

HERZING

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT (ASPTA)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant Program prepares students to take the National Physical Therapist Assistant Examination (NPTAE) and begin a professional allied health career as licensed physical therapist assistants. Students are provided a foundation of general education, including courses in the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities, as well as the technical education for the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to work in a healthcare environment. Theoretical instruction is complemented with clinical experience in a variety of healthcare settings in order to provide a broad, holistic, and reality-based understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a professional physical therapist assistant. Students will participate in planned clinical and laboratory experiences that will complement classroom learning and will stress health promotion as well as rehabilitation of the disease process.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of their program, the student should be able to:

1. Perform as an entry-level physical therapist assistant who demonstrates technical competence, makes sound clinical decisions, and provides safe and effective physical therapy.
2. Take and pass their licensing exams.
3. Demonstrate the ability to follow a plan of care developed by a physical therapist while assessing a patient's response to the treatment and contributing to the clinical decision-making process.
4. Be competent in the technical skills per the PTA student skills check-offs.
5. Establish relationships with different patients and team members utilizing effective communications as well as awareness of culturally or socioeconomically diverse backgrounds.
6. Demonstrate a commitment to professional growth by participating in activities that encourage lifelong learning.
7. Think critically, both conceptually and by using mathematical analysis; write and speak effectively; use basic computer applications; and understand human behavior in the context of the greater society.
8. Use textbooks and scientific resources such as books, online databases, and journals to expand understanding of physical therapy practice and interventions.

POTENTIAL JOB POSITION TITLES

The most common potential entry-level job position title is physical therapist assistant.

PROGRAM CONTENT

A minimum of 72.00 semester credit hours is required for graduation.

GENERAL EDUCATION PREREQUISITES

The following general education prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of C+ (76%) or better for a student to be continued in the PTA program:

- ◆ Anatomy and Physiology I and Anatomy and Physiology I Lab
- ◆ Anatomy and Physiology II and Anatomy and Physiology II Lab

All other general education courses must be passed with a grade of D (60%) or better to be continued in the Physical Therapist Assistant program.

A student who is dropped from the PTA program for failing to achieve the minimum grade specified in the general education courses, but who otherwise meets the academic standards of the University, may transfer to another Herzing degree program and/or may reapply to this program in a future cycle.

REQUIRED COURSES

All courses, 45.00 semester credit hours, are required.

| Course Number | Course Name | Prerequisite | Credit Hours |
|---------------|---|---|--------------|
| MO 144 | Medical Terminology | None | 1.00 |
| PT 101 | Introduction to Physical Therapy | SC 245 and SC 245L; Corequisites PT 115 and PT 120 | 3.00 |
| PT 110 | Functional Kinesiology | PT 101, PT 115 and PT 120; Corequisite PT 140 | 4.00 |
| PT 115 | Pathophysiology for Physical Therapist Assistants | SC 245 and SC 245L; Corequisites PT 101 and PT 120 | 2.00 |
| PT 120 | Fundamentals of Physical Therapist Assistant Practice | SC 245 and SC 245L; Corequisites PT 101 and PT 115 | 2.00 |
| PT 130 | Basic Patient Care | PT 110 and PT 140, Corequisite PT 151 | 3.00 |
| PT 140 | Therapeutic Modalities | PT 101, PT 115 and PT 120, Corequisite PT 110 | 3.00 |
| PT 151 | Therapeutic Exercise | PT 110 and PT 140, Corequisite PT 130 | 3.00 |
| PT 210 | Clinical Practicum Preparation | PT 220 and PT 250; Corequisites PT 240 and PT 260 | 1.00 |
| PT 220 | Orthopedic Patient Care | PT 130 and PT 151; Corequisite PT 250 | 3.00 |
| PT 240 | Patient Care for Special Populations | PT 220 and PT 250; Corequisites PT 210 and PT 260 | 3.00 |
| PT 250 | Neurological Patient Care | PT 130 and PT 151; Corequisite PT 220 | 3.00 |
| PT 260 | Professional Issues | PT 220 and PT 250; Corequisites PT 210 and PT 240 | 2.00 |
| PT 271 | Clinical Practicum I | PT 210, PT 240 and PT 260 | 6.00 |
| PT 281 | Clinical Practicum II | PT 271 | 6.00 |

REQUIRED COURSES IN GENERAL EDUCATION

Students enrolled in this associate program must complete a minimum of 25.00 semester credit hours in general education distributed among the following disciplines. Refer to the General Education section of the catalog for Herzing University courses that would satisfy these requirements. *

8.00 Semester Credit Hours in Anatomy and Physiology With Lab

1.00 Semester Credit Hours in Information Literacy

3.00 Semester Credit Hours in English Composition

3.00 Semester Credit Hours in Speech

4.00 Semester Credit Hours in Computer Applications

3.00 Semester Credit Hours in Social or Behavioral Science

3.00 Semester Credit Hours in Humanities With a Critical Thinking Focus **

* Transfer students may transfer courses that are within 1.00 semester credit hour of the courses listed above to meet these discipline requirements. Any resulting deficiency in the total of 25.00 semester credit hours required in general education may be made up with general education electives from any of the listed disciplines.

** A course with a critical thinking focus would be a course that addresses the theories and application of critical analysis with an emphasis on developing sequential reasoning skills. Examples may be courses in critical thinking, philosophy, logic, or science.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES

2.00 semester credit hours are required.

| Course Number | Course Name | Prerequisite | Credit Hours |
|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| PD 121 | Professional Development I | None | 1.00 |
| PD 202 | Professional Development II | None | 1.00 |

| Distribution of Clock Hours by Course | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Course or Category | Lecture | Lab | Clinical | Total Clock Hours | Credits |
| MO 144 | 15.00 | | | 15.00 | 1.00 |
| PT 101 | 45.00 | | | 45.00 | 3.00 |
| PT 110 | 30.00 | 60.00 | | 90.00 | 4.00 |
| PT 115 | 30.00 | | | 30.00 | 2.00 |
| PT 120 | 30.00 | | | 30.00 | 2.00 |
| PT 130 | 30.00 | 30.00 | | 60.00 | 3.00 |
| PT 140 | 30.00 | 30.00 | | 60.00 | 3.00 |
| PT 151 | 30.00 | 30.00 | | 60.00 | 3.00 |
| PT 210 | 15.00 | | | 15.00 | 1.00 |
| PT 220 | 30.00 | 30.00 | | 60.00 | 3.00 |
| PT 240 | 30.00 | 30.00 | | 60.00 | 3.00 |
| PT 250 | 30.00 | 30.00 | | 60.00 | 3.00 |
| PT 260 | 30.00 | | | 30.00 | 2.00 |
| PT 271 | | | 270.00 | 270.00 | 6.00 |
| PT 281 | | | 270.00 | 270.00 | 6.00 |
| Anatomy and Physiology With Lab | 90.00 | 60.00 | | 150.00 | 8.00 |
| Information Literacy | 15.00 | | | 15.00 | 1.00 |
| English Composition or Literature | 45.00 | | | 45.00 | 3.00 |
| Speech | 45.00 | | | 45.00 | 3.00 |
| Computer Applications | 60.00 | | | 60.00 | 4.00 |
| Social or Behavioral Science | 45.00 | | | 45.00 | 3.00 |
| Humanities With a Critical Thinking Focus | 45.00 | | | 45.00 | 3.00 |
| Personal/Professional Development | 30.00 | | | 30.00 | 2.00 |
| Totals | 750.00 | 300.00 | 540.00 | 1,590.00 | 72.00 |

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at <http://www.herzing.edu/academics/physical-therapist-assistant>