpatient</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 833</b> (4 credits, letter graded) <b>Full-time Clinical Education Experience - Outpatient</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 834</b> (4 credits, letter graded) <b>Full-time Clinical Education Experience – Elective</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A

**CURRICULUM – CLASS of 2027**  
**PRE-REQUISITE AND CO-REQUISITE CURRICULAR TABLE**

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**KEY:**

☐ Enrollment restricted to DPT students.

⌘ Enrollment open to graduate students from other programs with permission of course instructor and agreement of DPT Program Director (student must submit petition for enrollment).

Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
<b>SUMMER DPT 1</b> (second summer session)			
<b>PHYT 600</b> (2-credits, pass/fail) <b>PT as a Profession</b>	☐	N/A	N/A
<b>PHYT 622</b> (6-credits, letter graded) <b>Clinical Gross Anatomy</b>	☐	N/A	N/A
<b>FALL DPT 1</b>			
<b>PHYT 641</b> (1-credit, pass/fail) <b>Rounds I</b>	⌘	N/A	N/A
<b>PHYT 604</b> (3 credits though variable-credits between 2-4, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Functional Anatomy and Biomechanics</b>	⌘	PHYT 622	N/A
<b>PHYT 624</b> (3 credits though variable-credits between 2-4, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Basic Evaluation Techniques</b>	☐	PHYT 622	PHYT 604 PHYT 635
<b>PHYT 631</b> (5-credits, letter graded) <b>Physical Therapy in the Acute Care Environment</b>	☐	PHYT 622	PHYT 801 PHYT 624
<b>PHYT 635</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Biophysical Agents</b>	☐	PHYT 622	PHYT 624 PHYT 604
<b>PHYT 801</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Medical Science I – General Medicine</b>	☐	PHYT 622	PHYT 631
<b>WINTER DPT 1</b>			
<b>PHYT 620</b> (1-credit, letter graded) <b>Educational Process in Community Health</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	PHYT 830
<b>PHYT 632</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Applied Physiology I</b>	☐	PHYT 622 PHYT 631 PHYT 801	N/A
<b>PHYT 830</b> (1-credit, pass/fail) <b>Introduction to Clinical Education</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	PHYT 620
<b>PHYT 626 (Elective)</b> (3-credits, letter-graded) <b>Advanced Regional Anatomy</b>	⌘	PHYT 622	N/A
<b>SPRING DPT 1</b>			
<b>PHYT 606</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Research</b>	⌘	Satisfied via DPT admission pre-requisites	N/A

Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
<b>PHYT 623</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Clinical Neuroscience</b>	∞	PHYT 622 PHYT 624 PHYT 631 PHYT 635 PHYT 801 PHYT 632	PHYT 633 PHYT 634
<b>PHYT 633</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Applied Physiology II</b>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	PHYT 634
<b>PHYT 634</b> (3 credits though variable-credits between 2-4, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Electrotherapy</b>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	PHYT 623 PHYT 633
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>SUMMER DPT 2</b>			
<b>PHYT 608</b> (5 credits though variable-credits between 4-6, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Musculoskeletal Evaluation and Treatment</b>	∞	PHYT 622 PHYT 604 PHYT 624 PHYT 632 PHYT 633 PHYT 634	PHYT 802
<b>PHYT 802</b> (3-credits though variable credits between 2-3, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Medical Science II – Orthopaedics and Musculoskeletal Imaging</b>	∞	PHYT 622 PHYT 604 PHYT 624 PHYT 632 PHYT 633 PHYT 634	PHYT 608 (for DPT-degree seeking students only)
<b>PHYT 807</b> (5 credits though variable-credits between 3-5, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Advanced Topics</b>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	∞	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A

