

# PTA 001: INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL THERAPY

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**Originator**

bkfitzpatrick

**Co-Contributor(s)****Name(s)**

Wilson, Matthew

**Justification / Rationale**

Modifying course description and course content to align with CAPTE requirements

**Effective Term**

Fall 2022

**Credit Status**

Credit - Degree Applicable

**Subject**

PTA - Physical Therapist Assistant

**Course Number**

001

**Full Course Title**

Introduction to Physical Therapy

**Short Title**

INTRO TO PHYS THER

**Discipline****Disciplines List**

Physical Therapy Assisting

**Modality**

Face-to-Face

**Catalog Description**

This course will introduce students to the field of physical therapy by covering the history and ethics of the profession as they relate to the health care system. The course will cover the development of the team approach in health care delivery, philosophies of rehabilitation, patient relationships, and the psychosocial impact of illness and injury. Also emphasized is the scope of practice of the physical therapist assistant. Course content includes observational experiences in patient care settings.

The course will also introduce verbal and nonverbal communication skills utilized in health care. Emphasis will be placed on terminology, format, computer use, reimbursement, interpersonal communication, and legal issues. Upon completion, the student will be able to discuss and demonstrate communication skills necessary for effective interaction with patients, families, and other health care providers.

**Schedule Description**

This is an overview course designed to give the Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA) student an understanding of the profession of physical therapy.

Prerequisite: ENG 061

**Lecture Units**

3

**Lecture Semester Hours**

54

**In-class Hours**

54

**Out-of-class Hours**

108

**Total Course Units**

3

**Total Semester Hours**

162

**Prerequisite Course(s)**

ENG 061

**Required Text and Other Instructional Materials****Resource Type**

Book

**Author**

Bircher, Wendy D.

**Title**

Documentation for the Physical Therapist Assistant

**Edition**

5th/e.

**Publisher**

F.A. Davis Company

**Year**

2018

**College Level**

Yes

**Flesch-Kincaid Level**

N/A

**ISBN #**

9780803661141

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**Class Size Maximum**

25

**Entrance Skills**

Identify and employ prewriting activities.

**Requisite Course Objectives**

ENG 061-Use theses to organize paragraphs into coherent analyses.

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**Entrance Skills**

Comprehend and summarize readings.

**Requisite Course Objectives**

ENG 061-Demonstrate the ability to read and respond in writing beyond the literal interpretation of the text.

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**Entrance Skills**

Demonstrate the ability to generate, develop and organize ideas into a cohesive essay using multiple paragraphs.

### Requisite Course Objectives

ENG 061-Recognize features of style such as purpose, audience and tone integrate these elements into academic and professional writing.

### Course Content

1. Introduction
  - a. Definition of Physical Therapy
  - b. History of Physical Therapy
    - i. Formation of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)
    - ii. Definition and relationships of the American Medical Association, American Physical Therapy Association, California Board of Medical Quality Assurance-Physical Therapy Examining Committee
    - iii. Development of formalized curriculum in Physical Therapy and PT Assistant programs
    - iv. Development of the Associate of Science degree program
    - v. Types of Physical Therapy practice settings
  - c. Ethics and Scope of Physical Therapy practice
    - i. The referral system
    - ii. Job responsibilities of the Physical Therapist and the PT Assistant
    - iii. Roles of the PT Assistant in relationship to the Physical Therapist
    - iv. Relationship of the PTA to other health care delivery professionals
  - d. Health care systems
    - i. Hospitals
    - ii. Convalescent hospitals
    - iii. Outpatient clinics, private practice and corporate medicine
    - iv. Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs)
    - v. Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs)
    - vi. Home care
    - vii. Childrens services
    - viii. Industrial clinics
  - e. Community outreach programs
  - f. Economics of health care
    - i. Financial impact of medical care
    - ii. Insurance organizations
    - iii. Medicare/Medical systems
    - iv. Costs associated with the health care delivery system
    - v. Salary expectations for the Physical Therapist Assistant
2. Lecture Content
  - a. Importance of initial patient contact
    - i. Recognition of self, patient, and family reaction to disease and disability
    - ii. Demonstrate sensitivity to gender, cultural, and ethnic issues
    - iii. Policies and procedures per health care facilities
3. Charting
4. Universal precautions
  - a. Hand washing techniques
  - b. Sterile field preparation
  - c. Protective clothing/gloves

### Course Objectives

	Objectives
Objective 1	Identify legal practice standards related to patient care and fiscal management and explain how and when to report suspected cases of fraud and abuse.
Objective 2	Exhibit professional attitude consistent with Guide for Conduct of the PTA and Standards of Ethical Conduct and recognize abuse with appropriate reporting.
Objective 3	Demonstrate moral reasoning aligned with core professional ethics and values which is consistent with APTA's Values Based Behaviors for the Physical Therapist Assistant.

