

# Physical Therapist Assistant Curriculum Course Descriptions

## First Year

### Fall Quarter

#### **HSci 102 – Applied Anatomy**

Anatomy of the musculoskeletal system including bony landmarks; origins, insertions, innervations of muscles and fundamentals of clinical kinesiology.

#### **PT 101 – Introduction to Physical Therapy**

An introduction to physical therapy emphasizing the role and practice of the health care practitioner, documentation, ethics, standards of practice and the law. The history and organization of the profession will also be covered.

#### **PT 102 – Therapeutic Interaction in Health Care**

An exploration of the skills, behaviors, and attitudes necessary for effective patient-practitioner interaction, peer interaction and team participation.

#### **PT 105 – Patient Care Skills**

Introduction to patient care including medical terminology, vital signs, universal precautions/aseptic technique, body mechanics, assisted ambulation and transfers, patient positioning and draping, passive range of motion and handling techniques/therapeutic touch.

### Winter Quarter

#### **HSci 150 – Human Life Span, Growth & Development**

Includes a study of the basic theories and processes of normal human growth and development. Emphasis is on practical assessment and integration of all components – psychosocial, physical and cognitive – relative to the needs of health care recipients. For students pursuing health science careers.

#### **PT 110 – Principles of Physical Therapy Agents 1**

Introduction and practice of external compression and bandaging; length, girth, and volumetric measurement; thermotherapy including superficial heat, cryotherapy and paraffin; hydrotherapy, wound care and assessment; massage; and pulmonary hygiene.

#### **PT 130 – Survey of Pathophysiology 1**

An exploration of disease processes and their effects on rehabilitation. Includes general pathology and descriptions of specific diseases, medications, lab values, and diagnostic tests.

#### **PT 114 – Tests & Measurements**

The study and application of tests and measurements used to gather data about muscle strength, range of motion (ROM) and flexibility.

## **Spring Quarter**

### **HSci 101 – Neuroscience**

Introduction to neuroscience as it relates to the practice of physical therapy.

### **PT 111 – Principles of Physical Therapy Agents 2**

The study and application of physical therapy agents including ultrasound, phonophoresis, iontophoresis, electromagnetic radiation, electrotherapy, biofeedback and cervical and lumbar traction.

### **PT 113 - Posture & Movement**

The study of the principles and assessment of posture, the mechanics and assessment of typical and atypical gait, and the function of prostheses and orthoses.

### **PT 131 – Survey of Pathophysiology 2**

Instruction in principles of pathophysiology. An introduction to the study of disease processes with emphasis on general pathology, etiology, signs, symptoms and treatment protocols for specific patient diagnoses.

### **PT 151 – Clinical Preparation**

Discussion of topics preparing students for clinical experience including the development of an individualized clinical education plan.

## **Second Year**

## **Fall Quarter**

### **PT 112 – Functional Training**

The study and practice of functional training techniques used in the treatment of physical dysfunction.

### **PT 210 – Therapeutic Exercise**

Instruction in the theory and principles of therapeutic exercise and selected kinesiological and neurologic principles related to therapeutic exercise.

### **PT 212 – Physical Therapy Acute Care**

Exploration of physical therapy in acute care including cardiac care, pulmonary care, burn care and geriatrics.

### **PT 201 – Issues in Health Care**

A study of the relationship of medical, legal and socioeconomic issues to the practice of physical therapy. Discussions will relate topics in health care to physical therapist assistant practice, and explore management concerns and fiscal issues in physical therapy.

### **PT 251 – Clinical Supervision 1**

Clinical supervision group will discuss and develop skills required for effective practice including the patient interview, the identification and reporting of suspected domestic violence, issues in pharmacology, therapeutic interaction and effective problem solving.

**PT 277 – Clinical Affiliation 1**

Supervised clinical experience to familiarize the student with a clinical setting in which physical therapy is practiced. Student will be expected to actively participate in patient care, applying knowledge and skills from coursework to date.

<b>Winter Quarter</b>
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**PT 211 – Advanced Rehabilitation Procedures**

Focuses on theory and application of physical therapy techniques to the treatment of specific disabilities primarily of neurologic origin.

**PT 213 – Orthopedic Therapy**

Exploration of orthopedic pathology and common diagnostic procedures. The study of therapeutic exercise, manual techniques and principles of tissue healing in relationship to orthopedic conditions encountered in the practice of physical therapy.

**PT 252 – Clinical Supervision 2**

Clinical supervision group will discuss and develop skills required for employment and practice including therapeutic interaction, problem solving, issues of cultural competency, and patient advocacy as well as relating concepts to concurrent experience in PT 278.

**PT 278 – Clinical Affiliation 2**

A supervised clinical experience to familiarize the student with a clinical setting in which physical therapy is practiced. Setting will be different than that of PT 277. Student will be expected to participate in patient care, applying knowledge and skills from coursework to date.

<b>Spring Quarter</b>
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**PT 253 – Clinical Supervision 3**

Clinical supervision group will discuss and develop skills required for employment and practice including therapeutic interaction, problem solving, issues of cultural competency, and patient advocacy as well as relating concepts to concurrent experience in PT 278.

**PT 279 – Clinical Affiliation 3**

Internship requiring practical performance and application of physical therapy procedures and techniques under supervision in a selected clinical setting that may be inpatient, outpatient or specialized practice.

**PT 280 – Clinical Affiliation 4**

A second internship requiring practical performance and application of physical therapy procedures and techniques under supervision in a clinical setting different from PT 279 in an inpatient, outpatient or specialized practice.