FALL DPT 2			
Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
<b>PHYT 643</b> (1-credit, pass/fail) <b>Rounds III</b>		N/A	N/A
<b>PHYT 803</b> (3 credits though variable-credits between 2-3, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Medical Science III – Neurology</b>	▣	PHYT 622 PHYT 623 PHYT 624 PHYT 801	PHYT 804 PHYT 805
<b>PHYT 804</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurophysiologic Evaluation and Treatment</b>	▣	PHYT 622 PHYT 604 PHYT 624 PHYT 631 PHYT 801 PHYT 632 PHYT 623 PHYT 633	PHYT 803 PHYT 805
<b>PHYT 805</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Rehabilitation</b>	▣	PHYT 600 PHYT 622 PHYT 604 PHYT 624 PHYT 631 PHYT 801 PHYT 620 PHYT 632 PHYT 623 PHYT 633	PHYT 803 PHYT 804
<b>PHYT 808</b> (5 credits though variable-credits between 4-6, consistent per cohort, letter graded) <b>Spine Management</b>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 621 Elective</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Imaging in Clinical Practice &amp; Research</b>	⌘	PHYT622	N/A
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
WINTER DPT 2			
<b>PHYT 809</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Disease</b>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)

<b>PHYT 810</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Clinical Management and Administration</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 626 (Elective)</b> (3-credits, pass/fail) <b>Advanced Regional Anatomy</b>	☐	PHYT 622	N/A
<b>SPRING DPT 2</b>			
<b>PHYT 614 (Elective)</b> (variable credits between 1-3, student option) <b>Sports and Orthopaedics</b>	☐	PHYT 622 PHYT 604 PHYT 624 PHYT 608 PHYT 802	N/A
<b>PHYT 806</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Geriatrics</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 811</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Pediatrics</b>	⌘	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>SUMMER / FALL DPT 3</b>			
<b>PHYT 831</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Full-time Clinical Education Experience - Inpatient</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 833</b> (4 credits, letter graded) <b>Full-time Clinical Education Experience - Outpatient</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 834</b> (4 credits, letter graded) <b>Full-time Clinical Education Experience – Elective</b>	☐	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A

**CURRICULUM – CLASS of 2028****PRE-REQUISITE AND CO-REQUISITE CURRICULAR TABLE**

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**KEY:**

☐ Enrollment restricted to DPT students.

⌘ Enrollment open to graduate students from other programs with permission of course instructor and agreement of DPT Program Director (student must submit petition for enrollment).

Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
<b>SUMMER DPT 1</b> <i>(second summer session)</i>			
<b>PHYT 600</b> (2-credits, pass/fail) <b>PT as a Profession</b>	☐	N/A	PHYT 622
<b>PHYT 622</b> (6-credits, letter graded) <b>Clinical Gross Anatomy</b>	☐	N/A	PHYT 600
<b>FALL DPT 1</b>			
<b>PHYT 641</b> (1-credit, pass/fail) <b>Rounds I</b>	⌘	PHYT 600, 622	PHYT 604, 620, 624, 635, 801
<b>PHYT 604</b> (5-credits, letter graded) <b>Kinesiology for Physical Therapists</b>	⌘	PHYT 600, 622	PHYT 620, 624, 635, 641, 801
<b>PHYT 624</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Basic Evaluation Techniques</b>	☐	PHYT 600, 622	PHYT 604, 620, 635, 641, 801
<b>PHYT 620</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Communicating in the Patient Care Setting</b>	☐	PHYT 600, 622	PHYT 604, 624, 635, 641, 801
<b>PHYT 635</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Biophysical Agents</b>	☐	PHYT 600, 622	PHYT 604, 620, 624, 641, 801
<b>PHYT 801</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Medical Sciences General Medicine</b>	☐	PHYT 600, 622	PHYT 604, 620, 624, 635, 641
<b>WINTER DPT 1</b>			
<b>PHYT 606</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Research</b>	⌘	PHYT 604, 620, 624, 635, 641, 801	PHYT 802, 830
<b>PHYT 802</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Musculoskeletal PT I: Foundational Principles</b>	☐	PHYT 604, 620, 624, 635, 641, 801	PHYT 606, 830
<b>PHYT 830</b> (1-credit, pass/fail) <b>Introduction to Clinical Education</b>	☐	PHYT 604, 620, 624, 635, 641, 801	PHYT 606, 802
<b>SPRING DPT 1</b>			
<b>PHYT 608</b> (5-credits, letter graded) <b>Musculoskeletal PT II: Evaluation and Treatment of the Extremities</b>	☐	PHYT 606, 802, 830	PHYT 623, 813

Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
<b>PHYT 623</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic Physical Therapy I: Clinical Neuroscience</b>	X	PHYT 606, 802, 830	PHYT 608, 813
<b>PHYT 813 Pain Science and Patient Management</b> (3-credits, letter graded)	X	PHYT 606, 802, 830	PHYT 608, 623
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	▣	PHYT 606, 802, 830	PHYT 608, 623, 813
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	▣	PHYT 606, 802, 830	PHYT 608, 623, 813
<b>SUMMER DPT 2</b>			
<b>PHYT 632</b> (5 credits, letter graded) <b>Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Evaluation and Treatment</b>	▣	PHYT 608, 623, 813	PHYT 808, 815
<b>PHYT 815</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Physical Therapy Management of Wounds, Limb Loss and Limb Differences</b>	▣	PHYT 608, 623, 813	PHYT 632, 808
<b>PHYT 808 Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy III: Evaluation and Treatment of the Spine</b> (4-credits, letter graded)	▣	PHYT 608, 623, 813	PHYT 632, 815
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	▣	PHYT 608, 623, 813	PHYT 632, 808, 815
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	▣	PHYT 608, 623, 813	PHYT 632, 808, 815

<b>FALL DPT 2</b>			
Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
<b>PHYT 643</b> (1-credit, pass/fail) <b>Rounds II</b>		PHYT 632, 808, 815	PHYT 631, 810, 816
<b>PHYT 631</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Physical Therapy for the Medically Complex Patient</b>	☐	PHYT 632, 808, 815	PHYT 643, 810, 816
<b>PHYT 810</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Clinical Management and Administration</b>	☐	PHYT 632, 808, 815	PHYT 643, 631, 816
<b>PHYT 816</b> (6-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic Physical Therapy II: Foundational Principles</b>	☐	PHYT 632, 808, 815	PHYT 643, 631, 810
<b>PHYT 621 Elective</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Imaging in Clinical Practice &amp; Research</b>	⌘	PHYT622	N/A
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	☐	PHYT 632, 815	PHYT 643, 631, 810, 816
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	☐	PHYT 632, 815	PHYT 643, 631, 810, 816
<b>WINTER DPT 2</b>			
<b>PHYT 809</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Disease</b>	☐	PHYT 643, 631, 810, 816	PHYT 804, 807

Course	Enrollment	Pre-Requisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
<b>PHYT 804</b> (5-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic Physical Therapy III: Evaluation and Treatment of Neurologic Pathology</b>	▣	PHYT 643, 631, 810, 816	PHYT 809, 807
<b>PHYT 807</b> (2-credits, letter graded) <b>Select Topics in Physical Therapy</b>	▣	PHYT 643, 631, 810, 816	PHYT 809, 804
<b>PHYT 626 (Elective)</b> (2-credits, pass/fail) <b>Advanced Regional Anatomy</b>	▣	PHYT 622	N/A
<b>SPRING DPT 2</b>			
<b>PHYT 614 (Elective)</b> (variable credits between 1-3, student option) <b>Sports and Orthopaedics</b>	▣	PHYT 604, 633, 624, 802, 608, 808	N/A
<b>PHYT 806</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Geriatrics</b>	▣	PHYT 804, 807, 809	PHYT 811
<b>PHYT 811</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Pediatrics</b>	⌘	PHYT 804, 807, 809	PHYT 806
<b>PHYT 821</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	▣	PHYT 804, 807, 809	PHYT 806, 811
<b>PHYT 822</b> (3-credits, letter graded) <b>Neurologic / Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience</b> <i>*if enrolled in an ICE this semester, student placed in either PHYT 821 or PHYT 822</i>	▣	PHYT 804, 807, 809	PHYT 806, 811
<b>SUMMER / FALL DPT 3</b>			
<b>PHYT 831</b> (4-credits, letter graded) <b>Full-time Clinical Education Experience - Inpatient</b>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 833</b> (4 credits, letter graded) <b>Full-time Clinical Education Experience - Outpatient</b>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A
<b>PHYT 834</b> (4 credits, letter graded) <b>Full-time Clinical Education Experience – Elective</b>	▣	All prior required graduate-level core PT courses	N/A

**UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE**  
**PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**PHYT 600: PT as a Profession (2 credits)** This course examines the ethical, legal, and professional responsibilities of physical therapists, with a focus on ethical decision-making, professional standards, and accountability in patient care. Students will explore issues such as power dynamics, conflict resolution, confidentiality, and reporting obligations. The course integrates assertive communication strategies, self-assessment, and advocacy to enhance professional growth. Through projects, service learning, and simulated patient encounters, students will develop skills in ethical reflection, interprofessional collaboration, culturally competent care, and patient education. Additionally, students will engage in legislative advocacy and professional development activities to promote the physical therapy profession and improve healthcare access.

**PHYT 622: Clinical Gross Anatomy (6 credits)** This course is designed to introduce students to the structure and function of the head and neck, back, thorax, abdomen, pelvis, upper and lower extremities. Additionally, students are introduced to diagnostic imaging where emphasis is placed on the ability to identify anatomical structures on various images. The format consists of lectures, dissection and palpation labs, and special emphasis is placed on clinical relevance and functional interrelationships of anatomical structures. Organized regionally, the course is coordinated so that all aspects of a given region are considered simultaneously.

**Rounds Series**

**PHYT 641: Rounds I – Year 1 (1 credit)**

This Rounds course utilizes a group-based format that fosters collaborative learning. It is structured around three key themes: professionalism, communication, and the development of clinical reasoning. Through a case-based approach, students will begin to develop their clinical reasoning skills, applying knowledge in practical contexts.

**PHYT 643: Rounds II – Year 2 (1 credit)**

This Rounds course is comprised of clinical cases presented by faculty, clinical faculty, adjunct faculty, PhD students and guest lecturers in a Grand rounds format. Presentations are progressive in nature and reveal components of a clinical case. The discussion format is collaborative and facilitates student engagement in clinical reasoning, critical thinking, and collaborative debate in a mentored environment. Students will have the opportunity to discuss interprofessional collaborations and decision making. They will also have the opportunity to discuss the impact of culture on clinical evaluation, shared decision making, and clinical practice.

**PHYT 604: Kinesiology for Physical Therapists (5 credits)** This course is designed to provide students with basic knowledge of biomechanics and functional aspects of the musculoskeletal system. It involves the study of anatomical, biomechanical, and physiological fundamentals of typical and atypical movement as it pertains to the neck, back, upper and lower extremities.

**PHYT 624: Basic Evaluation Techniques (3 credits)** In this course the components of patient management will be described and discussed. Assessment of joint motion, muscle flexibility, and muscle performance of the neck, back, upper and lower extremities is described and practiced. Additionally, students will learn how to perform vital sign assessments. Students will also be introduced to differential diagnosis and clinical decision-making processes.

**PHYT 631: Physical Therapy for the Medically Complex Patient (3 credits)** This course highlights patients with medically complex diagnoses, those who require support such as close physiological monitoring and increased assistance (through physical guarding/assistance and use of assistive devices). Students will learn how to perform comprehensive assessments of the medically complex patient and formulate an appropriate treatment plan and discharge disposition. Students will be expected to consider patho-anatomical influences upon patient examination / evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment planning, and outcome assessment. Documentation reflective of relevant treatment environments is also included.

**PHYT 635: Biophysical Agents (3 credits)** This course provides an introduction to fundamental physical therapy interventions, including biophysical agents, joint mobilizations, soft tissue mobilization, and therapeutic exercise. Emphasizing hands-on learning, students will explore techniques commonly used in clinical practice while developing essential clinical reasoning skills. The course will integrate evidence-based practice principles,

ensuring students understand the rationale behind therapeutic choices and their application in patient care. Through a combination of lectures, demonstrations, and lab experiences, students will gain confidence in selecting and applying appropriate interventions to improve patient outcomes.

