Purpose: It is the intention of this Administrative-Master Syllabus to provide a general description of the course, outline the required elements of the course and to lay the foundation for course assessment for the improvement of student learning, as specified by the faculty of Wharton County Junior College, regardless of who teaches the course, the timeframe by which it is instructed, or the instructional method by which the course is delivered. It is not intended to restrict the manner by which an individual faculty member teaches the course but to be an administrative tool to aid in the improvement of instruction.

Course Title – Physical Agents
Course Prefix and Number – PTHA 1531
Department – Physical Therapist Assistant
Division – Allied Health
Course Type: (check one)
☐ Academic General Education Course (from ACGM – but not in WCJC Core)
☐ Academic WCJC Core Course
☒ WECM course (This course is a Special Topics or Unique Needs Course: ☑ Y or ☒ N)

Semester Credit Hours #: Lecture hours#: Lab/other hours # 5:4:4
Equate Pay hours for course - 6

Course Catalog Description - Course Description: Biophysical principles, physiological effects, intervention efficacy and application of physical agents.

Prerequisites/Co requisites - Prerequisite: PTHA 1413 and PTHA 1409.

Prepared by Betty Salas Date 6-28-11
Reviewed by department head Betty Salas Date 6-28-11
Accuracy verified by Division Chair Carol Derkowski Date 7-25-11
Approved by Dean of Vocational Instruction or Vice President of Instruction Stephanie Dees Date 8/2/2011
1. **Topical Outline** – Each offering of this course must include the following topics (be sure to include information regarding lab, practicum, clinical or other non-lecture instruction):

Lecture and Lab includes the following topics:

1. Pain and Inflammation
2. Physical Agents and Therapeutic Treatment Approaches
3. Heat and Cold Modalities
4. Therapeutic Ultrasound
5. Therapeutic Use of Light
6. Hydrotherapy
7. Passive Motion devices for Soft Tissue Management
8. Edema Management
9. Therapeutic Massage
10. Foundation of Electrical Stimulation
11. Physiologic Basis of Electrical Stimulation
12. Neuromuscular Applications for Electrical Stimulation
13. Iontophoresis and Phonophoresis
14. Pain Management with Electrical Stimulation
15. Electrical Stimulation Devices and Equipment
16. Integration of Physical Agents

II. **Course Learning Outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Method of Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| End-of-Course Outcomes: Describe the biophysical principles and intervention efficacy of physical agents; recognize indications, contraindications and precautions for physical agents; apply physical agents; and monitor and communicate treatment response. | 1. 5 - Written Exams including Final  
2. 4 - Lab Practicals  
3. Skill Check-offs & Lab Work  
4. Professionalism Grade |

III. **Required Text(s), Optional Text(s) and/or Materials to be Supplied by Student.**

IV. **Suggested Course Maximum** - 16

V. **List any specific spatial or physical requirements beyond a typical classroom required to teach the course.**

None
VI. Course Requirements/Grading System – Describe any course specific requirements such as research papers or reading assignments and the generalized grading format for the course

During the course of a semester, there will be a written exam and lab practical following each unit of material. The unit exams will account for 56% of the final course grade. Lab practicals account for 20%; Skills Check-offs and Lab Work account for 4% and Professionalism in the classroom accounts for 2%. A comprehensive course final examination will be given at the end of the semester which will account for 20% of the final grade.

A letter grade will be assigned for the course based on the following scale:

100 - 90 = A  
89 - 80 = B  
79 - 75 = C  
74 - 60 = D  
Below 59 = F

A student must receive a "C" (75%) or above for successful completion of this course. Any student receiving a "D" or "F" must withdraw from the PTA Program.

VII. Curriculum Checklist

☐ - Academic General Education Course (from ACGM – but not in WCJC Core)  
  No additional documentation needed

☐ - Academic WCJC Core Course  
  Attach the Core Curriculum Checklist, including the following:
  • Basic Intellectual Competencies  
  • Perspectives  
  • Exemplary Educational Objectives

☒ WECM Courses  
  If needed, revise the Program SCANS Matrix & Competencies Checklist.