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2016

# Physical Therapy Doctorate Overview

Nova Southeastern University

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# Physical Therapy (Entry Level DPT)

## Curriculum Requirements

**Note:** Total credits for program = 118

### Summer Semester (12 weeks)

course	credits
<b>PHY 5400 - Physiology</b> The course is intended to provide students in the Physical Therapy Program with an understanding of the basic physio-chemical concepts and physiological principles underlying the development, maintenance and propagation of human life. It provides an examination of the physiological processes essential for students in the College of Health Care Sciences and reference to clinical applications is made where appropriate. Topics covered include basic examinations of cellular processes, membrane mechanisms, muscle physiology, the cardiovascular system, the nervous system, renal physiology, the respiratory system, endocrinology, reproductive physiology and gastrointestinal physiology.	3
<b>ANA 5420: Anatomy</b> The study of structural and functional features of the human body in both lecture and cadaver lab format. The student will have an anatomical basis for understanding and applying information presented in basic science and clinical courses and for understanding clinical problems.	5
<b>PHT 5610: Clinical Applications of Anatomy for Physical Therapists</b> Clinical Applications of Anatomy for Physical Therapists addresses anatomical knowledge specific to the practice of physical therapy. This course is an in-depth study of joint anatomy including muscular attachments, ligamentous structures, neural innervation, and contribution to movement. Palpation of key bony and soft-tissue structures will be introduced. <b>Co-requisite:</b> ANA 5420	1
<b>PHT 5611: Introduction to Physical Therapy</b> Introduces the new PT student to the program and the PT profession. It addresses the history of physical therapy, the Guide to Physical Therapy Practice, and medical terminology. Professional socialization begins through introduction to ethical and professional standards (including decision-making, supervision, and delegation) and state and federal laws governing PT practice (including issues requiring advocacy). Certifications required for clinical practice such as CPR, OSHA, etc. will be acquired. Students are required to join the American Physical Therapy Association.	3
<b>Total:</b>	12

### Fall Semester (16 weeks)

course	credits
<b>PHT 6705: Essentials of Exercise Physiology, Health Promotion and Wellness</b> Exercise physiology describes the response to exercise and training on the cardiac, pulmonary, musculoskeletal, neural, and endocrine systems of the human body. Nutritional considerations as well as enhancing supplements will be discussed as they relate to exercise, athletics and physical therapy. The various methods of training for increased strength, hypertrophy, power, cardiovascular fitness, and endurance, and the effects of physical activities and work-related stress on the human organism will be discussed. Energy liberation, circulation and respiration, physical work capacity, physical training, energy cost of various activities, nutrition and performance, temperature regulation, factors affecting performance and fitness, and the physiology of various sport activities will be covered. Students will gain the knowledge required for designing exercise programs in the general and special populations based on established needs for function and performance. The course will also explore the professional role of physical therapists as advocates	3

of health, wellness and prevention, including the following topics: Healthy People 2020 initiative, APTA's Vision 2020, wellness theory/models, dimensions of wellness, holistic versus conventional medicine, outcome measurements of wellness and quality of life, screening for health/fitness/wellness, and considerations for special populations. Upon completion of this course students are encouraged to prepare for the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA), Certified Strength and Conditioning Examination.

**PHT 6710: Clinical Skills I**

4

Introduces students to basic PT examination and interventions in accordance with the patient management model found in the Guide to Physical Therapy Practice. Students will safely interact and communicate with patients including history taking and producing documentation of patient status. Safe performance of psychomotor skills such as patient postural assessments, positioning and draping, palpation addressing surface anatomy of the head, trunk and extremities, bed mobility, transfers, the use of assistive gait devices, vital signs monitoring, and patient guarding and handling techniques will be emphasized. An overview of the terms related to CPT-coding and reimbursement will be provided. This course will also explore concepts of cultural competence related to healthcare. The course will provide students with an understanding of how cultural beliefs are an integral part of clinical practice, giving students an opportunity to develop self-awareness, knowledge and skills related to providing and promoting culturally competent patient care.