**PHYT 801: Medical Sciences - General Medicine (2 credits)** This course explores the physiological, pathological, pharmacological, and nutritional factors influencing human health and physical therapy practice. Students will examine cellular function, system pathology, and inflammation, assessing their impact on disease progression, clinical presentation, and therapeutic interventions. Key topics include diagnostic testing, medical management, referral considerations, and the role of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics in rehabilitation. The course also covers nutrition science, including dietary guidelines, medical nutrition therapy, and the impact of diet on disease management. Emphasis is placed on interdisciplinary collaboration and evidence-based decision-making to optimize patient outcomes.

**PHYT 620: Communicating in Patient Care Settings (2 credits)** This course explores the learning and teaching process in healthcare, emphasizing adult learning principles, communication, culturally sensitive care, and motivational techniques. It examines psychosocial development, the patient-caregiver-therapist dynamic, and the social implications of illness. Students will develop skills to foster adaptive, responsive, and nurturing relationships within healthcare teams, promoting effective provider-patient interactions and supportive care environments.

**PHYT 632: Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Evaluation and Treatment (5 credits)** This course provides an in-depth analysis of the physiologic mechanisms of the cardiovascular and pulmonary systems, exploring the physiological, pathological, and pharmacological factors of the cardiovascular and pulmonary systems which influence human health and physical therapy practice. Lectures relate to both normal and abnormal physiology, with emphasis on physical therapy examination and evaluation procedures, along with diagnostic testing, medical management, referral considerations, on disease progression, clinical presentation, and treatment interventions specific to these systems (including stress tests and measures of functional exercise capacity).

**PHYT 830: Introduction to Clinical Education (1 credit)** This course is designed to prepare students for academic progression into their clinical affiliations. Prior to a student starting a clinical affiliation, he/she/they is required to cover a number of clinically relevant topics. Upon completing this course, students will be given the knowledge and skills necessary to prevent, recognize, and provide care for sudden cardiac or respiratory distress. They will learn the current federal laws in place to protect an individual's privacy in the medical setting. Other topics of interest include understanding how to handle infectious and hazardous materials, and understanding the process of state required background checks to protect the public in positions of sensitivity. The class will consist of lectures and labs to complete the objectives of the course.

**PHYT 626: Advanced Regional Anatomy (Elective, 2-3 credits; DPT students will register for 2 credits, MS students will register for 3 credits)** Structural and functional aspects of regions of body under study are emphasized by means of human cadaver dissection and demonstrations. Clinical significance of anatomical structure is stressed.

**PHYT 606: Research (3 credits)** The purpose of this course is to provide the physical therapy student with the skills and knowledge necessary to become critical consumers of rehabilitation and medical literature. Topics include research design, protection of human subjects in research, descriptive statistics, significance testing, reliability and validity. Concepts related to diagnosis, prognosis and intervention will also be discussed. In the end, students will be expected to critically analyze current rehabilitation literature independently. Active student participation is necessary for the success of this learning experience and will be expected throughout the course. Advanced preparation for lectures is highly recommended for successful completion of this course.

**PHYT 623: Neurologic Physical Therapy I: Clinical Neuroscience (4 credits)** This course is the first in a series designed to encourage students to apply clinical neuroscience knowledge and motor control and motor learning concepts to the practice of neurological physical therapy. Clinical Neuroscience covers the study of the structure and function of the human central nervous system, with a focus on somatosensory and motor systems neuroscience. Emphasis is placed on the cause-effect relationships between structure/function and lesion/clinical presentation. Written, oral and psychomotor performance and examinations challenge students to organize and analyze basic neuroscience knowledge into meaningful clinical application for patients with movement impairment of a central neurologic origin.

**PHYT 813 Pain Science and Patient Management (3 credits)** This course provides a comprehensive overview of pain science, covering epidemiology, conceptual models, and key terminology. Students will explore pain assessment methods and practice effective communication strategies. Students will be exposed to evidence-based rehabilitation approaches for patients experiencing pain. Emphasis is placed on understanding and applying foundational pain science knowledge and principles to physical therapy clinical practice.

