

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PTAP 2710 (200). Introduction to Physical Therapy. Credit Hours: 3. Pre-requisites: Enrollment in the PTA Program.

PTAP 2310 (211). Credit hours: 3. Prerequisites: BIOL 2310. Corequisites: PTAP 2310L. This course is designed to give the potential physical therapist assistant student a fundamental understanding of the musculoskeletal system as it applies to movement. Emphasis is placed on muscles and muscle groups, their origins and insertions, innervations and actions. The student has the opportunity to learn characteristics and components of normal movement as a basis for understanding abnormal movement.

PTAP 2720 (212). Clinical Science I. Credit hours 2. Pre-requisites: Enrollment in the PTA Program.

PTAP 2310L (213). Functional Anatomy and Kinesiology Lab. Credit Hours: 1. Pre-requisites: BIOL 2310. Co-requisites: PTAP 2310. This laboratory course is designed to coincide with the Functional Anatomy and Kinesiology lecture course. Course content follows the content presented in lecture and provides the student the opportunity to apply concepts of movement to the human anatomy through lab activities incorporating palpation, movement and problem solving. Students analyze movement in individual regions of the body and demonstrate comprehension through written and practical applications.

This laboratory course is designed to coincide with the Functional Anatomy and Kinesiology lecture course. Course content follows the content presented in lecture and provides the student the opportunity to apply concepts of movement to the human anatomy through lab activities incorporating palpation, movement and problem solving. Students analyze movement in individual regions of the body and demonstrate comprehension through written and practical applications.

PTAP 2725 (221). Clinical Science II. Credit Hours: 3. Pre-requisites: Enrollment in the PTA Program. This course is designed as a continuation of PTAP 2720. Lecture and laboratory experiences are combined to instruct the student in data collection procedures and interventions utilized in current physical therapy practices. Emphasis is placed on the treatment procedures involved in hydrotherapy, wound care, edema control, orthotics, transfers and assisted mobility, normal gait, prosthetics and traction within the scope of practice of the physical therapist assistant. The student will incorporate data collection techniques and interventions learned in the previous courses, with those learned in this course, to demonstrate competency in the provision of total patient treatment. Laboratory experiences will provide the opportunity to experience and to practice these procedures. Competency in performance of the procedures is determined by individual skill check-off and by practical demonstration in competency evaluation utilizing patient scenarios.

PTAP 2730 (222). Clinical Science III. Credit Hours: 4. Pre-requisites: PTAP 2310, PTAP 2310L. This therapeutic exercise course combines technology, lecture and laboratory experiences to introduce the physical therapist assistant student to exercise as a treatment procedure. The student will learn about exercise from the cellular to the systemic effects. Emphasis is placed on various kinds of exercise, application of exercise technique and on special areas of therapeutic exercise and to physical therapy practice patterns. The student will practice range of motion exercise, stretching techniques, resistance, traction and aerobic exercise and pulmonary hygiene techniques, and will learn how to progress those exercises. Data collection techniques and interventions learned in previous classes will be utilized in combination with various exercise procedures in order to enhance rehabilitation and monitor subject response to the procedures.

PTAP 2740 (224). Pathophysiology. Credit Hours: 3. Pre-requisites: Enrollment in the PTA Program. This lecture course introduces the student to injuries, diseases and conditions that affect the neuromusculoskeletal system, and which are pertinent to the practice of physical therapy. A systems approach to understanding the function of the human body and the effect of pathological entities on the system are presented. Emphasis is placed on the course and effect of the pathological condition; the signs and symptoms of the pathology; the general effect on human performance and function of the patient; and, the physical therapy management of the condition and patient. The student is provided the opportunity to identify potential medical complications that effect physical therapy interventions and the patient's safe response to the intervention.

PTAP 2715 (225). Neurophysiology of Rehabilitation. Credit Hours: 2. Pre-requisites: Enrollment in the PTA Program.

PTAP 2718 (226). Human Development. Credit Hours: 1. Pre-requisites: Enrollment in the PTA Program. This lecture course introduces the student to human development throughout the lifespan, from prenatal development to the senior adult. The student has the opportunity to learn the relationship of the areas of the developmental process. Although focused on development from neonatal through early childhood, the student will be introduced to the changes that occur in aging throughout life. Emphasis is placed on prenatal development, the developmental sequence and developmental disabilities.

The student will also discover the impact that age-related disease processes or disabilities can have on individuals and/or their families at any point along the developmental continuum.

PTAP 2735 (228). Clinical Education I. Credit Hours: 6. Pre-requisites: Enrollment in the PTA Program. This course is designed to provide the opportunity for the student to apply previously learned assessments, procedures and skills to direct patient care under the supervision of a licensed practitioner of physical therapy. The student will participate in one full time five -week affiliation in either an acute, rehab or out-patient setting that provides a variety of clinical experiences with a diverse patient population. Each student is assigned to a clinical instructor, who is primarily responsible for planning clinical experiences reflective of course objectives and current practice, for evaluating student performance and for providing immediate feedback to facilitate learning. The student will have the opportunity to master skills learned in the laboratory setting and integrate behaviors reflective of professional competency within the scope of practice of the physical therapist assistant.

PTAP 2745 (231). Clinical Sciences IV. Credit Hours 2. Pre-Requisites: Enrollment in the PTA Program. This course is designed to provide a forum by which PTA students can integrate didactic and clinical experiences in the development of skills relative to the practice of physical therapy. The student will have the opportunity to prepare for entry-level employment in physical therapy, and will be introduced to issues and topics relative to the practice of physical therapy, which are considered post-graduate level skill development. These include topics in specialty areas of physical therapy practice, alternative therapeutic approaches to patient care, and advanced techniques in musculoskeletal and neuromuscular dysfunction. Projects and laboratory experiences provide the opportunity for the student to gain an introductory knowledge and application base upon which clinical skills are developed.

PTAP 2750 (239). Clinical Education II. Credit Hours: 10. Pre-requisite: PTAP 2735. This clinical education course involves assignment of the student to two different full time affiliations totaling ten weeks. The student will have the opportunity to apply all treatment procedures, assessments and patient care skills necessary for entry level competency for the practice of physical therapist assisting. The longer assignments allow the student to follow patients through the course of therapy in order to observe changes in patient function in response to treatment. The student will have the opportunity to integrate knowledge and skills to master critical thinking skills, analyze patient response to treatments, participate as a member of the health care team, participate in patient, family and staff teaching activities, and model professional behaviors. Upon completion of this course, the student will have demonstrated all critical skills necessary for entry level competency of a practitioner of physical therapist assisting.