**PHT 6715: Essentials of Biomechanics and Kinesiology**

3

This is a foundational science course that introduces physical therapy students to the study of Biomechanics and Kinesiology. The students will integrate anatomy (knowledge of muscle and joint structure) with the study of joint motion and functional movements. The course introduces the student to the basic principles of biomechanics including kinetics, kinematics, and tissue biomechanics. Basic biomechanics serves as the foundation for understanding kinesiology. The study of kinesiology will be separated by body parts: kinesiology of the upper extremity, the lower extremity, and the spine. Once the regional knowledge of kinesiology is understood, the final outcome of the course will be that the students comprehend complex kinesiological analysis: gait, posture, and functional movements.

**PHT 6717 Systems Management I: Medical Pathology and Pharmacology**

3

This course provides an introductory overview of medical pathology and pharmacology commonly seen by physical therapists across the lifespan. Students will be introduced to immunity, tissue response to injury and healing processes. Students will also gain knowledge of signs and symptoms, pathogenesis, differential diagnosis and pharmacological aspects of treatment of selected pathological disorders. Medical and pharmacological management of selected disorders will be introduced as well as prognosis associated with each disorder. Prescription, over-the-counter, and common herbal supplements will be included. Drug classification, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, mechanism of action, and indications for use will be addressed. Drug action, therapeutic dosage schedules, drug interactions, and common side effects will be brought into the clinical perspective of patient management. Recognition of expected drug effects, side effects, idiosyncratic reactions and signs of abuse or non-compliance will be explored. Emphasis will be placed on the therapist's incorporation of pharmacotherapeutic knowledge into physical therapy patient-client management. Application of the Disablement Model will be used to determine the effect of pathological disorders on functional ability. Students will also gain a brief understanding of the role of the physical therapist in prevention and treatment of selected pathological and biopsychosocial disorders. Discussion will take place regarding cultural and other factors affecting diagnosis, treatment and prevention of pathological disorders and biopsychosocial disorders currently affecting society.

**PHT 6722 Integumentary PT**

2

The structure and function of the integument is presented. Skin functions in homeostasis including protection, regulation of body temperature, sensory reception, water balance, synthesis of vitamins

and hormones, and absorption of materials. Students will safely perform physical therapy assessment and explore interventions for wounds and edema based on the current literature such as dressings, therapeutic massage, compression, and hydro and electrotherapeutic modalities. Assistive, adaptive supportive devices and equipment to prevent or relieve skin trauma will be addressed. At the end of this course the students will be able to evaluate, treat, and document disorders of the skin that are frequently treated by PTs. The students will also be able to determine whether a skin disorder needs referral to another appropriate health care provider.

