PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM

Saint Louis University’s early assurance (freshman entry) Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) curriculum takes six years, including two summers. Students receive a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science (BSES) after completion of the first four years, and the D.P.T. degree after successful completion of the additional two post-baccalaureate years.

Physical therapists also work with clients who want to improve their physical performance and fitness level. A physical therapist’s duties include the examination and evaluation of patients/clients, the development and implementation of intervention programs, patient education and supervision of other health care practitioners. In addition to patient care, physical therapists may also serve as administrators, teachers, researchers and consultants.

Physical Therapy by the Numbers
• The three-year average (including the classes of 2012, 2013 and 2014) of graduates who pass the National Physical Therapy Examination is 99.1 percent.
• Physical therapists are reported as having one of “The Ten Happiest Jobs” and report among the highest job satisfaction levels in the country, according to a 2013 Forbes article.

Curriculum Overview
The curriculum is divided into the pre-professional (freshman—junior years) and the professional phase (senior year—second post-baccalaureate year). Progression to the professional phase of the program provides a seamless entry from foundational coursework to practical labs and clinical experiences.

Once accepted, a student will progress through the entire program without the need for reapplying or taking a graduate entrance exam provided the student meets the program academic and professional behavior standards.

During the professional phase, students enroll in coursework specific to the physical therapy profession and complete 38 weeks of full-time clinical internships. Students begin their clinical experience in the spring of the senior year.

Elective courses in the physical therapy curriculum and clinical exposure help students gain advanced knowledge and skills in specialty areas. In addition to the PT program, students pursue minors and double majors.

The Physical Therapy Program offers Pre-Medicine and Pre-Physician Assistant curricular tracks along with a curricular track of up to 4 semesters at the Madrid, Spain campus.

Upon graduation, students must pass the National Physical Therapy Examination to obtain a license to practice physical therapy.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities
The PT program is affiliated with more than 300 clinical sites locally, nationally and internationally.

The faculty and clinical staff provide clinical services at Student Health, Saint Louis University Hospital and the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Clinic with more than 3,500 patients served annually.

Careers
Graduates enjoy employment in a variety of settings, including hospitals, out-patient clinics, long-term rehabilitation facilities, collegiate and professional sports, schools, patient homes and fitness centers.

Physical therapists typically work in full-time positions and receive benefits. The 2014 median annual wage of physical therapists was $82,390 per year according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The salary depends on location and experience level.

Students completing the PT program report a 99 percent employment rate after graduation.

Admission Requirements
High school seniors applying for admission have two options for acceptance into the Saint Louis University program in physical therapy. Applications are reviewed on an individual basis.

• The standard selective admission process is for students with an ACT composite score of 25 or higher with no subsection below a 25 (or equivalent SAT scores) and a high school GPA of 3.20 on a 4.00 scale (with an emphasis on math and science).
• The early acceptance admission process is for students with an ACT composite score of 30 or higher with math and science subsections scoring at least a 28 ACT (or equivalent SAT scores), a high school GPA of 3.85/4.0 and an outstanding high school academic record (with an emphasis placed on excellence in math and science courses).
• Students that do not meet the requirements for early acceptance will automatically be considered for the standard selective admission process.

Minimum eligibility requirements also include:
• Four years of science, including biology and chemistry. Physics is strongly encouraged but not required.
• Four years of math, including a level equivalent to pre-calculus.
• Four years of English.

Meeting minimum GPA and test score requirements does not guarantee admission to the program. The deadline for completed PT applications and financial aid consideration for all freshman is Dec. 1.

Scholarships and Financial Aid
There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

• Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need. In addition to University scholarships, the Doisy College of Health Sciences offers a scholarship to sophomores, juniors and seniors.
• Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.
For more information, visit the student financial services office online at http://finaid.slu.edu.

**Accreditation**

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)
1111 N. Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 706-3245
http://www.capteonline.org

Additional Accreditation Information (https://www.slu.edu/doisy/degrees/program-pdfs/pt-accreditation-1218.pdf)


Complaint Policy and Instructions (https://www.slu.edu/doisy/degrees/program-pdfs/complaint-policy-pt.pdf)

**Learning Outcomes**

1. Graduates will be able to serve others by advocating for the health of society.
2. Graduates will be able to communicate in a way that optimizes patient-centered care.
3. Graduates will be able to apply principles of evidence-bases practice in patient care.
4. Graduates will be able to evaluate typical versus atypical physical movement.

