PHYSICAL THERAPY (DPT)

DPT 1111 - Self and Community in PT
Credit(s): 1 Credit
This course is designed to prepare the first-year student to be successful at Saint Louis University and assist in the transition to college for first year students. This interactive course will cover topics including an introduction to the Jesuit mission of Saint Louis University, academic and time management skills, values and career exploration, SLU history, and issues of diversity, equity and justice and well as awareness of self and others. Students will be introduced to resources at Saint Louis University as well as the policies and procedures of the physical therapy program and Saint Louis University.
Attributes: Core:Ignite Seminar, Core:Self in Community

DPT 1212 - Student Development II: Fueling the Fire, Discovering Your Passion
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This interactive course is designed to further assist in the transition to college for first year students. Much time will be spent on the choice of PT as a career and the types of PT practice and other health care career alternatives to physical therapy. Stress management will also be discussed. (Offered spring only)
Attributes: Core:Ignite Seminar

DPT 2213 - Professionalism and Physical Therapy Thought
Credit(s): 1 Credit
This course is designed to move the student from thinking about the profession of physical therapy to thinking about self as a future professional and a successful physical therapist. Students explore the concepts of professionalism and vocation. The concepts of the Jesuit Mission and personal mission are revisited and expanded. Students learn medical terminology independently as well as introduction to basic analysis of patient cases using the International Classification of Function, Disability and Health (ICF) and observation and movement experiences are a part of this course.
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Exercise Science.
Attributes: Core:Self in Contemplation

DPT 2930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 1-4 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
DPT 2980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1 or 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
DPT 4930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 1 or 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
DPT 4980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1 or 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
DPT 5121 - Kinesiology I
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Kinesiology I emphasizes the application of biomechanical principles to human movement. Kinematics, kinetics, mechanical properties of biological tissue, muscle actions, and joint structure and function are examined along with an introduction to movement analysis. The course helps prepare students to observe, describe, and discuss human movement and alignment using biomechanical terms. In the final unit of the course, biomechanical principles and movement analysis are applied to the shoulder region. (Offered summer only)
Prerequisite(s): PHYS 1240 or PHYS 1330

DPT 5123 - Clinical Gait
Credit(s): 2 Credits
Clinical Gait provides the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy student with the foundational knowledge and practical skills necessary to analyze human gait, identify causes of pathological gait, and begin to design appropriate intervention. Upon completion of this course, the student will be prepared to fully describe the characteristic gait pattern of a healthy adult and to identify abnormal (pathological) gait patterns. In addition, students will be able to discuss potential causes of pathological gait and begin to formulate treatment ideas to address these factors. Finally students will develop observational skills to accurately perform normal and pathological gait assessment.

DPT 5125 - Therapeutic Modalities
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course covers the mechanical, physiological, and therapeutic aspects of thermal, electromagnetic, electrical, and mechanical agents used as adjunctive interventions in the management of neuromusculoskeletal injuries. Included in the course are the theoretical and practical knowledge of specific modalities and the integration of these treatment procedures into an overall rehabilitation plan. This course also emphasizes verbal, non-verbal, and written communication; optimum positioning and draping during treatment procedures; safety during application of physical agents; and proper equipment usage and maintenance. Clinical decision making is supported by use of the best available evidence and understanding normal soft tissue healing and pain mechanisms.
DPT 5127 - Basic Examination
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Basic Exam in classroom and laboratory sessions covers knowledge of foundational physical therapy exam measures. Essential concepts of measurement issues will be presented from a theoretical and practical viewpoint. Upon completion of the course, the student will be expected to perform the essential physical therapy examination skills of subjective history taking, review of systems, palpation, range of motion, muscle length testing, manual muscle testing, basic neurological screens, and specified anthropometric measurements. In addition, the student will be expected to perform each specific physical therapy examination or measurement within an acceptable range of accuracy defined by the instructors. (Offered fall only)

DPT 5131 - Survey of Disease
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course will present an overview of human diseases and the change in body tissues and organs that cause or are caused by disease. The pathogenesis of disease of all major systems, risk factors, clinical manifestations and implications of medical management is covered. (Offered fall only)