**Total:** 15  
[Winter Semester \(20 weeks\)](#)

course	credits
<p><b>ANA 5423: Neuroanatomy</b>            This course will examine the structural, functional and developmental features of the human nervous system with reference to different disease states. It establishes an anatomical basis for the study and understanding of the nervous system as presented in the classroom and the lab. Application of these studies will help in the solving of problems encountered in your career as a future health care professional.</p>	3
<p><b>PHT 6700: Evidence-based Practice I: Introduction to Research Methods &amp; Data Analysis</b>            This course allows the learner to gain skill in reviewing research literature. It includes an overview of the principles of measurement, reliability and validity, an understanding of the four levels of measurement: nominal, ordinal, interval, and ratio, research ethics, and critical literature analysis. Students will learn about the various types of designs, the researcher's role in the process, and the procedures for data collection, data recording, and data analysis in qualitative research. In addition, students will address the verifications steps, what is triangulation, and what are the elements of the qualitative narrative. It employs a creative, problem-solving experience during which you will develop a global understanding of the concepts and principles of research and begin to critically analyze healthcare research literature. The student will also begin to recognize the importance of and the role of research in clinical practice.</p>	3
<p><b>PHT 6707: Gerontology</b>            Theories, research, and unique characteristics and behaviors related to aging, geriatric medicine, and physical therapy intervention will be explored in light of current healthcare trends, reimbursement, clinical practice and predictions. Students will gain an understanding of relevant laws impacting PT practice with elderly populations, the obligations of PTs with respect to suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of elderly and dependent adults, and appropriately incorporate this content into interactions with patients/clients, facility staff, and administration.</p>	1
<p><b>PHT 6720: Clinical Skills II</b>            This course presents models for clinical decision-making including the patient care management model as presented in the Guide to Physical Therapy Practice. Students will learn to safely apply assessment and intervention techniques that address range of motion and strength deficits. Safe performance of psychomotor skills such as goniometric measurements, MMT, therapeutic exercises, and PNF will be emphasized.</p>	3
<p><b>PHT 6721: The Healthcare Educator</b>            Teaching is an integral part of physical therapy practice and one of the foundations of a doctoring profession. This course explores both the theoretical basis and the practical techniques related to patient-related instruction, designing educational programs/in-services, evaluating program/teaching effectiveness, facilitating behavior change, creating professional presentations, and engaging in clinical education. Students will also explore learning styles and factors that impact learning across the lifespan, and the many issues that impact patient education, from both a health care professional and management perspective. Adult education theory, patient/therapist interaction, communication barriers, strategies for success, web-based patient education, documentation, federal laws and initiatives and standards for patient education are some of the topics that will be examined.</p>	1

**PHT 6725: Cardiovascular and Pulmonary PT**

4

This course provides an overview of the related pathologies, diagnostic and medical-surgical procedures of the cardiovascular and pulmonary systems. Physiological principles of exercise will be applied to cardiovascular and pulmonary examination and intervention for given pathologies. Students will demonstrate PT cardiovascular and pulmonary examination, procedures, treatment planning, documentation and outcome measurement across all clinical settings and explore interventions related to exercise, functional activities and airway clearance. The relevance of clinical laboratory values and medical/surgical diagnostics and interventions associated with cardiovascular and pulmonary dysfunctions will also be covered. Case studies are used in conjunction with lecture, and interactive teaching and learning to assist students in integrating didactic knowledge into simulated and real-life scenarios including laboratory skills. Prerequisites: PHT 6705 Exercise Physiology and PHT 6717 Systems Management I.

**PHT 6814: Clinical Practicum I**

3

This course includes classroom instruction, integrated clinical education (ICE) experiences and concludes with a 4-week full-time clinical internship in the skilled nursing facility (SNF) setting. Classroom instruction focuses on orientation and preparation for both integrated and full-time clinical experiences. The ICE experiences employ a self-contained collaborative clinical education model where students are directly supervised in the clinic by academic faculty. Students practice examination/evaluation and treatment skills learned in the curriculum concurrently and cumulatively throughout the course of the semester in underserved geriatric and other adult populations in an acute care hospital joint replacement unit, outpatient clinic and a skilled nursing facility. Emphasis during the ICE experiences is on developing skills in professional behavior, clinical safety, communication, therapeutic presence, assessment, examination, screening, basic treatment planning and performance of basic skill interventions based primarily on Clinical Skills I with introduction of some of the skills in Clinical Skills II and cardiopulmonary. The 4-week full-time internship is a community based clinical education experience in which students are directly supervised in a SNF by community-based clinicians in a 1: 1 or 2:1 model based on facility preference. Emphasis during the internship is on developing confidence and competency in professional behavior, clinical safety, communication, therapeutic presence, assessment, examination, treatment planning, patient/client education, reimbursement/billing, and performance of basic skill interventions and documentation with patients/clients scheduled on a repetitive basis over the course of 4-weeks.

