## Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy (t-DPT)

### PROGRAM COURSES

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**Total Credits:** 20

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Electives

**Academic Emphasis Track** (emphasis in Academics)

- Instructional Strategies 3
- Course Development I 3
- Course Development II 3
- Grant Writing 3
- Clinicians in Academia 3
- Total Credits 15

**Pediatric Emphasis Track** (emphasis in Pediatrics)

- Motor Control Theory & Practice 3
- Advanced Neuromuscular Intervention 3
- Pediatric Manual Therapy 3
- Advanced Spasticity Management 3
- Pediatric Movements 3
- Capstone Project 3
- Total Credits 18
**Neuromuscular Emphasis Track** (Neuromuscular emphasis)

- Advanced Neuromuscular Intervention 3
- Advanced Motor Control Interventions 3
- Advanced SCI Interventions 3
- Advanced TBI Interventions 3
- Advanced Spasticity Management 3
- Capstone in Neuromuscular Interventions 3

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**Orthopedics Emphasis Track** (Orthopedic emphasis)

- Advanced Orthopedic Interventions 3
- Manual Therapy Practice & Theory 3
- Manual Therapy of Lumbar Spine 3
- Manual Therapy of Elderly Spine 3
- Capstone in Orthopedics 3

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Course Descriptions

Pharmacology (3 credits)

This course presents topics on the administration, physiologic response, and adverse affects of drugs (prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, nutrients, and herbal supplements) under normal and pathophysiologic conditions across the lifespan. Focus on the influence of drugs on physical therapy patients/ client management.

Differential Diagnosis & Medical Screening (3 credits)

This course reviews the health risks, screening, and assessments that consider epidemiological principles. It will also discuss the conduction of systems review to identify anatomical and physiological status of the musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, cardiovascular pulmonary and integumentary systems. The course will also include concepts of reliability and validity of the screening tests as they relate to physical therapy patients/ client management. Evaluation of information gathered from the patient/client interview to identify involvement of the body systems and to identify relevant test and measures will also be discussed.

Diagnostic Imaging for Physical Therapist (2 credits)

This course presents the frame works for the study of indications and implications of commonly used diagnostic imaging tests (X-ray, MRI, ultrasonography, CT Scan, ultrasound, fluoroscopy, PET scan, endoscopy, etc) as they pertain to physical therapy patients/ client management.

Outcome Measurements & Analysis (3 credits)

This course discusses the basic quantitative, qualitative, epidemiologic methods and designs, which include basic biostatistics, concepts of reliability and validity, critical appraisal of literature, and the development of a research proposal and clinical guidelines. Evidence-based clinical decision-making, including locating and accessing sources of evidence, evaluating levels of evidence, applying evidence to clinical practice and integrating evidence, patient values and
preferences and clinical experience will also be included. Relevant test and measures for determining impairment and differentiating the diagnosis based on the specificity and sensitivity of the instrument along with outcome measures relating to functional disability, general health status, and patient/client satisfaction used to assess and guide rehab management will also be discussed.

**Comprehensive Clinical Reasoning (3 credits)**

This course is a study of normal and abnormal structure and function of the neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, cardiovascular pulmonary, lymphatic, integument, GI Hepatic, genitourinary, immunology, hematological, and endocrine systems throughout the lifespan. Pathological alterations of structure and function including relevant laboratory values and diagnostic tests are included. Theories and concepts of clinical decision-making, developing a prognosis (using epidemiologic data), diagnosis and prevention will also be discussed. Clinical reasoning mixed with evidence-based decision making across the life span will also be discussed. This will include hypothesis generation and refinement applied within the context of the physical therapist patient/client management model. The course will also focus on analyzing and comparing contemporary and traditional interventions and the impact of evolving technology.

**Health & Wellness Theory & Practice (3 credits)**

This course presents discussions of theories of health and wellness, including motivational theory, locus of control, public health initiatives, ethical analysis, cultural competencies and psychosocial, spiritual, cultural considerations, principles of professional communications will also be discussed. The course also includes the role of the educator in the academic and clinical environment, and teaching and learning theories that include discussion of the motivational theory, social motivational theory as they apply to practice across multiple environments.
Healthcare Systems & Management (3 credits)

This course includes discussions on risk reduction strategies for primary and secondary prevention, including programs for special populations. This will also include discussions on delivery systems, legislation, and regulations to improve healthcare policy, and corporate/legal and regulatory factors. Concepts of business planning, including strategic planning, financial management, personnel management, physical resource management, communication skills in business management, marketing and public relations will also be discussed.

Electives

*All credits must be completed in desired elective emphasis track for a degree completion with an emphasis. If no degree with an emphasis is desired, students must complete at least 6 credits from any of the emphasis tracks.

Academic Emphasis Track

Instructional Strategies (3 credits)

This course presents the framework of theory and practice of various strategies in providing and delivering instruction. Learning styles, types of assessments and keeping your audience will also be addressed.

Course Development I (3 credits)

This course presents topics on syllabus development that includes but not limited to objective writing, content outline development and lecture preparation.

Course Development II (3 credits)

This course outlines the theory of assessments and development, appropriate assessment selection and advanced lecture preparation skills.

Grant Writing (3 credits)

This course describes the grant seeking process, designing a letter of intent, proposal writing and executing a grant funded program.
Clinicians in Academia (3 credits)

This course is a primer on academia and health professional education, role and responsibilities of a faculty member.

Pediatric Emphasis Track

Motor Control Theory & Practice

This course and lab component will focus on the examination and treatment of patients with problems related to balance, mobility, and upper extremity function, based on evidence based practice. The course will also discuss the progress in motor control and the effects of age, disorder and rehabilitation.