**PHYT 608: Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy II: Evaluation and Treatment of the Extremities (5 credits)** In-depth analysis of evaluation and treatment strategies of extremity joints, muscles and connective tissue. Emphasizes research on the physiological basis of immobilization and remobilization. The diagnoses, prognosis, treatment, consultation, and basis for referral of orthopedic and musculoskeletal disorders are examined.

**PHYT 802: Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy I: Foundational Principles (2 credits)** This course provides an in-depth exploration of orthopedic pathology and the medical, surgical, and pharmacological management of musculoskeletal conditions across the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on the integration of musculoskeletal imaging, rheumatology, and pharmacology to inform evidence-based physical therapy practice. Students will strengthen clinical expertise in the comprehensive evaluation and treatment of orthopedic and musculoskeletal disorders, with focused analysis of extremity joints, muscles, and connective tissue.

**PHYT 804: Neurologic Physical Therapy III: Evaluation and Treatment of Neurologic Pathology (5 credits)** This course is the third and final in a series designed to encourage students to apply clinical neuroscience knowledge and motor control and motor learning concepts to the practice of neurological physical therapy. This course covers the physical therapy examination, evaluation, assessment, and treatment of adults with specific conditions affecting the central nervous system. The most common conditions seen by physical therapists are emphasized, including stroke, traumatic brain injury, Parkinson's disease, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, and cerebellar disorders. Approaches to evaluation, intervention, and treatment planning are based on current evidence from the literature, including randomized controlled clinical trials as well mechanisms of learning and neuroplasticity. Written, oral, and psychomotor performance and examinations challenge students to apply their didactic knowledge to clinical decision making for patients with health conditions of a central nervous system origin.

**PHYT 816: Neurologic Physical Therapy II: Foundational Principles (6 credits)** This course is the second in a series designed to encourage students to apply clinical neuroscience knowledge and motor control and motor learning concepts to the practice of neurological physical therapy. Foundational Principles of Neurologic Physical Therapy covers basic principles of neuroplasticity and sensorimotor control and learning, body structure and function impairments and activity limitations associated with various neurologic conditions, and how these are best evaluated in physical therapy practice in a variety of settings. Effects of personal and environmental factors, such as aging, cognition, cultural differences, social support, etc. on the evaluation, assessment and prognosis for physical therapy are emphasized. Written, oral, and psychomotor performance and examinations challenge students to use their basic neuroscience knowledge to inform development of meaningful clinical applications for patients with sensorimotor impairment of a central neurologic origin.

**PHYT 808: MSK III: Evaluation and Treatment of the Spine (4 credits)** Discusses the biomechanics, pathophysiology and disability associated with axial pain and dysfunction; includes an understanding of the role of physical therapy evaluation in the determination and implementation of physical therapy interventions, as well as the need for consultation with and referral to other healthcare professionals.

**PHYT 621: Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Imaging in Clinical Practice & Research (Elective, 3 credits)** The course covers musculoskeletal ultrasound imaging physics, principles, patient safety, indications, knobology, and artifact identification. Fundamentals of musculoskeletal ultrasound imaging of the trunk (e.g. low back, anterior trunk, pelvic floor) and major peripheral joints (e.g. hip, knee, ankle, foot, shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand) are demonstrated and practiced. Applications of ultrasound imaging in healthcare practice and research are discussed and demonstrated.

**PHYT 809: Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Disease (2 credits)** This course examines how psychological, social, cultural, and ethical factors influence health, illness, and rehabilitation. Students will build on foundational communication skills to address complex patient interactions, apply psychosocial screening tools, and use strategies such as motivational interviewing. Topics include mental health, suicide risk, abuse, end of life decisions, health equity, and ethical challenges in patient care. Emphasis is placed on professionalism, empathy, and the therapist's role in supporting patients and families across diverse healthcare settings.

**PHYT 810: Clinical Management and Administration (2 credits)** Analysis of administration and management of physical therapy practice across various healthcare settings. Topics include healthcare systems, organizational structures, facility operations, fiscal and human resource management, legal considerations, billing and reimbursement processes, electronic health records (EHR) and informatics, quality assurance, leadership development, and strategies for establishing and managing a self-owned practice.

