



DPT Course Descriptions

PHT 6210 Introduction to Clinical Sciences (2 hours)

In this course, the foundations of patient centered holistic care are presented. Problem-based learning and the clinical decision-making process is introduced. Students are educated about the physical therapist's role and responsibility as a member of the health care team and how to work effectively with others, how to manage conflict and solve problems while respecting individual differences. Strategies for success in the professional graduate program are included.

PHT 6211 Basic Examination (2 hours)

This course is designed to teach students the foundational concepts and skills required to perform the basic components of a physical therapy examination. Students will draw upon previous knowledge to design a plan given patient case scenarios.

PHT 6214 Movement Science III (2 hours)

In the final course in the series, exercise prescription and progression strategies will be analyzed utilizing the foundations of movement science. Students will utilize knowledge from previous courses and movement analysis to develop exercise regimes. Clinical reasoning through patient case studies will facilitate student understanding of mechanical concepts.

PHT 6222 Pathology and Medical Management I (2 hours)

The first of two courses that focus on the pathogenesis, clinical presentation, prognosis, and medical intervention of diseases encountered in physical therapy practice. The relevance of medical imaging and laboratory values in diagnosis and management will be covered. Students will be introduced to the pharmacological management of various conditions and the implications related to physical therapy practice will be discussed.

PHT 6224 Exercise Physiology (2 hours)

This course examines the body's physiological response, both acute and chronic, to exercise. Students will learn about the changes in exercise responses through the lifespan and in special populations as well as measurement of oxygen uptake/energy expenditure.

PHT 6230 Professionalism and Leadership I (2 hours)

This course educates students about the past, present and future directions of the profession and the APTA as well as analyzes the role of the physical therapist as a professional and a leader. Students will analyze APTA and other professional core documents to learn about the practice of physical therapy. Focus areas include health care models, pro bono services, advocacy, public policy, professionalism, and legal and ethical aspects of practice. Development of leadership skills and professional behaviors both in and out of the profession will be presented and meaningful ways to apply leadership skills will be discussed.

PHT 6282 Foundation of Clinical Sciences: Physical Therapy through the Lifespan IIIA (2 hours)

This is the first of a two-course series which presents an in-depth study into physical therapy management of individuals through the lifespan with acute medical and surgical conditions, cardiovascular, pulmonary and integumentary pathology. The impact of medical management, including pharmaceuticals are discussed. Emphasis is placed on evidence-informed patient centered collaborative care and contemporary practice expectations. The first course will focus on cardiovascular physical therapy and acute care and the second course on pulmonary physical therapy and integumentary dysfunction.



PHT 6312 Movement Science I (3 hours)

The first course in the series provides an introduction to the fundamental concepts underlying human movement. In this course, the principles of anatomy, functional anatomy, biomechanics, and kinesiology will provide a basis for understanding normal and abnormal movement in the human body. Ergonomic assessment and observational gait analysis will also be introduced.

PHT 6313 Movement Science II (3 hours)

In the second course, students will be introduced to theories related to motor control, motor development, motor learning and motor behavior. These concepts will serve as a framework for evaluation and treatment of movement dysfunction throughout the lifespan. The theories and constructs behind the prescription and use of prosthetics and orthotics and their impact on the movement system will also be discussed.

PHT 6323 Pathology and Medical Management II (3 hours)

The second course in the series focuses on the pathogenesis, clinical presentation, prognosis, and medical intervention of diseases encountered in physical therapy practice. The relevance of medical imaging and laboratory values in diagnosis and management will be covered. Students will be introduced to the pharmacological management of various conditions and the implications related to physical therapy practice will be discussed.

PHT 6340 Evidence Based Practice I (3 credits)

This course is designed to teach students how to utilize evidence to make clinical decisions. Students are introduced to the foundations of evidence-informed practice and the integration of research into clinical decision making. Topics include: methods of scientific inquiry, ethical and legal aspects of research, statistical analysis, research methods, search strategies, critical appraisal of the literature, grants and funding sources, and integration of research into practice.

PHT 6350 Principles of Clinical Practice I (3 hours)

This two-course series introduces students to foundational skills used in physical therapy clinical practice. Emphasis is placed on analysis and interventions of the movement system, safety and documentation.

PHT 6351 Principles of Clinical Practice II (3 hours)

This two-course series introduces students to foundational skills used in physical therapy clinical practice. Emphasis is placed on analysis and interventions of the movement system, safety and documentation.

PHT 6421 Basic Science II (4 hours)

This course is an in-depth study of the structure and function of the neurological system, including gross anatomy, histology, embryology and physiology. Students will be introduced to selected pathologies and special tests that facilitate the understanding of the relationship of the nervous system to movement of the human body.

PHT 6480 Foundation of Clinical Sciences: Physical Therapy through the Lifespan IA (4 hours)

This two-course series presents an in-depth study into the examination and treatment of movement system disorders of the musculoskeletal system through the lifespan. Medical management of orthopedic conditions is included. Cases presented in a problem-based format facilitate clinical reasoning and content integration. Emphasis is placed on patient-centered, evidence informed, contemporary physical therapy practice. One course focuses on upper extremities conditions and the second on lower extremities.