**Total:**

18

**Second Year Students**Summer Semester (12 weeks)**course****credits****PHT 6810: Musculoskeletal I**

2

This is the first of three courses designed to introduce the entry-level D.P.T. student to the elements of patient/client management in the orthopaedic setting. This course will emphasize the musculoskeletal system and follow both the sequence and nomenclature outlined in the Guide to Physical Therapist Practice including examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, intervention, and outcomes. Specific areas to be covered will include: communication and history taking, systems review, symptom physiology, selection and administering tests and measures, principles of manual therapy, soft tissue/myofascial intervention, extremity and spine mobilization (non-thrust), common disorders and injuries, musculoskeletal radiology, and principles of musculoskeletal disorder/injury management. Students will acquire the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective skills necessary to conduct a general musculoskeletal examination and perform

interventions relevant to physical therapy practice. At completion of this course students will have acquired the requisite knowledge to learn advanced diagnoses and interventions covered in PHT 6820, PHT 6820(L), PHT 6821 and PHT 6821(L). Case studies will be utilized in conjunction with lecture, laboratory skill practice, and interactive teaching and learning methods to integrate didactic knowledge into real-life clinical scenarios.

**PHT 6810L: Musculoskeletal I Lab** 2

Laboratory sessions (PHT 6810L) will emphasize the psychomotor and affective skills required to perform the examination and interventions addressed in PHT 6810. **Co-requisite: PHT 6810**

**PHT 6815: Physical Agents** 2

This course will emphasize both cognitive and psychomotor knowledge related to electro- and thermo-modalities. Basic science information related to physiological effects, indications, and contra-indications will be discussed. Lecture, interactive teaching, and lab practice will be used to assist students in integrating the didactic knowledge into simulated and real-life scenarios.

**PHT 6817: Pediatrics I** 1

This is the first of two pediatrics courses. This course introduces students to pediatrics as a specialty practice area in physical therapy. Students gain an understanding of typical infant and child development as it relates to movement. Typical development is presented in the context of applying current motor control theories to predictable developmental sequences, motor progressions, and achievement of motor milestones. Students become familiarized with commonly used pediatric screens, tests and measurements. Content is presented through lecture, lab, case studies, large and small group discussion, and community-based activities.

**PHT 6807 Systems Management II: Medical Issues in the Acute Setting** 3

This course is a continuation of PHT 6717 - Systems Management I, Medical Pathology and Pharmacology. Systems Management II has a two-fold purpose: 1) to present those body system pathologies not covered in PHT 6717, and 2) to specifically address medical and treatment issues found in acute care settings. Renal, urologic, hepatic, pancreatic, biliary, and gastrointestinal systems will be presented first. Students will gain knowledge of signs/symptoms, pathogenesis, differential diagnosis, and pharmacological aspects of treatment related to disorders in these systems. The second half of the course addresses physical therapy examination and management of the acute care patient. Included in this section are patient testing, condition diagnosis/prognosis, and patient disposition. Concomitant attention is given to issues of patient safety, management of the treatment environment, and proper use of specialized equipment. Treatment precautions, recognition of adverse responses, and emergency procedures will be emphasized. Case studies and laboratory sessions will focus on patient mobilization principles, inter-professional coordination of care, and acute non-surgical, acute post-surgical, and medically complicated patient management. Adding further depth to the course will be discussions of biopsychosocial and cultural factors affecting the rehabilitation process.

**Total:** 10

[Fall Semester \(16 weeks\)](#)

**course** **credits**

**PHT 6802: Evidence-Based Practice II: Using Research to Inform Clinical Decision Making** 3

In this course, students will be exposed to Sackett's model of evidence-based medicine in order to lay a foundation for understanding the global concept of evidence based practice (EBP). Students will learn to use the PICO format to ask clinically relevant questions. Students will learn to locate sources of evidence, evaluate the evidence, and make recommendations based on the evidence. Students will also explore the work of the Philadelphia Panel, the Pedro scale, and Hooked on Evidence as methods for critiquing the literature. Last, students will contribute to APTA's Hooked on Evidence database.

