

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY - PROFESSIONAL

Web Site: <https://twu.edu/physical-therapy/graduate-programs/doctor-of-physical-therapy-dpt/>

Physical therapists are health care professionals who diagnose and treat individuals of all ages who have medical problems or other health-related conditions that limit their abilities to move and perform functional activities in their daily lives. The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program prepares graduates to provide physical therapy care for people in a variety of settings, including hospitals, private practices, outpatient clinics, home health agencies, schools, sports and fitness facilities, and nursing homes. Graduates are eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Exam required for licensure in every state.

Marketable Skills

Defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 60x30 Strategic Plan (<https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/agency-publication/miscellaneous/the60x30-strategic-plan/>) as, "Those skills valued by employers that can be applied in a variety of work settings, including interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skills areas. These skills can be either primary or complementary to a major and are acquired by students through education, including curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities."

1. Communicate effectively with patients, caregivers, healthcare team members, and the community.
2. Recognize ethical and professional responsibilities in healthcare and make informed decisions considering patients, caregivers, healthcare systems, and society.
3. Function effectively on a healthcare team whose members together provide leadership, create a collaborative and inclusive environment, establish goals, plan interventions, and meet patient care objectives.
4. Acquire, interpret, and apply new knowledge in support of evidence-based practice and lifelong learning.

Admissions

All students must meet the University requirements as outlined in the Admission to the TWU Graduate School (<https://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/graduate-school/admission-graduate-school/>) section of the catalog.

The academic program may have additional admission criteria that must also be completed as outlined on the program's website.

Degree Requirements

Total Semester Credit Hours Required

98 semester credit hours (SCH).

Prerequisite Courses

- **Required Prerequisites** completed with a grade of C or higher before the program begins (recommended that no more than three are outstanding at the time of application).
- **Prerequisite Math & Science GPA above 3.0** using the latest grades in: Chemistry I & II with labs, Physics I & II with labs, Anatomy &

Physiology I & II with labs, and Algebra (or higher, statistics not accepted)

Code	Title	SCHs
	Chemistry I & II with labs - For science majors	8
	Physics I & II with labs - Algebra or calculus-based	8
	Anatomy & Physiology I & II with labs - Or 4 SCH Anatomy and 4 SCH of Physiology: each must have 1 SCH labs. (Recommend that courses be completed within the last 5 years)	8
	Algebra or higher or AP credit - Not Statistics	3
	Intro or general Psychology	3
	2nd Psychology: Lifespan Developmental, Abnormal, or Physiological	3
	Medical Terminology - Or universal class online: Med Term 201	1-3
	Exercise physiology, statistics, advanced physiology, and neuroanatomy/physiology are strongly recommended.	
Total SCHs		34-36

Program of Study

Code	Title	SCHs
Semester 1		
PT 6014	Applied Pathophysiology of Internal Systems in Physical Therapy	4
PT 6015	Human Gross Anatomy	5
PT 6653	Foundations of Physical Therapy Practice	3
PT 6713	Development Across the Lifespan	3
Semester 2		
PT 6003	Exam, Evaluation, and Outcomes in Physical Therapy	3
PT 6022	Applied Pathophysiology of the Musculoskeletal System	2
PT 6042	Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy I	2
PT 6045	Neuroscience and Applied Pathophysiology of the Neuromuscular System	5
PT 6073	Movement Science in Physical Therapy	3
PT 6731	Experiential Learning	1
Semester 3		
PT 6002	Primary Care in Physical Therapy	2
PT 6033	Research in Physical Therapy	3
PT 6173	Foundations of Physical Therapy Interventions	3
PT 6052	Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy II	2
PT 6302	Integumentary Physical Therapy	2
Semester 4		
PT 6001	Research Experience I	1
PT 6122	Prostheses, Orthoses, and Advanced Gait	2
PT 6354	Neuromuscular Physical Therapy I	4
PT 6344	Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy I	4
PT 6353	Pediatric Physical Therapy	3
Semester 5		
PT 6102	Professional Practice I	2
PT 6374	Neuromuscular Physical Therapy II	4
PT 6364	Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy II	4
PT 6384	Clinical Experience I	4

Semester 6		
PT 6201	Health Promotion and Wellness I	1
PT 6394	Clinical Experience II	4
PT 6622	Clinical Integration	2
Semester 7		
PT 6011	Research Experience II	1
PT 6404	Clinical Experience III	4
PT 6743	Professional Practice II	3
PT 6152	Health Promotion and Wellness II	2
PT 6251	Health Promotion and Wellness Practicum	1
Semester 8		
PT 6021	Research Experience III	1
PT 6415	Clinical Experience IV	5
PT 6843	Professional Practice III	3
Total SCHs		98

of Physical Therapy Handbook (<https://twu.edu/physical-therapy/current-students/dpt-forms-and-links/>).

Upon completing the DPT, a licensure exam is required to practice.

Please note that entry to the profession in all states requires licensure.

Many states have different provisions for licensure, so applicants must determine if they meet these requirements. It is the responsibility of the applicants to ensure that they meet the requirements for application for licensure in Texas.

Grade Requirements

- Students must meet the academic requirements of the DPT Program and the Graduate School throughout their course of study in the DPT Program.
- A grade point average of 3.0 must be maintained.
- In accordance with the Graduate School, the School of Physical Therapy limits the number of Cs earned by a student in the DPT program to no more than two (2). If a third C is earned, the student will be dismissed from the DPT program.
- Students who earn a D or F in a DPT course will be dismissed from the DPT program.

Special Requirements

Health and liability insurance are required each semester the student is enrolled. Clinical internships are required which necessitate additional expenses for the student. Students must abide by additional policies involving clinical internships. Students must successfully complete one semester's coursework before taking coursework in the next semester. Courses may be repeated only with permission of the Graduate Faculty, Associate Director, and Director of the School of Physical Therapy.

Final Examination

The final examination in the program includes the public defense of a critical inquiry project. This defense may be repeated only upon successful appeal to the Graduate Faculty of the School of Physical Therapy.

Policies

General matriculation guidelines including health insurance, immunizations requirements, drug testing and background checks, policies, procedures, and appeal processes are established by the School and distributed to students upon entry into the program. See the Doctor