**Requirements**

**Foundation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1900</td>
<td>Advanced Strategies Of Rhetoric and Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 2000-3900</td>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts elective</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 1050</td>
<td>Introduction to Philosophy: Self and Reality</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 2050</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEO 1000</td>
<td>Theological Foundations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEO 2xxx</td>
<td>Theology elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1110-4930</td>
<td>History elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 1010</td>
<td>General Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 4390</td>
<td>Abnormal Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1400</td>
<td>Pre-Calculus</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 1100</td>
<td>Introduction to Biology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 1083</td>
<td>Principles of Chemistry 1 with Lab</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; CHEM 1483</td>
<td>Principles of Chemistry 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANAT 1000</td>
<td>Basic Human Anatomy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 1220</td>
<td>General Physics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; PHYS 1240</td>
<td>General Physics II</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPHY 2540</td>
<td>Human Physiology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPE 1100</td>
<td>Introduction to Interprofessional Health Care</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPE 3500</td>
<td>Health Care Systems and Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPE 4200</td>
<td>Applied Decision-Making in Interprofessional Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPE 4900</td>
<td>Interprofessional Community Practicum</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Physical Therapy Requirements (for B.S. in Exercise Science)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DPT 1111</td>
<td>Student Development I</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 1212</td>
<td>Student Development II</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 2113</td>
<td>Student Development III</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 2214</td>
<td>Student Development IV</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 3230</td>
<td>Exercise Physiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4021</td>
<td>Kinesiology I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4122</td>
<td>Kinesiology II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4125</td>
<td>Therapeutic Modalities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4127</td>
<td>Basic Examination</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4131</td>
<td>Survey of Disease</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4146</td>
<td>Developmental Biology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4226</td>
<td>Therapeutic Exercise</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4228</td>
<td>Basic Procedures</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4241</td>
<td>Clinical Research and Design</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4247</td>
<td>Human Growth and Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4276</td>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 4290</td>
<td>Skills Practicum</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5132</td>
<td>Pharmacology</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5133</td>
<td>Lab Studies &amp; Imaging</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5261</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal Conditions I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANAT 4000</td>
<td>Human Gross Anatomy</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANAT 4300</td>
<td>AHP Neurosciences</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 96

1. Fine Arts Elective: Any course specified in the college catalog as accepted as a fine arts elective (for Arts and Sciences) will be accepted as a fine arts elective for Physical Therapy. Courses from Study Abroad experiences will be accepted as per the approval of the Program in Physical Therapy Registration Coordinator.

**Physical Therapy Requirements (for DPT)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5115</td>
<td>Professional Development I</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5123</td>
<td>Clinical Gait</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5134</td>
<td>Multi System Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5135</td>
<td>Cardiopulmonary Conditions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5137</td>
<td>Aspects of Nutrition in PT</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5142</td>
<td>Evidence Based Practice</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5149</td>
<td>Applied Neuroscience</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5162</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal Conditions II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5218</td>
<td>Effective Comm &amp; Teaching</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5250</td>
<td>Neuropathology</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5251</td>
<td>Neurological Conditions I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5263</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal Conditions III</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5271</td>
<td>Patient Management I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Foreign Language (through 1020 level) 6
Statistics course 3
Non-specified electives 18
Total Credits 51
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DPT 5291</td>
<td>Clinical Rotation IA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6072</td>
<td>Patient Management II</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6077</td>
<td>Department Administration</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6091</td>
<td>Clinical Rotation IB</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6092</td>
<td>Clinical Rotation IIA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6116</td>
<td>Professional Development II</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6124</td>
<td>Biomechanical Interventions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6138</td>
<td>Concepts of Wellness</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6152</td>
<td>Neurological Conditions II</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6164</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal Conditions IV</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6173</td>
<td>Patient Management III</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6178</td>
<td>Applied Administration &amp; Mgmt</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6192</td>
<td>Clinical Rotation IIB</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6217</td>
<td>Professional Development III</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6243</td>
<td>Applied Evidence-Based Clinical Practice</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6293</td>
<td>Clinical Internship A</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPT 6294</td>
<td>Clinical Internship B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>69</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Continuation Standards**

Professional Year I students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 and Professional Year II and III students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.70 in all graduate/professional courses.