**PHT 6816: Neuroscience** 3

Provides the foundation knowledge necessary for patient/client management of patients with neuromuscular conditions through two modules: neurophysiology and motor control/motor

learning. Students review the structure and function of the nervous system, emphasizing neurophysiological processes that relate to physical therapy and movement dysfunction. Principles of motor control and motor learning are discussed as they relate to normal human movement as well as movement dysfunction that result from neurologic disorders. Concepts of neuroplasticity and the recovery of function are also addressed. Classroom activities include case studies, group discussions, literature reviews, simulations, and lectures. Course pre-requisite: ANA 5423:

Neuroanatomy

**PHT 6819: Pediatrics II**

3

This course is the second part of a series which focuses on the physical therapy management of the pediatric patient/client and role of family-centered care. In pediatrics I, students have gained an understanding of typical infant and child development as it relates to movement. Using this foundation, students in Pediatrics II will analyze movement dysfunction exhibited in high-risk infants and children who have common childhood pathologies. Atypical child motor dysfunction related to developmental delays, CNS damage, orthopedic conditions, respiratory conditions, sensory processing dysfunction, multisystem impairments, and congenital, neurological and neuromuscular disorders content is covered to promote critical thinking and establishment of appropriate physical therapy management. Students become familiarized with commonly used pediatric screens, tests and measurements. PT Guide to Physical Therapist Practice patterns (examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, and evidence-based interventions) are applied in context. Management incorporating use/need for assistive devices, technologies, adapted equipment (i.e. wheelchair prescription and seating), orthotics, and bracing and use of newer interventions for the pediatric patient/client is presented. Delegation and supervision of support personnel, legal/ethical issues related to delivery of care, documentation, interdisciplinary team management, cultural issues, reimbursement, and patient/family and teacher education are explored. Content is presented through lecture, lab, case studies, large and small group discussion, and community-based activities.

**PHT 6820: Musculoskeletal II**

3

Students will acquire the skills needed to manage and prevent disorders of the musculoskeletal system. Students will address relevant practice patterns as they relate to the upper/lower quarter, diagnostic classifications, ICD-9 codes, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, and interventions. Case studies are utilized in conjunction with lecture to assist students in integrating the didactic knowledge into simulated and real-life scenarios.

**PHT 6820L: Musculoskeletal II Lab**

2

Emphasizes the psychomotor and affective skills required when providing the musculoskeletal interventions and tests addressed in **PHT 6820**. Students will acquire the psychomotor skills needed to manage and prevent disorders of the musculoskeletal system by addressing relevant practice patterns as they relate to the upper/lower quarter, ICD-9 codes, examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, and interventions related to these patterns. **CO-REQUISITE: PHT 6820.**

**PHT 6824: Clinical Practicum II**

1

This is the second of a self-contained clinical education model where students are directly supervised in the clinic by academic faculty. Students concurrently practice the evaluation and treatment skills learned in the curriculum.

**Total:**

15

[Winter Semester \(20 weeks\)](#)

course	credits
<b>PHT 6813: Gender Specific Issues in Physical Therapy</b>	2
<p>This course provides a review of diseases unique to the male and female body systems. Students will gain knowledge of gender specific pathologic processes associated with selected diseases as well as disease specific signs and symptoms. Common medical diagnostic and treatment approaches of gender specific conditions are discussed including both medical management and an introduction to physical therapy intervention. Changes to body systems during normal pregnancy</p>	



will be discussed in addition to common pregnancy related musculoskeletal problems. Topics will include prostate disease, erectile dysfunction, pregnancy related movement dysfunction, pelvic floor dysfunction, male and female urinary and fecal incontinence, cancer management, lymphedema management, premenstrual dysphoric syndrome, female athlete triad, post-menopausal considerations and osteoporosis. Students will be exposed to entry level physical therapy examination techniques and interventions used to manage gender specific diseases, including recognition of key subjective or historical information that may warrant a pelvic floor examination or referral to another professional. Basic examination and intervention techniques will be practiced in a simulated environment.