PHT 6520 Basic Science I (5 hours)

This course is an advanced, detailed examination of the structure and function of the human body. All systems (cardiovascular, endocrine and metabolic, gastrointestinal, genital and reproductive, hematologic, hepatic and biliary, immune, integumentary, lymphatic, musculoskeletal, nervous, respiratory, and renal and urologic systems) will be studied with special emphasis on the musculoskeletal, neurological, cardiovascular, and respiratory systems. A variety of learning opportunities will be provided to gain a better understanding of the systems and their interrelationships.

PHT 6581 Foundation of Clinical Sciences: Physical Therapy through the Lifespan II (5 hours)

Students investigate the foundations of physical therapy for individuals with movement system disorders of the neurological system. Examination focuses on the movement analysis for motor control dysfunction across the lifespan. Management of common neurological conditions is included as well as precautions or special considerations pertinent to physical therapists. Emphasis is placed on patient-centered, evidence informed, contemporary physical therapy practice.

PHT 7141 Evidence Based Practice II (1 hour)

This course requires students to draw upon previous coursework and experiences in order to choose a topic of interest and conduct a systematic review. Students are required to submit a written document and complete an oral presentation.

PHT 7142 Evidence Based Practice III (1 hour)

In this course, students will apply knowledge from previous coursework as well as their clinical experiences in order to complete a case study report. Students are required to complete both a written case study and presentation.

PHT 7190 Elective (1 credit)

Students will be enrolled in 1 of 3 electives offered during semester 5 of the program. Electives will focus on contemporary physical therapy including leadership and advanced education in musculoskeletal and cardiopulmonary physical therapy.

PHT 7200 Integrated Clinical Experience (2 hours)

Students will take this course in either the fall, spring or summer of their second year. This is a part time clinical experience in an outpatient setting. Students will have the opportunity to integrate knowledge and skills from the classroom into the clinic. Students will enroll in this course in either the fall, spring or summer of their second year.

PHT 7201 Community Health (2 hours)

This course is designed to provide students with learning experiences both in the classroom and in the community. Emphasis is placed on population health and methods to incorporate service into their practice and make a lasting difference in their communities. Students will enroll in this course in either the fall, spring or summer of their second year.

PHT 7202 Experiences in Clinical Practice (2 credits)

Students will take this course in either the fall, spring or summer of their second year. This course includes a part-time experience and didactic content that will focus on preparing students for inpatient experiences. Students will have the opportunity to integrate knowledge and skills from the classroom into the clinic through both clinical experiences and simulation. Students will enroll in this course in either the fall, spring or summer of their second year.



PHT 7232 Professionalism and Leadership II (2 hours)

In this course, students examine leadership and administration theories and prepare for the transition from student to professional. Topics include: strategic planning, management, marketing, budgeting, human resources, quality assurance and networking. Current trends in billing and reimbursement will also be discussed. Strategies for building a successful portfolio, career development, lifelong learning and personal financial planning will be covered. The importance of becoming a high-performance, well-balanced professional will be emphasized.

PHT 7233 Spiritually Integrated Physical Therapy (2 hours)

This innovative course aims to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to integrate spiritual care into their clinical practice, enhancing holistic patient care. It includes discussions on psychosocial aspects of rehabilitation, pain science and foundations of psychologically informed care. Discussions include faith-based foundations, including the Christian moral tradition, sociocultural influences, professional codes, and organizational and personal ethical norms.

PHT 7273 Advanced Clinical Sciences: Pediatrics (2 hours)

This course provides an in-depth study of the unique aspects of pediatric physical therapy. Students will integrate previous coursework and research to improve their ability to provide patient centered, holistic, family centered, collaborative care.

PHT 7360 Advanced Clinical Sciences: Clinical Reasoning in Rehabilitation (3 hours)

This course is designed to teach students how to integrate their knowledge and skills to make evidence informed clinical decisions. Case vignettes in a problem-based learning format are utilized to develop clinical reasoning skills and challenge students to consider setting, medical status, comorbidities and unique characteristics of the individual.

PHT 7361 Advanced Clinical Sciences: Inpatient Rehabilitation (3 hours)

Inpatient Rehabilitation is designed to integrate knowledge and skills from prior courses in the examination, evaluation and treatment of patients/clients typically presenting to physical therapy in acute care, inpatient rehabilitation, and long-term care. Students are challenged to integrate important considerations such as dynamics of the setting, medical conditions, comorbidities and unique characteristics of the individual in order to provide a comprehensive examination and treatment. Clinical decision making and use of the best evidence will be developed as the learner selects, applies, and justifies treatment interventions for specific patient-centered functional goals for patient vignettes presented in increasing levels of complexity.