DPT 5132 - Pharmacology
Credit(s): 1 Credit
This course will present an introduction to pharmacological management in the physical therapy setting. Emphasis will be placed on application of pharmacological information to clinical practice. Students will learn pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, how to find and utilize drug information, and the positive and negative effect of drugs and drug side effects on physical therapy management. (Offered fall only)

DPT 5133 - Lab Studies & Imaging
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course covers topics in clinical testing, including clinical laboratory studies; electromyography (EMG); nerve conduction velocity (NCV); radiological studies such as X-ray and computed tomography (CT); magnetic resonance imagine (MRI); and general and vascular ultrasound.

DPT 5134 - Multi System Management
Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits
This course will cover physical therapy examinations, interventions and expected outcomes for integumentary disorders and selected disease processes with multi-system implications. Specific topics include acute care management, post-surgical care, diabetes, peripheral vascular disease, oncology, lymphedema, HIV/AIDS, wounds, and burns.

DPT 5135 - Cardiopulmonary Conditions
Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits
This course examines the pathogenesis and pathophysiology of cardiovascular and pulmonary disorders as well as renal disease. Cardiopulmonary examination, goal setting and intervention methodologies are included. (Offered fall only)

DPT 5137 - Aspects of Nutrition
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course covers basic fundamentals of human nutrition science. The course examines dietary guidelines for Americans; nutrition across the lifecycle; nutrition digestion, absorption, and metabolism; medical nutrition therapy for specific disease states—as would apply to patients seen in a physical therapy settings; nutrition and exercise; and nutrition supplementation use.

DPT 5142 - Evidence Based Practice
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course examines how research is used to practice in an evidence-based manner. Practitioners of evidence-based clinical practice are able to put what he or she needs to know into an answerable question, efficiently search the literature, critically appraise the findings, integrate the evidence with clinical judgment and the patient's values, and bring the process full circle by evaluating the effort. (Offered fall only)

DPT 5147 - Human Growth and Development
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course provides students with a comprehensive approach to pediatric patients with congenital, developmental, and/or neurological conditions. Emphasis is placed on examination skills and intervention strategies. Patient demonstrations are included. Labs where students practice their skills with peers as well as with children with developmental challenges are integral course components. This course includes a lab component.

DPT 5149 - Applied Neuroscience
Credit(s): 0 or 2 Credits
This course will introduce basic concepts of motor learning principles and motor control theories. These theories and principles will be applied to healthy individuals and patient populations. Principles of neuroanatomy and neurophysiology are reviewed and applied to patient case examples. A framework for working with patients with neurological deficits will be presented. (Offered fall only)

DPT 5162 - Musculoskeletal Conditions II
Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits
Musculoskeletal Conditions II is focused on physical therapy management of patients with spinal, sacroiliac, or temporomandibular joint conditions that affect their ability to move normally. Each regional unit includes examination (history, systems review, and tests and measures), evaluation of examination data, establishing diagnosis and prognosis, designing and implementing intervention, and assessing outcomes. Classroom sessions focus on the presentation and classification of common regional musculoskeletal conditions with an emphasis on the evidence to support examination and intervention decisions. Lab sessions focus on learning psychomotor aspects of examination and intervention as well as case examples to develop clinical reasoning strategies. (Offered fall only)

DPT 5215 - Professional Development I
Credit(s): 2 Credits
The focus of this course is the development of expected professional behaviors with emphasis on ethical decision-making and preparation for employment decisions. The organization's structure, governance, and priorities concerning legislative, practice, and educational aspects are explored. The student will participate in self-assessment and reflection in order to explore his/her beliefs about professional behaviors, ethical decision-making and the core values of the profession. The professional role of the physical therapist as clinical teacher, researcher and consultant is discussed. The student will have the opportunity to apply teaching theories to clinical education. (Offered in Spring)
DPT 5218 - Effective Communication and Teaching  
Credit(s): 3 Credits  
This course provides an opportunity for the learner to apply verbal and nonverbal communication skills required as an essential function of physical therapy. By utilizing learning, personality, and developmental theories, the course will explore effective components and skills of interviewing, teaching, and communicating with patients/clients, family members, and other members of the health care team. The course introduces the concepts of feedback and self-assessment to improve communication skills. The course will explore ways to adapt interviewing and teaching to accommodate patient/audience culture, body image, language, age, spirituality, or other sensitive topics.  