**Roadmap**

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

**Course** | **Title** | **Credits**
---|---|---
**Year One** | | |
**Fall** | | |
BIOL 1100 or BIOL 1240 and BIOL 1260 | Introduction to Biology or Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology II | 4
CHEM 1083 or CHEM 1110 and CHEM 1115 | Principles of Chemistry 1 with Lab or General Chemistry 1 and General Chemistry 1 Laboratory | 4
DPT 1111 | Student Development I | 1
ENGL 1900 | Advanced Strategies Of Rhetoric and Research | 3
IPE 1100 | Introduction to Interprofessional Health Care | 1
XXXX 1010 | Modern Foreign Language | 3
| **Credits** | **16** |
**Spring** | | |
DPT 1212 | Student Development II | 1
MATH 1400 | Pre-Calculus | 3
PHIL 1050 | Introduction to Philosophy: Self and Reality | 3
THEO 1000 | Theological Foundations | 3
XXXX 1020 | Modern Foreign Language | 3
| **Credits** | **17** |
**Year Two** | | |
**Fall** | | |
DPT 2113 | Student Development III | 1
PPY 2540 | Human Physiology | 4
PHYS 1220 or PHYS 1310 and PHYS 1320 | General Physics I or Physics I and Physics I Laboratory | 4
IPE 4200 | Applied Decision-Making in Interprofessional Practice | 3
PHIL 2050 | Ethics | 3
PSY 1010 | General Psychology | 3
| **Credits** | **18** |
**Spring** | | |
ANAT 1000 | Basic Human Anatomy | 3
DPT 2214 | Student Development IV | 1
PHYS 1240 or PHYS 1330 and PHYS 1340 | General Physics II or Physics II and Physics II Laboratory | 4
IPE 3500 | Health Care Systems and Health Promotion | 3
PSY 4390 | Abnormal Psychology | 3
XXXX | Elective | 3
| **Credits** | **17** |
**Year Three** | | |
**Fall** | | |
ENGL 2000-3900 | Literature Elective | 3
HIST XXXX | History Elective | 3
THEO XXXX | Theology Elective | 3
XXX | Fine Arts Elective | 3
| | Elective | 3
| | Elective | 3
| **Credits** | **18** |
**Spring** | | |
DPT 3230 | Exercise Physiology | 3
IPE 4900 | Interprofessional Community Practicum | 2
STAT 1100 or OPM 2070 or MATH 1300 | Introduction to Statistics or Introduction to Business Statistics or Elementary Statistics with Computers | 3
| | Elective | 3
| | Elective | 3
| **Credits** | **17** |
### Year One

**Summer**
- ANAT 1002 Human Gross Anatomy 4
- DPT 1020 Introduction to Physical Therapy 2

**Fall**
- DPT 1122 Kinesiology I 3
- DPT 1124 Basic Procedures 2
- DPT 1127 Basic Examination 2
- DPT 1130 Survey of Disease 3
- DPT 1146 Developmental Biology 3
- DPT 1151 Pharmacology 1
- DPT 1153 Lab Studies & Imaging 2

**Credits** 17

### Year Two

**Fall**
- DPT 2122 Kinesiology II 3
- DPT 2125 Therapeutic Modalities 3
- DPT 2127 Basic Examination 2
- DPT 2130 Survey of Disease 3
- DPT 2146 Developmental Biology 3
- DPT 2151 Pharmacology 1
- DPT 2153 Lab Studies & Imaging 2