**PHYT 614: Sports and Orthopaedics (Elective, 1-3 credits)** This course is an advanced orthopedics course with emphasis in sports related injuries. We will discuss evaluation and intervention of the athlete in the various major joints of the body, as well as, other related topics in sports and orthopedics.

**PHYT 806: Geriatrics (3 credits)** A comprehensive view of the geriatric physical therapy patient will be presented. To that end this course has two basic components: a psychosocial component and a physical therapy practice component. The psychosocial component will provide an in depth discussion of the demographics of the elderly in the United States, theories of aging, transition to old age, dementia, sexuality, and falls. It will also address the perceptions clinicians and society has on aging and the elderly. Ageism will also be addressed in some depth. The physical therapy practice component of the course will address those medical conditions commonly found in the elderly that require physical therapy intervention. At the conclusion of the course, the student will be expected to be able to discuss the necessary current practice management strategies for geriatric physical therapy patients, taking into account the psychosocial and physical aspects of their geriatric patient.

**PHYT 811: Pediatrics (4 credits)** Instruction in the theory, research and clinical skills necessary for the comprehensive management of pediatric clients and their families. Emphasis on the incorporation of modern developmental science into evidenced-based program planning. The course aims to advance each student's: a) understanding of typical development, and b) ability to screen, assess, program plan, and provide intervention. Lectures build upon students' prior coursework and clinical experiences.

**PHYT 807: Select Topics in Physical Therapy (2credits)** This course explores areas of physical therapy not otherwise covered within the curriculum including oncology rehabilitation, pelvic health, financial literacy, genetics, and medical differential diagnosis. Students will develop skills to assess and implement evidence-based treatment plans addressing cancer-related impairments and pelvic floor dysfunction. For these topics emphasis is placed on interdisciplinary collaboration, patient-centered care, ethical decision-making, and professional communication. Additionally, students will examine financial strategies for expense management, debt reduction, and wealth building to support long-term professional success.

**PHYT 815: Physical Therapy Management of Wounds, Limb Loss and Limb Differences (3 credits)**

This course explores physical therapy management of wounds, limb loss, and limb difference. Students will acquire knowledge and skills necessary to participate in interdisciplinary wound care management programs and interdisciplinary care of patients who have undergone a limb amputation or who are living with congenital limb difference. For these topics, emphasis is placed on ethical, evidence-based, patient-centered care and professional, interdisciplinary communication and decision-making.

**Part-time Integrated Clinical Experiences**

**PHYT 821: Orthopaedic Integrated Clinical Experience (3 credits)** This is one of two part-time clinical experiences which will integrate course content taught in the DPT curriculum. PHYT 821 is a semester long, part-time clinical experience conducted under the supervision of qualified physical therapists in the University of Delaware Physical Therapy Sports and Orthopedic Clinic to provide a wide range of professional learning opportunities and clinical training.

**PHYT 822: Neurologic/Older Adult Integrated Clinical Experience (3 credits)** This is one of two part-time clinical experiences which will integrate course content taught in the DPT curriculum. PHYT 822 is conducted under the supervision of qualified physical therapists in the University of Delaware Neurologic and Older Adult Physical Therapy Clinic to provide a wide range of professional learning opportunities and clinical training.

**Full-time Clinical Education Experiences**

**PHYT 831: Full-time Clinical Education Experience - Inpatient (4 credits)** A ten-week, extended, full-time inpatient clinical experience wherein students participate in the physical therapy management of patients with acute health and/or complex multisystem needs within an inter-professional and/or team-based setting. Based upon fluctuant patient presentations, students will be challenged to develop a comprehensive discharge disposition and modify treatments accordingly.

**PHYT 833: Full-time Clinical Education Experience - Outpatient (4 credits)** A ten-week, extended, full-time outpatient clinical experience wherein students participate in the physical therapy management of patients with musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, cardiopulmonary, and/or integumentary impairments via implementation of evidence-based interventions, home exercise programs, and education to maximize health, wellness, and return to function.