DPT 5222 - Kinesiology II  
Credit(s): 3 Credits  
Kinesiology II builds on concepts introduced in Kinesiology I. Biomechanical principles and movement analysis are applied to the elbow, wrist/hand, spine, temporomandibular, pelvis/hip, knee, and ankle/foot regions. The course assists in student understanding of optimal human motion and alignment and the contributions and interactions of the muscular, skeletal, and nervous systems. Students use foundational knowledge and principles of movement analysis to begin to understand appropriate intervention strategies. (Offered fall only)  

DPT 5226 - Therapeutic Exercise  
Credit(s): 2 Credits  
This course emphasizes laboratory experiences where various types of therapeutic exercises are analyzed and the psychomotor skills for performing these exercises are developed. Case discussions where the student has the opportunity to select appropriate therapeutic exercise interventions based on patient examination will be included. (Offered spring only)  

DPT 5228 - Basic Procedures  
Credit(s): 2 Credits  
The purpose of this course is to offer the physical therapy student opportunities to develop their observation, examination and evaluation skills and perform treatment interventions in both a theoretical and practical application framework. This material acts as a foundation on which the student will build throughout his/her professional career. Treatment interventions include therapeutic patient positioning, patient transfers, safe patient handling, patient transport, gait with assistive devices, and infection control. Basic wheelchair types, components, and measurements, American Disability Act, basic nursing procedures, and appropriate therapist emergency response are discussed. There is an emphasis on communication skills as well as therapist-patient safety.  

DPT 5241 - Clinical Research and Design  
Credit(s): 2 Credits  
This course will introduce students to several types of clinical research designs including designs for group studies, epidemiological studies, and qualitative studies. Interpretation of selected statistical methods also will be included. (Offered spring only)  

DPT 5250 - Neuropathology  
Credit(s): 2 Credits  
This course provides the student with current information on the medical and/or surgical diagnosis and management of disorders pertinent to the nervous system. This course is intended to be a companion to the physical therapy course on rehabilitation of neurological conditions. (Offered spring only)  

DPT 5251 - Neurological Conditions I  
Credit(s): 0-4 Credits  
The purpose of this course is to provide the student with a comprehensive approach to select patients with neurological conditions. Emphasis is placed on examination skills, writing patient evaluations and developing approaches to interventions. Patient demonstrations will be presented when available. Labs are an integral component for the students to practice and refine their skills. (Offered spring only)  

DPT 5251 - Musculoskeletal Conditions I  
Credit(s): 0 or 2 Credits  
Musculoskeletal Conditions I presents information necessary to participate in the medical management of patients with primary musculoskeletal disorders and/or medical disorders that affect multiple systems or regions. Pathology, etiology, and epidemiology of specific disorders and discussion of clinical signs and symptoms, the interpretation of tests, and medical management discussed. Osteoporosis, arthritis, and connective diseases will be explored in depth from a physical therapy perspective, including examination, evaluation, assessment, and intervention. Labs allow students to apply skills, clinical reasoning for systems differential diagnosis based on the Cyriax soft tissue model, and soft tissue mobilization as an intervention. (Offered spring only)  

DPT 5263 - Musculoskeletal Conditions III  
Credit(s): 0 or 4 Credits  
Musculoskeletal Conditions III is focused on physical therapy management of patients with hip, knee, foot/ankle, shoulder, or elbow conditions that affect their ability to move normally. Each regional unit includes examination (history, systems review, and tests and measures), evaluation of examination data, establishing diagnosis and prognosis, designing and implementing intervention, and assessing outcomes. Classroom sessions focus on the presentation and classification of common regional musculoskeletal conditions with an emphasis on evidence to support examination and intervention decisions. Lab sessions focus on learning psychomotor aspects of examination and intervention as well as case examples to develop clinical reasoning strategies. (Offered spring only)  

