



## ENTRY DPT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Year 1

### DPTE 511 (9SHC): Basic Sciences I

Basic Sciences Block 1 (8 weeks) provides a study of the morphology of the human body including the macro-anatomy (gross anatomy), microanatomy (histology) of the basic tissues, and provides an introduction into the mechanisms of diseases. It includes the study of the bones, ligaments, muscles, nerves, blood vessels, and their associated organs. Emphasis is placed on the musculoskeletal and neuromuscular systems. Consideration is given to clinical entities, by including imaging and clinical cases. Formal lectures, laboratory experiences (including cadaver dissections, observation of radiographs, and microscopy sessions) are supplemented by required reading, CD-ROM material and web-based resources.

### DPTE 512 (3SHC): Professional Issues I

Professional Issues Block 1 will be focused on the orientation of the student to the Department of Physical Therapy and the American Physical Therapy Association policies and procedures. This orientation is designed to insure student compliance with all departmental, university, and professional regulations and guidelines for conduct. As such, the student will be completing many of the administrative tasks necessary for enrollment as a full time student. Lecture, and discussion of the *Maryland Physical Therapy Practice Act* and self directed exercises on the *Guide to Physical Therapy Practice* will provide the opportunity for the student to examine the ethical and professional issues surrounding physical therapy practice and conduct as a student in this program. Extemporaneous speaking and computer laboratory sessions with PowerPoint software will give the student the skills to prepare and give professional presentations that can contribute to the body of physical therapy knowledge.

### DPTE 513 (15SHC): Basic Sciences II

Basic Sciences Block 2 (15 weeks) provides an integrated “systems-oriented” approach to the morphological and developmental organization of the human body. Integrated study of neuroanatomy, embryology, histology, physiology, pathology and pharmacology is employed in this block to prepare students for the rest of the professional curriculum. Formal lectures, laboratory experiences, and clinical correlation conferences, supplemented by required readings are used to help students gain mastery of the essential concepts of these foundational sciences. Each of the body’s major organ systems will be studied beginning with structural and functional aspects of individual cell types and progressing to tissue and systems levels. Basic pathology, pathophysiology, and system-related pharmacology are addressed before moving to each new subject area. The interdependence of structure and function of tissues and organs is emphasized throughout the lifespan. The block faculty includes basic and clinical scientists as well as physical therapy clinicians.

### DPTE 514 (12SHC): Basic Sciences III

This block will integrate and consolidate the foundations of movement sciences and bio-physical sciences pertaining to human and function across the life span. It will likewise serve as an interface between the previous basic science blocks and the clinical sciences blocks. Students will acquire knowledge in the application of biomechanical and patho-mechanical correlates and motor behavior theories to the analyses of movements in health and pathology and use this knowledge to develop basic screening, evaluation, assessment and performance measures and skills. They will develop the basic skills of documenting and reporting the findings of the studied evaluation measures and intervention outcomes. The student will learn to describe, operate and apply skillfully various therapeutic technologies used in habilitation and rehabilitation of patients with musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, cardio-pulmonary, vascular and integument deficits. Instruction will foster critical thinking and an evidence-based approach to problem solving skills necessary for developing effective and efficient independent clinicians. Lectures, laboratory activities, numerous case presentations and problem-based learning will be used in this block. Successful mastery of the material presented in the block will be measured through performance on written and practical examinations.

### DPTE 515 (2SHC): Professional Issues 2

The second Professional Issues block will prepare the student to communicate and appropriately interact with other health care providers, third party payers, patients, clients, and their families. Educational experiences will include panel discussions with professionals in rural, community, teaching, and research settings. A visit to the APTA headquarters is scheduled to demonstrate the role of the national organization in physical therapy legislation and practice. Extensive exercises in documentation and ethics will provide the student with a foundation to communicate clinical decisions and conduct themselves professionally to other health care professionals, patients, clients, and their caregivers