Advanced Neuromuscular Intervention

This course and lab component will focus on the comprehensive physical therapy interventions for children with neurologic conditions. The course will examine the pathophysiology of neurologic deficits and possible rehabilitation interventions for improving movement outcomes. Biofeedback research, applications, clinical procedures and biomedical instrumentation will also be discussed.

Pediatric Manual Therapy

This course and lab component examines the present comprehensive conceptual approach to the subject of manual therapy for children of different ages. The course will also focus on the relationship between the neuromusculoskeletal structure and function at different stages of development. It will also outline the prevention of problems during child development and effective treatment and management. Discussions and labs will also cover the pediatric spine.

Advanced Spasticity Management

This course and lab component will focus on the clinical evaluation and management of spasticity. Current concepts on pathophysiology of chronic neurologic spasticity and discussion on the complex medical and surgical management will also be discussed.
**Pediatric Movements**

The course and lab component will explore the motor control, learning, and development of children with movement disorders. The course will assist the student in increasing their knowledge of the effectiveness of intervention. It will also examine topics on motor control for posture and prehension, motor learning challenges of children with movement dysfunction, predictors of standing balance in children with cerebral palsy and the reliability of a clinical measure of muscle extensibility in preterm and full-term newborn infants. Controversial therapies for developmental disabilities will also be discussed.

**Capstone Project**

This course will focus on the learner developing a capstone project. The learner will integrate the content that they have covered throughout the curriculum. The course will allow the learner to analyze and apply the information to a specific clinical in-depth issue while adding to the learner’s professional body of knowledge via manuscript or professional meeting presentation.

**Neuromuscular Emphasis Track**

**Advanced Neuromuscular Intervention**

This course and lab component focuses on evidence based practice of advanced neuromuscular interventions. The course will integrate the guide to physical therapist practice as it relates to the neuromuscular system in clinical care. Topics will include an overview of pertinent anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology.

**Motor Control Theory & Practice**

This course and lab component will focus on the examination and treatment of patients with problems related to balance, mobility, and upper extremity function, based on evidence based practice. The course will also discuss the progress in motor control and the effects of age, disorder and rehabilitation.
Advanced SCI Interventions

This course and lab component will discuss the wide spectrum of rehabilitation interventions, administrative and clinical issues for patients with spinal cord injuries. Topics on the incidence, etiology, diagnosis, and clinical features for patients with spinal cord injuries will also be discussed. Lab component will focus on evidence based interventions and techniques.

Advanced TBI Interventions

This course and lab component will focus on the rehabilitative treatment and case management of the patient with a traumatic brain injury. The course will discuss the prevalent and persistent deficits that follow a traumatic brain injury. The content will also focus on the general principles and clinical care that include effective interventions and techniques.

Advanced Spasticity Management

This course and lab component will focus on the clinical evaluation and management of spasticity. Current concepts on pathophysiology of chronic neurologic spasticity and discussion on the complex medical and surgical management will also be discussed.

Capstone in Neuromuscular Interventions

This course will focus on the learner developing a capstone project. The learner will integrate the content that they have covered throughout the curriculum. The course will allow the learner to analyze and apply the information to a specific clinical in-depth issue while adding to the learner’s professional body of knowledge via manuscript or professional meeting presentation.
Orthopedics Emphasis Track

Advanced Orthopedic Interventions

This course and lab component will discuss the basis and practice of Muscle Energy Techniques that are widely recognized for the approach to treating musculoskeletal dysfunction. It will examine and demonstrate the manipulative techniques in which a patient, on request, actively uses his or her muscles from a controlled position in a specific direction against a distinct counterforce applied by the practitioner. The course will also outline the background to soft tissue dysfunction and explain the chain reactions which occur as part of such dysfunctions. Precise assessment and diagnosis guidelines will also be discussed.

Manual Therapy Practice & Theory

This course and lab component covers the theory and the practice of clinical reasoning skills for all physical therapists. The content will focus on applying the theoretical knowledge involved in clinical reasoning to practice and to become a better practitioner. The content will also focus on the theories, validation and techniques of manual treatment for both chronic and acute neuromuscular pain and somatic dysfunction. The course will present the most current and significant spinal rehab information, showing how to apply simple and inexpensive rehabilitation in the office.

Manual Therapy of Cervical/Thoracic Spine

This course and lab component will discuss the latest research in the field of manual therapy. The content will focus on an evidence-based examination of the work of leading researchers and its application to clinical practice. The content will also include spinal manual therapy techniques of the cervical/thoracic spine beyond the focus of traditional theories and principles. The course will present the most current and significant spinal rehab information, showing how to apply simple and inexpensive rehabilitation in the office.
**Manual Therapy of Lumbar Spine**

This course and lab component will discuss the latest research in the field of manual therapy. The content will focus on an evidence-based examination of the work of leading researchers and its application to clinical practice. The content will also include spinal manual therapy techniques of the lumbar spine beyond the focus of traditional theories and principles. The course will present the most current and significant spinal rehab information, showing how to apply simple and inexpensive rehabilitation in the office.

**Manual Therapy of Elderly Spine**

This course and lab component will discuss the latest research in the field of manual therapy. The content will focus on an evidence-based examination of the work of leading researchers and its application to clinical practice. The content will also include spinal manual therapy techniques of the elderly spine beyond the focus of traditional theories and principles. The course will present the most current and significant spinal rehab information, showing how to apply simple and inexpensive rehabilitation in the office.

**Capstone in Orthopedics**

This course will focus on the learner developing a capstone project. The learner will integrate the content that they have covered throughout the curriculum. The course will allow the learner to analyze and apply the information to a specific clinical in-depth issue while adding to the learner’s professional body of knowledge via manuscript or professional meeting presentation.