DPT 5271 - Patient Management I  
Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits  
Clinical decision-making for patients with orthopedic impairments throughout the life-span and determination of disposition of the patient’s care necessitates integration of a vast array of knowledge and skills. This course emphasizes thorough data collection and interpretation through the integration of knowledge in determining possible diagnosis stemming from the various organ systems which mimic musculoskeletal pathologies. Students will participate in the differential diagnosis process and in discerning the provisional label responsible for the patient’s concerns, and learn efficient and effective communication with the patient during the patient interview and with the other health team members via a diagnostic statement. (Offered spring only)  

DPT 5276 - Documentation  
Credit(s): 1 Credit  
The focus of this course is the development of competency in documentation skills with consideration of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health Model of Disablement (ICF) and the Guide to Physical Therapist Practice. Students will practice defensible documentation for patient/client physical therapy initial, progress, and discharge visits. The course will include opportunities to document in an electronic health record through a web-based program. (Offered spring only)
DPT 5290 - Skills Practicum
Credit(s): 0-1 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
Skills Practicum is the student's first opportunity to practice basic physical therapy skills in a clinical setting under the supervision of a physical therapist/clinical instructor. The course is comprised of two components: didactic and clinical. The didactic or classroom component consists of class sessions in preparation for and discussion of the clinical component of the course. The clinical component of the course involves student participation in clinical experiences one-half day per week for 12 weeks in a facility with close supervision by a clinical instructor (CI). The student practices communication, examination and intervention skills. (Offered spring only)

DPT 5291 - Clinical Experience IA
Credit(s): 0-2 Credits
Clinical Rotation IA is comprised of two components: didactic and clinical. The didactic or classroom component consists of class sessions in preparation for and discussion of the clinical component of the course. The clinical component of the course includes the first 5 weeks of a full 10 week assignment in a clinical setting. Students are directly supervised by clinical instructors during clinical portion of the course. Students will practice all elements of the patient/client management including all tasks required to manage at approximately 25% of a caseload at the clinic site. (Offered spring only)

DPT 5890 - Special Topics: Clinical Rotation IV
Credit(s): 0 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
In this course students remediate didactic and or clinical work from Clinical Rotation IV.

DPT 5930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
This registration shows that the student is in residence as a student in a semester after Professional Year II in the Department of Physical Therapy.

DPT 5980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
This course will be a contracted course for the Radiation Therapy Program. Radiation therapy students must have the approval of the program director and clinical coordinator prior to enrolling in this course. Upon meeting with the faculty, a learning contract will be drafted and signed by the student and faculty, outlining the details of the requirements for successful completion of this independent study course. The contract will also include the meeting time, location, textbooks or references, evaluation methods, outcomes, and expected completion date of the course. Students will be allowed to enroll in this course ONLY ONE TIME. If the course work required is not completed during the contracted semester, graduation requirements of the radiation therapy program will not have been met and the degree will not be awarded.

DPT 6072 - Patient Management II
Credit(s): 1 Credit
This course emphasizes and builds on prior attained knowledge of the physical therapist's participation in the differential diagnostic process utilizing a multimedia online teaching approach for patient cases. Based on clinical cases, students will make appropriate recommendations regarding physical therapy intervention and/or referral to other health care professionals. For those patients determined to be appropriate for physical therapy, the immediate disposition of the patient's care will be planned and discussed with appropriate evidence to support the decision making process as available. Discussion topics include progression/regression of the plan of care dependent upon emerging data from the patient's scenario. (Offered summer only)

DPT 6077 - Department Administration
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course covers the basic administrative, management, and ethical aspects of developing and operating a physical therapy service. Included are discussions of the following: the impact of the health care environment on physical therapy practice, values and business ethics, marketing, organizational structure, professional communication, workplace issues, and billing. Students will utilize concurrent experience in the clinic to understand these foundations of health care operations.