**Credits** 17

**Spring**
- Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science - PT awarded upon completion of Semester Eight
  - ANAT 3400 AHP Neurosciences 2
  - DPT 4226 Therapeutic Exercise 2
  - DPT 4228 Basic Procedures 2
  - DPT 4241 Clinical Research and Design 2
  - DPT 4247 Human Growth and Development 3
  - DPT 4276 Documentation 1
  - DPT 4290 Skills Practicum 1
  - DPT 5261 Musculoskeletal Conditions I 2

**Credits** 17

### Year Three

**Fall**
- DPT 3122 Professional Development I 1
- DPT 3123 Clinical Gait 2
- DPT 3134 Multi System Management 3
- DPT 3135 Cardiopulmonary Conditions 3
- DPT 3137 Aspects of Nutrition in PT 2
- DPT 3142 Evidence Based Practice 2
- DPT 3149 Applied Neuroscience 2
- DPT 3162 Musculoskeletal Conditions II 2

**Credits** 17

**Spring**
- DPT 5218 Effective Comm & Teaching 3
- DPT 5250 Neuropathology 2
- DPT 5251 Neurological Conditions I 4
- DPT 5263 Musculoskeletal Conditions III 4
- DPT 5271 Patient Management I 3
- DPT 5291 Clinical Rotation IA 2

**Credits** 17

### Year Four

**Fall**
- DPT 4122 Kinesiology II 3
- DPT 4125 Therapeutic Modalities 3
- DPT 4127 Basic Examination 2
- DPT 4130 Survey of Disease 3
- DPT 4146 Developmental Biology 3
- DPT 4151 Pharmacology 1
- DPT 4153 Lab Studies & Imaging 2

**Credits** 17

**Spring**
- Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science - PT awarded upon completion of Semester Eight
  - ANAT 4300 AHP Neurosciences 5
  - DPT 4226 Therapeutic Exercise 2
  - DPT 4228 Basic Procedures 2
  - DPT 4241 Clinical Research and Design 2
  - DPT 4247 Human Growth and Development 3
  - DPT 4276 Documentation 1
  - DPT 4290 Skills Practicum 1
  - DPT 5261 Musculoskeletal Conditions I 2

**Credits** 17

### Year Five

**Fall**
- DPT 5115 Professional Development I 1
- DPT 5123 Clinical Gait 2
- DPT 5134 Multi System Management 3
- DPT 5135 Cardiopulmonary Conditions 3
- DPT 5137 Aspects of Nutrition in PT 2
- DPT 5142 Evidence Based Practice 2
- DPT 5149 Applied Neuroscience 2
- DPT 5162 Musculoskeletal Conditions II 2

**Credits** 17

**Spring**
- DPT 5218 Effective Comm & Teaching 3
- DPT 5250 Neuropathology 2
- DPT 5251 Neurological Conditions I 4
- DPT 5263 Musculoskeletal Conditions III 4
- DPT 5271 Patient Management I 3
- DPT 5291 Clinical Rotation IA 2

**Credits** 17

### Year Six

**Fall**
- DPT 6116 Professional Development II 2
- DPT 6124 Biomechanical Interventions 3
- DPT 6138 Concepts of Wellness 1
- DPT 6152 Neurological Conditions II 2
- DPT 6164 Musculoskeletal Conditions IV 3
- DPT 6173 Patient Management III 2
- DPT 6178 Applied Administration & Mgmt 2
- DPT 618X Physical Therapy Elective (optional) 1
- DPT 6192 Clinical Rotation IIB 2

**Credits** 17

**Spring**
- Doctor of Physical Therapy awarded upon completion of Semester 12
  - DPT 6217 Professional Development III (Online course taken during clinical internships) 1
  - DPT 6243 Applied Evidence-Based Clinical Practice (Online course taken during clinical internships) 1
  - DPT 6293 Clinical Internship A 4
  - DPT 6294 Clinical Internship B 3

**Credits** 9

**Total Credits** 217

1. 18 Elective Credits are required that may be used to complete a minor by the end of the junior year

### Program Notes

The curriculum is divided into the preprofessional (Freshman – Junior years; Semesters 1-6) and the professional phase (Senior year – Second Post Baccalaureate year; Summer Semesters 1 and 2; Semesters 7-12). Progression to the professional phase of the program provides a seamless entry from foundational coursework to practical labs and clinical experiences.