Objective 4	Illustrate effective communication with all stakeholders: patients, family members, caregivers, practitioners, interprofessional team members, consumers, payers and policy makers, all while considering their differences, values, preferences and expressed needs.
Objective 5	Describe the value of utilizing current knowledge, theory and clinical judgment while considering patient's plan of care set by the physical therapist and the use of the ICF model.
Objective 6	Recognize the value of evidence-based resources and how to utilize validity, reliability and statistical significance.
Objective 7	Explain the importance of engaging with professional and community organizations that can provide volunteer, advocacy and leadership opportunities as well as life longer learning and having a role in the clinical education of the physical therapist assistant student.
Objective 8	Demonstrate ability to accurately document as needed by state practice acts, practice setting and other regulatory agencies including for billing and payment purposes.
Objective 9	Summarize organizational planning needs for safe and effective physical therapy service.

### Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:	
Outcome 1	Demonstrate behaviors of the physical therapist assistant as a provider of care which reflect the professional and legal physical therapist assistant scope of practice.
Outcome 2	Acquire and apply the ability to meet the clinical guidelines of the physical therapy profession including documentation of patient care in the form of a SOAP (Subjective, Objective, Assessment, Plan) note and/or Electronic Medical Record (EMR).
Outcome 3	Review and demonstrate the understanding of health records (lab values, diagnostic tests, specialty reports, narrative, consults, and physical therapy documentation) necessary prior to safely and effectively carrying out the physical therapy plan of care.

### Methods of Instruction

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each instructional method will be used in this course.
Activity	Classroom interactive activities in small groups. Activities include reflections, portfolio building, and practice of skills learned.
Demonstration, Repetition/Practice	Instructor included demonstrations of observation and consultation skills. Practice laboratory skills.
Discussion	Students get in small groups at the beginning of class to discuss deeper concepts and follow with large group discussions to build on topic.
Lecture	Lecture is broken up in to 20 to 30 minute components with activities interspersed to create an active learning environment.

### Methods of Evaluation

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each evaluation method will be used in this course.	Type of Assignment
Written homework	Homework including documentation writing skills (SOAP notes) evaluated for completion, content, and accuracy (SLO 2).	In and Out of Class
Term or research papers	Written paper documenting observation assignment evaluated for content and completion of criteria (SLO 2).	In and Out of Class
Mid-term and final evaluations	Midterm exam covering lecture and lab content using matching, multiple choice and fill in the blank type questions (SLO 1-2).	In Class Only

### Assignments

#### Other In-class Assignments

##### Projects, Activities, and other Assignments

1. Role playing practicing being a patient and a PTA to develop clinical skills

#### Other Out-of-class Assignments

##### Reading Assignments

1. Current physical therapy reports
2. Textbooks as assigned
3. American Physical Therapy Association website
4. California Board of Physical Therapy website

#### Writing Assignments

1. Written homework to include documentation according to standards of physical therapy practice, such as SOAP notes, medical terminology, and the write up of clinical observation

#### **Grade Methods**

Letter Grade Only

#### **MIS Course Data**

##### **CIP Code**

51.0806 - Physical Therapy Technician/Assistant.

##### **TOP Code**

122200 - Physical Therapist Assistant

##### **SAM Code**

C - Clearly Occupational

##### **Basic Skills Status**

Not Basic Skills

##### **Prior College Level**

Not applicable

##### **Cooperative Work Experience**

Not a Coop Course

##### **Course Classification Status**

Credit Course

##### **Approved Special Class**

Not special class

##### **Noncredit Category**

Not Applicable, Credit Course

##### **Funding Agency Category**

Not Applicable

##### **Program Status**

Program Applicable

##### **Transfer Status**

Not transferable

##### **Allow Audit**

No

##### **Repeatability**

No

##### **Materials Fee**

No

##### **Additional Fees?**

No

## Files Uploaded

**Attach relevant documents (example: Advisory Committee or Department Minutes)**

2017 - Meeting Notes - 05-16-17.pdf

LMI\_Physical Therapy\_Dec2017.pdf

PTA 001 CO Approval Letter.pdf

## Approvals

**Curriculum Committee Approval Date**

03/17/2022

**Academic Senate Approval Date**

03/24/2022

**Board of Trustees Approval Date**

04/22/2022

**Chancellor's Office Approval Date**

05/06/2022

**Course Control Number**

CCC000631400