**PHT 6821: Musculoskeletal III**

2

PHT 6821 is an evidence-based approach to the management of musculoskeletal disorders of the spine. Students will acquire the requisite skills necessary to examine, manage and prevent musculoskeletal impairments, functional limitations and disabilities of the spine. The course will address lumbar, thoracic, costal, cervical, sacroiliac, pelvis, temporomandibular and headache disorders. Students are prepared for entry-level patient /client management including the ability to perform an examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, and the ability to select optimum interventions. Moreover, students will acquire the knowledge necessary to accurately disseminate information (verbal and written/documentated) related to the examination and management of spine disorders to patients, clients and across the broad range of health care disciplines. Case studies are utilized in conjunction with lecture and interactive teaching and learning to assist students in integrating the didactic knowledge into simulated and real-life scenarios.

**PHT 6821L: Musculoskeletal III Lab**

2

PHT 6821L will emphasize the psychomotor and affective skills required when providing the associated musculoskeletal examination and interventions addressed in PHT 6821 Musculoskeletal III. Students are instructed and mentored in the selection and application of tests, measurements and physical therapy interventions. Case studies are utilized in conjunction with interactive teaching and learning to assist students in integrating the techniques into simulated and real-life scenarios relevant to the musculoskeletal system. **Co-requisite: PHT 6821.**

**PHT 6830: Neuromuscular I**

3

Neuromuscular Systems I addresses the examination and interventions for adults with neuromuscular disorders. Students will apply knowledge from Neuroanatomy and Neuroscience to the clinical management of patients with neurological conditions. Neuromuscular Systems 1 provides the foundational concepts and clinical reasoning for choosing tests and measures used during the PT examination of the neurological patient, including sensory and motor tests; examination of motor function; motor learning, coordination; cranial nerves; functional mobility; self-care and activities of daily living; community function; arousal, attention and cognition; balance, gait, and disease-specific tests. The foundational concepts for procedural interventions related to neurorehabilitation will be addressed, including indications, precautions, contraindications and evidence-based recommendations for: therapeutic exercise; balance and gait retraining; manual techniques and facilitation; electric stimulation; mobility training; upper extremity reach, grasp, and manipulation training; positioning, supportive, and protective devices; wheelchair and community re-entry. **Course pre-requisites: ANA 5423: Neuroanatomy and PHT 6816: Neuroscience.**

**PHT 6830L: Neuromuscular I Lab**

2

This course is the laboratory component of Neuromuscular Systems I which addresses the psychomotor skills needed for the examination and treatment of patients with neuromuscular disorders. The students will be exposed to a variety of clinical tests and measures including: patient history; sensory testing (superficial, deep, and cortical sensations) by both peripheral nerve distribution and dermatome; myotome and manual muscle testing; motor function and coordination testing; balance, gait, and mobility testing; arousal, attention, and cognitive tests; environmental, home, and work/play barriers; self care and home management (including ADL's



and IADL testing); job/school/play reintegration testing; and assistive/adaptive device testing. Disease specific tests and measures will also be performed. Psychomotor treatment skills will include: balance and gait training, including body weight supported treadmill training; therapeutic exercise to improve muscle performance, mobility, balance and coordination for the neurological patient; functional training, self-care and home management in ADL's, IADL's, and work/play integration; manual therapy techniques, positioning, and facilitation; prescription and application of assistive and supportive devices; as well as physical agents and electrotherapeutic modalities.