PHT 7362 Advanced Clinical Sciences: Outpatient Rehabilitation (3 hours)

Outpatient rehabilitation is designed to integrate knowledge and skills from prior courses in the examination, evaluation and treatment of patients/clients typically presenting to physical therapy in private practice, home health, school system and wellness settings. Students are challenged to integrate important considerations such as dynamics of the setting, medical conditions, comorbidities and unique characteristics of the individual in order to provide a comprehensive examination and treatment. Clinical decision making and use of the best evidence will be developed as the learner selects, applies, and justifies treatment interventions for specific patient-centered functional goals for case vignettes presented in increasing levels of complexity.

PHT 7371 Advanced Clinical Sciences: Neurological Rehabilitation (3 hours)

This course expands upon existing knowledge of the neurological system and neurological disorders and provides students with advanced skills in the examination, evaluation and treatment of adults and older adults with neurological conditions. Clinical scenarios will be utilized to examine complex conditions and students will be encouraged to integrate evidence into proposed assessment and treatment methods.



PHT 7382 Foundation of Clinical Sciences: Physical Therapy through the Lifespan IIIB (3 hours)

This is the second of a two-course series which presents an in-depth study into physical therapy management of individuals through the lifespan with acute medical and surgical conditions, cardiovascular, pulmonary and integumentary pathology. The impact of medical management, including pharmaceuticals are discussed. Emphasis is placed on evidence-informed, patient-centered collaborative care and contemporary practice expectations. The first course will focus on cardiovascular physical therapy and acute care and the second course on pulmonary physical therapy and integumentary dysfunction.

PHT 7384 Advanced Clinical Sciences: Primary Care (3 hours)

The focus of this course is the acquisition of knowledge and skills to practice as an independent practitioner of physical therapy. Essential skills include medical screening, integrating diagnostic imaging and laboratory values into a comprehensive examination and interprofessional collaboration. Independent practice in health and wellness is included. Effective clinical decision making will be emphasized throughout the course, using patient case vignettes.

PHT 7385 Advanced Clinical Sciences: Special Populations (3 hours)

In this course, students engage in an in-depth study of various special populations encountered in physical therapy practice. Areas of study include but not limited to: gender health across the lifespan, industrial rehabilitation, cancer, and sport specific rehabilitation.

PHT 7480 Foundation of Clinical Sciences: Physical Therapy Through the Lifespan IB

This two-course series presents an in-depth study into the examination and treatment of movement system disorders of the musculoskeletal system through the lifespan. Medical management of orthopedic conditions is included. Emphasis is placed on patient-centered, evidence informed, contemporary physical therapy practice. Cases presented in a problem-based format facilitate clinical reasoning and content integration. One course focuses on upper extremities conditions and the second on lower extremities.

PHT 7483 Advanced Clinical Sciences: Physical Therapy Management of the Spine (4 hours)

This course presents an in-depth study into the examination and treatment of movement system disorders of the spine, sacroiliac joint and temporomandibular joint through the lifespan. Medical management of surgical and non-surgical techniques of common musculoskeletal conditions and the implications for physical therapy practice is included. An evidenced-informed, patient centered approach is emphasized.

PHT 8135 Professional Seminar (1 hour)

This course is designed to prepare students to enter the profession of physical therapy. Students will prepare for the transition by creating a career development plan, completing their Professional Portfolio and Service Learning Activities as well as preparing for the National Licensure Examination.

PHT 8590 Experiential Learning Experience I (5 hours)

This course is a full time 10 week experience in which students integrate knowledge and skills taught in the didactic portion of the curriculum into the clinical setting. Students are directly supervised by a licensed physical therapist in clinical sites throughout the United States.

PHT 8591 Experiential Learning Experience II (5 hours)

This course is a full time 10 week experience in which students integrate knowledge and skills taught in the didactic portion of the curriculum into the clinical setting. Students are directly supervised by a licensed physical therapist in clinical sites throughout the United States.



PHT 8692 Experiential Learning Experience III (6 hours)

This course is a full time 12-week experience which students can choose to complete their terminal clinical rotation. Students will integrate knowledge and skills taught in the didactic portion of the curriculum into the clinical setting. Students are directly supervised by a licensed physical therapist in clinical sites throughout the United States.

PHT 8392 Experiential Learning Experience IIIA (3 hours)

During semester 8 of the program, students have the option of choosing either one 12-week rotation or two 6-week rotations for their terminal experience. This is the first, of the two-course series. This is a full time 6-week experience in which students integrate knowledge and skills taught in the didactic portion of the curriculum into the clinical setting. Students are directly supervised by a licensed physical therapist in clinical sites throughout the United States. Students are required to successfully pass this course prior to enrolling in the second course (PHT 8393).

PHT 8393 Experiential Learning Experience IIIB (3 hours)

During semester 8 of the program, students have the option of choosing either one 12-week rotation or two 6-week rotations for their terminal experience. This is the second, of the two-course series. This is a full time 6-week experience in which students integrate knowledge and skills taught in the didactic portion of the curriculum into the clinical setting. Students are directly supervised by a licensed physical therapist in clinical sites throughout the United States. Students are required to successfully pass PHT 8393 prior to enrolling in this course.

Accreditation Statement

The Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Faulkner University is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22305-3085; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: <http://www.captionline.org>. If needing to contact the program/ institution directly, please call (334)386-7378 or email hmount@faulkner.edu.