DPT 6091 - Clinical Experience IB
Credit(s): 1 or 2 Credits
Clinical Rotation IB is comprised of the final 5 weeks of the 10 week clinical assignment started during DPT 5291. Students are supervised by clinical instructors while in the clinic. Students will practice all elements of the patient/client management including all tasks required to manage at least 50% of a caseload at the clinic site.

DPT 6092 - Clinical Experience IIA
Credit(s): 2 Credits
Clinical Rotation IIA is comprised of the first 5 weeks of a full 10 week assignment in a different clinical setting than students were assigned for DPT 5291 and 6091. Students are assessed by clinical instructors while in the clinic. Students will practice all elements of the patient/client management including all tasks required to manage approximately 25% of a caseload at the clinic site.

DPT 6116 - Professional Development II
Credit(s): 1 or 2 Credits (Repeatable up to 2 credits)
The focus of this course is the development of expected professional behaviors with emphasis on the application of ethical decision-making and leadership theory and preparation for employment decisions along the continuum of the academic environment to the clinical workplace. The organization's structure, governance, priorities, practice, and educational aspects are explored. The student will participate in self-assessment and reflection in order to explore his/her beliefs about professional behaviors, ethical decision-making, leadership, and the core values of the profession.
Prerequisite(s): DPT 5215 with a grade of C or higher

DPT 6124 - Biomechanical Interventions
Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits
Biomechanical Interventions is focused on physical therapy management of patients with amputations or pathology that requires management through an orthosis or soft tissue taping/wrapping. Students practice examination techniques, evaluate examination data, design appropriate interventions, fabricate hand splints and foot orthotics, and practice various taping and wrapping techniques, along with discussing when and why they are applied. Common prosthetic and orthotic components are discussed, with emphasis on the biomechanics of utilization. During the course the student is expected to recall and use patient management principles, measurement concepts, and a clinical reasoning framework that were introduced in previous courses. (Offered fall only)
DPT 6138 - Concepts of Wellness  
Credit(s): 1 Credit  
This course builds on the concepts of the biopsychosocial model of health; change theories, and health promotion learned in earlier courses and provides the student the opportunity to apply the concepts to special populations. Physical fitness and prevention of injury/illness is considered for well populations, obese persons and populations with disabilities. The focus of the course is to increase knowledge of health, wellness and prevention, including lifestyle changes and attention to mind-body-spirit connections and supportive environments. The influence of the spiritual domain on health, wellness and on healthcare is addressed and applied to physical therapy practice. (Offered fall only)

DPT 6152 - Neurological Conditions II  
Credit(s): 0-2 Credits (Repeatable up to 2 credits)  
This course provides students with a comprehensive approach to pediatric patients with congenital, developmental, and/or neurological conditions. Emphasis is placed on examination skills and intervention strategies. Patient demonstrations are included. Labs where students practice their skills with peers as well as with children with developmental challenges are integral course components. This course includes a lab component. (Offered fall only)

DPT 6164 - Musculoskeletal Conditions IV  
Credit(s): 0-3 Credits (Repeatable up to 3 credits)  
This course is designed to be progressive in pedagogical style with increased use of self-directed learning activities as the semester progresses. Management of patients with a neuromusculoskeletal pathology of the wrist and/or hand concludes the regional approach. Additional practice areas are addressed including: orthopedic topics within the pediatric lifespan from a surgical perspective, industrial rehabilitation/occupational health and ergonomic assessment, and gender related health issues will be highlighted. The special challenges of treating patients with chronic pain syndromes, hematologic disorders, and post-polio syndrome are addressed with interactive learning activities. (Offered fall only)

DPT 6173 - Patient Management III  
Credit(s): 0 or 2 Credits  
This course builds on Patient Management I and II and adds the management of patients with complex neurologic diagnoses to the student's clinical reasoning process. The creation and modification of intervention programs is emphasized, including referrals to other health care providers and discharge planning. The student has the opportunity to improve visual postural and kinematic evaluation skills through video patient cases. The complex patient task analysis results in the creation of a comprehensive intervention program to improve a particular activity/participation which is outcome and evidence based. This course emphasizes an integration of problem-solving skills based on all previous coursework. (Offered fall only)