**Course pre-requisites: ANA 5423: Neuroanatomy and PHT 6816: Neuroscience.**

**PHT 6835: Medical Screening and Differential Diagnosis for Physical Therapists**

3

This course provides students the opportunity to develop their skills to identify patients with medical conditions outside the physical therapy practice scope. The focus is differential diagnosis through history and physical exam and not physical therapy intervention. The differential diagnosis is between musculoskeletal conditions and medical/psychological conditions commonly seen in outpatient settings. The course gives emphasis on conditions that should not be treated by physical therapists or conditions that require physical therapy intervention in direct consultation with other health care professionals (mainly physicians, dentists, and psychotherapists). The course will cover common laboratory tests applied to physical therapy (blood tests, urine analysis, synovial fluid analysis, cerebral spinal fluid). The course will also discuss the findings of imaging tests in diseases affecting the musculoskeletal system. Students are encouraged to apply the information learned in this course in their clinical internships and discuss each topic among themselves and with the instructors. COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: PHT 6810 MS I and PHT 6717 Medical Pathology for the Physical Therapist.

**PHT 6834: Clinical Practicum III**

2

This is the final course in the clinical practicum series. The course consists of integrated clinical education experiences supervised by academic faculty, followed by a 4 week full time clinical education experience in a community based adult outpatient clinic (primarily musculoskeletal), in which students are directly supervised by community-based clinicians in a 1: 1 or 2:1 model. Emphasis is on developing confidence and competency in professional behavior, reimbursement/billing, clinical safety, communication, therapeutic presence, assessment, examination, treatment planning, patient/client education, and performance of basic skill interventions and documentation with patients/clients.

**Total:**

16

**Third Year Students**

Summer Semester (12 weeks)

Course	Credits
<b>PHT 6823: The Business of Physical Therapy</b>	3
This course is devoted to understanding the structure and function of the United States health care delivery system, and explores the regulatory, economic and financial responsibilities of the physical therapy manager in the utilization of human and material resources within a variety of healthcare environments. Students will develop knowledge and skills to effectively manage in various healthcare settings.	
<b>PHT 6906: Clinical Internship Orientation</b>	0
This course will include all final preparation necessary for the students to begin their Clinical Internship series.	
<b>PHT 6914: Neuromuscular II</b>	2
Neurological Systems II integrates concepts from Neuroscience and Neuromuscular Systems I to engage students in the patient/client management of patients with neuromuscular dysfunction. Students are exposed to a variety of case studies, representing all adult neuromuscular practice	

patterns in the Guide to Physical Therapist Practice, in order to integrate and apply previous learned neuromuscular skills to patient scenarios. Emphasis is placed on clinical reasoning during all steps of patient/client management; the ability to apply evidence in practice; design and execution of patient/client related instruction; delegation to support personnel; and documentation of all aspects of care. This class also addresses primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention for patients with neuromuscular conditions.

**PHT 6914L: Neuromuscular II Lab**

2

This course is the laboratory component of Neuromuscular II, in which students will perform all aspects of patient/client management including examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, development of a plan of care, procedural interventions, and outcome measurement. Students will apply these techniques to a variety of case studies, representing the scope of adult practice patterns in the Guide to Physical Therapist Practice. Neuromuscular Systems II culminates in a one week intense laboratory experience, the Neuro Boot Camp (NI), in which students work with real patients who have complicated neuromuscular disorders in a faculty-supervised setting. Students are responsible to perform a thorough examination, write a comprehensive plan of care, perform procedural interventions and patient instruction, and communicate with caregivers.

**PHT 6915: Prosthetics & Orthotics**

3

In this course, students will acquire the skills necessary to evaluate need, analyze pathological gait, develop a plan of care, and treat patients for whom prosthetic or orthotic devices are indicated from a medical or rehabilitation standpoint. Students will learn how to manage movement-related problems in patients with amputations because of diabetes, burns, trauma, cancer, and genetic conditions. They will learn about the components, fabrication, and application of upper and lower extremity prosthetic and orthotic devices, and spinal orthoses. The course includes a full-day laboratory experience in which students work with real patients with amputations in a faculty-supervised setting. Students will also explore the contemporary literature to facilitate an evidence-based approach to orthotic and prosthetic rehabilitation.

