



Course Information

Course Title	Introduction to Physical Therapy
Course Prefix, Num. and Title	PTHA 1409 - Introduction to Physical Therapy
Division	Allied Health
Department	Physical Therapy Asst
Course Type	WECM Course
Course Catalog Description	Introduction to the profession of physical therapy and the role of the physical therapist assistant. Includes the application of basic patient handling, functional skills, communication, and selected data collection techniques.
Pre-Requisites	Admission to PTA Program
Co-Requisites	Enter Co-Requisites Here.

Semester Credit Hours

Total Semester Credit Hours (SCH): Lecture Hours:	4:3:4
Lab/Other Hours	
Equated Pay Hours	5
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Lab Hours	4
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Clinical Hours	0
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Practicum Hours	0
Other Hours Breakdown	0

Approval Signatures

Title	Signature	Date
Department Head:	Kelly Wallace	08/02/23
Division Chair:	CJDerkowski	10/24/2023
Dean/VPI:		

Additional Course Information

Topical Outline: Each offering of this course must include the following topics (be sure to include information regarding lab, practicum, and clinical or other non-lecture instruction).

A. Identifying the College and Course Requirements

1. Rules and regulations of the college and the PTA program
2. Course objectives
3. Course content
4. Evaluation procedure

B. Physical Therapy: Definition and Profession

1. Definition
2. Physical Therapy as a Profession
3. Historical Development

C. Roles and Employment Settings

1. Direct Patient Care
2. Communication
3. Consultation
4. Administration
5. Instruction
6. Research

7. Employment Characteristics

D. The Physical Therapist Assistant

1. Definition
2. Origins and History
3. Curriculum and Accreditation Standards
4. Utilization
5. State Regulation
6. Employment Characteristic
7. Rights and Privileges in the APTA
8. Future

E. American Physical Therapy Association

1. Mission and Goals
2. Organizational Structure
3. Benefits of Membership
4. Related Organizations

5. Texas Physical Therapy Association F. Laws, Regulations and Policies

1. General Description
2. Examples Affecting Physical Therapy
3. Texas Physical Therapy Practice Act and Rules

G. Current Issues

1. Educational Preparation
2. Practice Settings
3. Direct Access
4. Physician-Owned Physical Therapy Services
5. Guide to Physical Therapist Practice
6. Encroachment and Human Resources
7. Reimbursement
8. Continuous Quality Improvement
9. Research in Physical Therapy

H. Physical Therapy: Practice

1. Physical Therapy for Musculoskeletal Conditions
2. Physical Therapy for Neuromuscular Conditions
3. Physical Therapy Cardiopulmonary Conditions
4. Physical Therapy for Integumentary Conditions
5. Physical Therapy for Pediatric
6. Physical Therapy for the Older Adult.

I. Communication

1. Verbal/Non-verbal
2. Written

J. Documentation

1. Definition
2. Importance of Documentation
3. Evaluation of PT/PTA Responsibilities and Role of Documentation
4. Role of Documentation in Patient Care
5. Documentation Content Categories
6. Organizations and Presentation of the Content
7. Writing the Progress Note

K. Medical Terminology

1. Basic prefixes, suffixes, and combining forms associated with medical terms commonly used in physical therapy
2. Abbreviations and symbols used in physical therapy
3. Medical Terminology understood by all health care members

L. Patient Care Skills

1. Preparation for Patient Care
2. Vital Signs
3. Aseptic Techniques
4. Turning and Positioning
5. Wheelchairs
6. Transfers
7. First Aid

M. Americas with Disabilities Act

Course Learning Outcomes:

Learning Outcomes – Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Describe the history, purpose, and scope of physical therapy
2. Identify the roles and responsibilities of the physical therapist assistant
3. Describe principles and techniques of patient handling and functional skills
4. Demonstrate performance of basic patient handling and functional skills
5. Selected data collection techniques
6. Demonstrate communication skills. **Methods of Assessment:**

Unit Exams and Final Project

Required text(s), optional text(s) and/or materials to be supplied by the student:

Leonard, Peggy, C. Quick & Easy Medical Terminology, 8th Edition, W.B. Saunders Company, 2016. Pagliarulo, Michael A. Introduction to Physical Therapy, 5th Edition, Mosby-Year Book, Inc., 2015.

Suggested Course Maximum:

16

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

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

Course Requirements/Grading System: Describe any course specific requirements such as research papers or reading assignments and the generalized grading format for the course.

Enter Course Requirements/Grading System Here.

Curriculum Checklist:

- Administrative General Education Course** (from ACGM, but not in WCJC Core) – No additional documents needed.
- Administrative WCJC Core Course.** Attach the Core Curriculum Review Forms
 - Critical Thinking
 - Communication
 - Empirical & Quantitative Skills
 - Teamwork
 - Social Responsibility
 - Personal Responsibility
- WECM Course** -If needed, revise the Program SCANS Matrix and Competencies Checklist