DPT 6178 - Applied Administration and Management  
Credit(s): 1 or 2 Credits (Repeatable up to 2 credits)  
This course covers the more advanced business operations of clinic operations, as well as understanding the concepts of leadership and management in the health care industry. The principles of leadership and entrepreneurship will be discussed using cases and discussion. This will evolve into more specific issues related to clinic management including the following: financial reporting, strategic planning, risk management and legal issues, and quality assurance. Students will be asked to draw upon previous clinical settings to serve as points of reference. (Offered every fall)

DPT 6180 - Geriatrics Seminar  
Credit(s): 1 Credit  
This course explores the causes of frailty in older adults and the financial burden in the U.S. of obtaining healthcare for this population. The course then explores services available to help frail older adults maximize their physical and psychosocial independence within the community and within institutions. The course consists of lectures, interviews, and site visits in the St. Louis area.

DPT 6181 - Manual Therapy of the Spine and Extremities  
Credit(s): 1 Credit  
This seminar course focuses on the psychomotor skill of manual therapy and the accompanying clinical reasoning skills for utilization for effective patient management. The course emphasizes a lab session style of teaching to provide ample opportunities for each student to practice their psychomotor skills while also receiving/providing formative feedback from/to peers and instructors. (Offered fall only)

DPT 6182 - Seminar in Adult Neurologic Physical Therapy  
Credit(s): 1 Credit  
This seminar provides hands-on experience in the clinic for examinations and interventions for adult patients with neurological conditions and/or injuries. Specific clinical experiences have been arranged across a variety of clinical settings in the St. Louis area. Students will also gain experience as peer instructors by delivering content in applied neuroscience to professional year 2 students. Additionally, students will have classroom sessions with the course coordinator to discuss their clinical experiences and relate their coursework from Neurological Conditions I (DPT5251) and Applied Neuroscience (DPT5149) to each experience.

DPT 6183 - Seminar in Physical Therapy - Pediatrics  
Credit(s): 1 Credit  
The purpose of this course is to integrate academic learning with clinical practice in the area of pediatric physical therapy. The course incorporates didactic and clinical components that promote advancement of clinical decision making and practical application skills when working with children and their families. Self-directed, collaborative learning and class participation are essential aspects of the course. Students review the pathophysiology, medical, surgical and pharmacological management strategies for selected neurological, congenital, developmental and/or musculoskeletal disorders in pediatric patients. The clinical component focuses on observation, examination and evaluation of children across multiple settings and diverse patient populations.

DPT 6184 - Sports Physical Therapy  
Credit(s): 1 Credit  
This seminar is designed to give student the opportunity to further explore topics related to sports physical therapy. The perspective of the sports medicine team and the roles of the different professions in the care of athletes will be examined. The involvement of the physical therapist in the prevention and treatment of the injured athlete will be emphasized. (Offered in Fall only)

DPT 6192 - Clinical Experience IIB  
Credit(s): 0 or 2 Credits  
Clinical Rotation IIB is comprised of the final 5 weeks of the 10-week clinical assignment started during DPT 6092. Students are assessed by clinical instructors while in the clinic. Students will practice all elements of the patient/client management including all tasks required to manage at least 50% of a caseload at the clinic site. (Offered in Fall only)
DPT 6293 - Clinical Experience III
Credit(s): 0-3 Credits (Repeatable up to 3 credits)
Clinical Rotation III is a 9 week full time clinical rotation at a clinical setting. Students are assessed by clinical instructors while in the clinic. Students will perform all elements of the patient/client management including all tasks required to manage a full entry-level caseload at the site independently.

DPT 6294 - Clinical Experience IV
Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits
Clinical Rotation IV is a 9 week full time clinical rotation at a setting different than the one assigned for DPT 6293. Students are assessed by clinical instructors. Students will perform all elements of the patient/client management including all tasks required to manage a full entry-level caseload at the site independently. (Offered in Spring only)

DPT 6930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

DPT 6980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)