**PHT 6920: Applied Clinical Decision Making**

4

Students apply problem solving heuristics, analyze case-presentations of multifactor movement dysfunction, synthesize patient problem-lists from collected data, develop intervention strategies, and evaluate the outcome of assessment and intervention decisions. The course integrates material from the foundational medical and clinical sciences and student clinical experiences. Accordingly students are provided opportunities to demonstrate differential diagnosis and treatment planning across the lifespan as well as to select and justify interventions, recommend referrals, and establish discharge dispositions. Student learning and course-participation is driven by mock and real clinical cases and clinical experiences. Content experts guide cognitive domain discussion and the decision-making process, assess the affective domain and compliance with professional ethical standards, and evaluate complex overt performance of psychomotor tasks. Students will develop initial plans for examination and assessment, perform assessments, analyze and interpret test results, prepare written intervention plans, perform interventions, and suggest potential outcome assessments. Students will justify and modify treatment plans to account for changes in the patients' status. In addition, students will prepare and present a clinical case-report to the assembled class at the conclusion of the term. Topics for the clinical cases and clinical experiences will cover a broad spectrum of conditions seen by physical therapists in the clinical setting.

**Total:**

14

[Fall Semester \(16 weeks\)](#)

**course**

**credits**

**PHT 6916: Clinical Internship I**

5

This is the first of 3 senior full-time, clinical affiliation courses. This course will provide senior physical therapy students with the opportunities to practice clinical decision-making based on evidence and develop entry-level physical therapy skills for patient/client management in a variety

of clinical settings on a full-time basis. Students will apply their knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors in community-based physical therapy settings. Through the clinical internship series, students will typically rotate through clinical placements in a variety of health care organizations; schedule modifications may be made to accommodate facility requirements or other needs. The goal of all placements is for student achievement of entry-level competency and professional behaviors in all settings. Students must complete at least one internship in: an acute care/inpatient or subacute setting, a neurorehabilitation setting, and an outpatient setting. The remaining internship may be completed in the venue or setting of student choice such as: outpatient clinics, rehabilitation hospitals or units, specialty practices such as pediatrics, sports, worker's compensation/ergonomics, or women and men's health, as available. During the full time internship, students will focus on patient/client management models by performing patient examinations, evaluations, determining diagnoses, prognoses, and interventions (POC) within the context of the clinical setting utilizing the Guide to Physical Therapist Practice. It is expected that through the clinical internship series, students will demonstrate appropriate management skills of patient/clients across the adult or lifespan across the continuum of care commonly seen in physical therapy practice. Students are expected to demonstrate effective communication and documentation skills; to develop their professionalism consistent with the APTA core values, cultural competence, ethical and legal practice.

**PHT 6926: Clinical Internship II**

6

This is the second of 3 senior full-time clinical internships. Students will complete an extended internship in multifaceted healthcare organizations with the goal of bringing their skills to entry-level for both inpatient and outpatient care. Students will also have the opportunity to choose a specialty area in physical therapy practice and complete a portion of the internship in that specialty area. See PHT 6916 Clinical Internship I

**Total:**

11

[Winter Semester \(16 weeks\)](#)

**course**

**credits**

**PHT 6936: Clinical Internship III**

5

This is the final of 3 senior full-time clinical internships. Students will complete an extended internship in multifaceted healthcare organizations with the goal of bringing their skills to entry-level for both inpatient and outpatient care. Students will also have the opportunity to choose a specialty area in physical therapy practice and complete a portion of the internship in that specialty area. See PHT 6916 Clinical Internship I

**PHT 6946: Wrap-up**

2

This course provides a conclusion to the clinical internship series as well as the didactic portion of the curriculum. A comprehensive examination covering all topics addressed in the curriculum will be administered. Additionally, the management of the graduation process and commencement exercises will occur.

**Total:**

7