### DPTE 516 (6SHC): Medical Issues 1

This block will provide the student with knowledge of common medical and surgical conditions presenting throughout the lifespan. The hospital clinical practice setting will serve as the introductory benchmark for instruction and will highlight, compare and contrast the variety of settings reflective of patient acuity – emergency room, intensive care unit, transitional care unit and general medical/surgical units. Instruction will then be elaborated beyond the hospital setting to foster the critical thinking and clinical problem solving skills necessary for effective and efficient functioning in the role of primary clinical care provider in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Lectures, laboratory exercises, clinical visits and independent learning modules will assist students in demonstrating the clinical relevance of information obtained via analysis of laboratory and medical/surgical data, patient co-morbidities/risk factors, resource availability and information gained through interdisciplinary professional interactions. The block outcome will be the demonstration of competency and proficiency in prioritizing, executing and modifying safe and evidence-supported examinations and interventions.

Year 2

### DPTE 521 (6SHC): Medical Issues 2

This block will provide the student with an integrated framework of the interplay of vascular function/integrity upon integumentary hygiene and the maintenance of a viable limb. Through directed instruction, students will learn the varied techniques of vascular and integumentary examination to discern pathologic etiologies to enable directed and efficacious therapeutic interventions. Clinical wound management practices will be outlined for multiple types of open wounds, burns and common dermatologic disorders. A significant portion of this block will also be dedicated to the comprehensive understanding of the etiology and management of congenital, traumatic and acquired pathological amputations. Lectures, laboratory exercises, clinical visits and independent learning modules will assist students in demonstrating appropriate decision making and the clinical relevance of presented information. This block will encompass age-appropriate and setting-specific principles of prevention, examination, thoughtful analysis and outcome-based interventions. Appropriate documentation strategies will also be highlighted, discussed and practiced.

#### DPTE 522 (7SHC): Musculoskeletal 1

The material presented in Musculoskeletal Block 1 will address orthopedic injuries and diseases of the upper and lower extremities. Learning experiences will include lectures, laboratory sessions, real and simulated patient cases, in addition to small group discussions that focus on clinically relevant examination and management techniques of persons throughout the lifespan. Upon completing this block, the student should be able to critically examine, communicate, and effectively document the information gathered during the initial examination, as well as, appropriately manage persons with orthopedic injuries and diseases. Weekly laboratory and seminar sessions will assist the student to understand the evidence supporting the concepts presented during the block and integrate these concepts into independent practice.

#### DPTE 523 (1SHC): Part-time affiliation 1

Part-time affiliations associated with Neuromuscular I and Musculoskeletal I blocks will introduce students to the clinical environment in order to practice their clinical skills under direct supervision of a clinical instructor. The students will be afforded the opportunity to apply didactic knowledge, develop professional behaviors, and practice hand-on skills.

#### DPTE 524 (7SHC): Neuromuscular 1

This block will cover advanced study of neurological disorders of the central, sympathetic, and peripheral nervous systems across the lifespan. The emphasis will be on problem-solving and integrating the examination skills and intervention skills covered in previous courses to help students further develop their skills in establishing and executing a comprehensive plan of care for the neurological population. Students will be introduced to the identification and critique of evidenced to support clinical practice and the begin training in decision making to develop the skills necessary for independence practice for neurologic patient populations.

#### DPTE 525 (7SHC): Musculoskeletal 2

The material presented in Musculoskeletal Block 2 will address orthopedic injuries and diseases affecting the spine, sacroiliac joints and hip. Learning experiences will be based on lectures, laboratory sessions, real and simulated patient cases, as well as from small group discussions that focus on clinically relevant examination and management of persons throughout the lifespan. Upon completing this block the student should be able to critically examine, communicate, and document the information

gathered during the initial examination and appropriately manage persons with orthopedic injuries and diseases. The design of the block incorporates suggestions from the Guide to Physical Therapist Practice. Weekly laboratory and seminar sessions will assist the student to understand the evidence supporting the concepts presented during the block and to integrate these concepts into independent practice.

#### DPTE 526 (1SHC): Part-time affiliation 2

Part-time affiliations associated with Neuromuscular II and Musculoskeletal II blocks will place students in the clinical environment in order to practice their clinical skills under direct supervision of a clinical instructor. The students will be afforded the opportunity to apply didactic knowledge, develop professional behaviors, and practice hand-on skills.

#### DPTE 527 (7SHC): Neuromuscular 2

This block will continue the advanced study of neurological disorders of the central, sympathetic and peripheral nervous system across the lifespan. The emphasis will be on problem-solving and integrating the examination and intervention skills covered in previous blocks to facilitate the development of competency in establishing and executing a comprehensive plan of care for the neurologic population. Concepts presented in Neuromuscular Block I will be built upon, especially the identification and critique of evidence to support practice and clinical decision making necessary to function as an independent practitioner. Students will have the opportunity to document and communicate their findings appropriately. Small group seminars will further skills in critique of evidence to support clinical practice. Students will receive additional training in decision making to develop the skills necessary for an independent practitioner.

#### DPTE 528 (4SHC): Professional Issues 3

Professional Issues Block 3 will focus on how to manage, market, and act as a supervisor in a physical therapy practice. By the end of this block students should be able to understand topics including billing and reimbursement, applying and interviewing for a job, staff development, productivity, quality improvement, legal issues of physical therapy practice, and practice and program marketing. In addition, students should be able to apply these principles to their clinical decision making and professional interactions with other health care providers, third party payers, patients, clients, and their caregivers. Learning experiences will include guest lectures, mock interviews, billing cases, role playing, and small group discussions. A block project will be assigned to simulate a marketing plan for a community based wellness program. This project will integrate concepts of wellness, communication, and use of web based technology addressed in previous blocks.

#### DPTE 530 (1SHC): Clinical Qualifying Measures

Clinical Qualifying Measures (CQM) is a multifaceted process wherein student professional growth, development and skill is assessed in a triangulated fashion. Students, peers, faculty and simulated patients provide data that is reviewed in composite to ascertain student readiness to proceed to the full-time clinical internship phase of the curriculum. CQM components include, but are not limited to: basic skills checks, portfolio reviews, simulated patient encounters and clinical documentation. Prior to the simulated patient encounter, students engage in active learning techniques to help synthesize and integrate information gained throughout the didactic phase of the curriculum. Emphasis is on clinical problem-solving, prioritization and use of evidence-based strategies.

### Year 3

#### DPTE 532 (1 or 4 SHC): Independent Study

This course provides the opportunity for students to become involved with subjects, topics, and projects that are relevant to Physical Therapy but are not included in the rest of the curriculum. Advanced applications will also be included on an individual basis.

#### DPTE 541 (7.5SHC): Internship 1

Students are provided the opportunity to apply their didactic knowledge, develop professional behaviors, and practice Patient/Client Management in the clinic setting. Formal written performance evaluations are provided by the Clinical Instructor at midterm and conclusion of the internship. Hours are determined by the clinic and many vary between 35-40 hrs. per week Sunday through Saturday.

#### DPTE 542 (7.5SHC): Internship2

Students are provided the opportunity to apply their didactic knowledge, develop professional behaviors, and practice Patient/Client Management in the clinic setting. Formal written performance evaluations are provided by the Clinical Instructor at midterm and conclusion of the internship. Hours are determined by the clinic and many vary between 35-40 hrs per week Sunday through Saturday.

#### DPTE 543 (7.5SHC): Internship 3

Students are provided the opportunity to apply their didactic knowledge, develop professional behaviors, and practice Patient/Client Management in the clinic setting. Formal written performance evaluations are provided by the Clinical Instructor at midterm and conclusion of the internship. Hours are determined by the clinic and many vary between 35-40 hrs per week Sunday through Saturday.

#### DPTE 544 (7.5SHC): Internship 4

Students are provided the opportunity to apply their didactic knowledge, develop professional behaviors, and practice Patient/Client Management in the clinic setting. Formal written performance evaluations are provided by the Clinical Instructor at midterm and conclusion of the internship. Hours are determined by the clinic and many vary between 35-40 hrs per week Sunday through Saturday.