**PHYT 834: Full-time Clinical Education Experience – Elective (4 credits)** A ten-week, extended, full-time clinical experience wherein students may participate in physical therapy research, teaching, administration, and/or the provision of skilled physical therapy services. Students may choose from a range of practice settings and patient populations.

**Additional Courses Beyond DPT Degree Requirements**

**PHYT 866: Independent Study** (Elective, credits variable, grading option requires Departmental consent)

**BLOOD BORNE PATHOGEN EXPOSURE AND INJURY POLICY AND PROCEDURE POLICY**

All blood borne pathogen (BBP) exposures and personal injuries are to be treated immediately. Further, all BBP exposures and personal injuries are to be reported immediately. The following link <https://www1.udel.edu/ehs/research/biological/bbp-training.html> outlines the procedures governing:

1. Blood Borne Pathogen Exposure – Faculty, Staff, and Students
2. Faculty, Staff, and Student Injury (other than BBP exposure)

*Rev. 9/27/2019*

**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY****UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE****HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

My signature and date below demonstrates that I have read, accept, and will abide by the policies and standards as documented in the Student Handbook, including but not limited to the Technical Standards and Professional Behaviors for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century documents. Further, I have knowledge of the implications resultant from deviation from the academic and professional standards outlined within this Policy Document.

I recognize that it is my responsibility to review the Student Handbook on the UDPT website (Student Resource page, <https://sites.udel.edu/pt/student-resources/>) on a yearly basis to ascertain pertinent updates. I also understand that policy and/or curricular changes may be instituted during my tenure as a student in this program that might alter my plan of study.

Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSENT TO LAB PARTICIPATION**

My signature and date below provides my informed consent to serve as a subject during the instruction, practice and examination of various physical therapy techniques and procedures.

I agree to be treated by my instructors, guest lecturers, and / or classmates during any or all lab, lecture or testing sessions for the duration of my tenure in the Program. I understand that all efforts will occur to ensure my modesty and safety. Should I feel uncomfortable with any draping, manner of touch, or treatment, I will appropriately address the involved individual. If I fail to obtain satisfactory resolution, I will discuss the issue with my instructor, Program Director, or Department Chair.

I will follow the dress code for lab as explained in the Program Policy Document and course syllabi and am aware of the implications resultant from lack of compliance.

I will provide academic and clinical faculty with advance notice of any allergies, such as latex, nylon fibers, or asthmatic conditions and will alert faculty of any precautions or contraindications I may have that may influence my ability to safely participate in laboratory sessions.

Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY****UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE****RELEASE AND WAIVER**

*Updated, Associate General Counsel & Chief Privacy Officer, 3/21/2024*

**PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO, AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

The University of Delaware's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program ("Program") communicates with the public to promote physical therapy generally and the Program and frequently posts photographs, videos, and social media of Program activities of which you may be a participant (the "Content").

As a student in or employee of the Program, you will be a frequent participant in its activities and will likely be included in the Content at some point during your tenure with the Program. You grant the University of Delaware the absolute and irrevocable right and permission, with respect to the Content taken of you or in which you may be included as a student in the Program including:

- To copyright the content in its own name or any other name it may choose;
- To use, re-use, publish, and re-publish the Content, in whole or in part, individually or in conjunction with other content, in any medium and for any purpose whatsoever, including (but not by way of limitation), illustration, promotion, and advertising and trade; and
- To use your name in connection with the Content.

You hereby release and discharge:

- Any and all claims and demands out of, or in connection with, the use of the Content, including any and all claims for copyright or libel; and
- Any and all rights to inspect or approve finished products created with the Content.

This Release and Waiver shall also inure to the benefit of the legal representatives, licensees, and assigns of the University of Delaware, as well as the person(s) for whom they recorded the Content.

By signing below, you represent that you are over the age of eighteen, have read the foregoing, resolved any questions you may have had to your satisfaction, and fully understand the contents hereof.

**You are not required to sign this Release and Waiver, and your decision not to sign will not impact your participation in or employment with the Program.**

Name:

Signature:

Date:

E-Mail:

Phone: