

QU DPT Program

QU PT Program outcomes:

1. Deliver excellent patient care upholding the highest standards of clinical excellence.
2. Interact with patients and families as individuals with unique needs and compassion for their circumstances.
3. Engage in critical inquiry, advance, and update clinical knowledge.
4. Practice consistent with the APTA Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.
5. Advocate for equitable access to health care that ensures access to all.
6. Embody the Franciscan tradition values of compassion, humility, and servant leadership in interactions with patients, colleagues, and communities.

Overall 108 credits in the program

Course Catalog Descriptions 2025

Semester 1 (18 overall credits and 4 total lab credits)

DPT 700 Anatomy 1: Spine, Limbs, Thorax

This course guides learners in an in-depth study and analysis of the regional and systemic organization of the body with a focus on the spine, extremities, and thorax. Emphasis is placed on the relationship of basic anatomical structures as the foundation for human movement, function, and performance. Included is an overview of the autonomic nervous system and embryologic basis of the neuromusculoskeletal system. Diagnostic imaging and palpation skills are incorporated throughout. **Prerequisites:** admission to the DPT program

DPT 705 PT Foundations

This course presents learners with both theory and application of basic patient management typical of physical therapy practice. Learners are introduced to the role of the physical therapist in primary care. Learners will perform basic patient examination and evaluation of vital signs, clinical measures, and mobility. Safe patient handling including universal precautions and infection control, first aid and emergency responsiveness are included. Personal safety, e.g., application of proper body mechanics during patient transfers and mobility activities, are emphasized. Effective patient communication across levels of health literacy is practiced throughout the course. **Prerequisites:** Admission to the DPT program

DPT 710 Kinesiology and Biomechanics

The kinesiology and biomechanics course encompasses the advanced study of human movement. Learners apply biomechanical analyses associated with normal movement as a basis for contrasting and interpreting altered mechanics that are resultant from injury, disease,

or dysfunction. Learners collaborate to propose intervention strategies via consultation with the current literature. **Prerequisites:** admission to the DPT program

DPT 715 Professional Expectations

This course introduces learners to the foundations of documentation, organizational structure, therapy's role within the current healthcare system, and priorities of the American Physical Therapy Association. Learners will explore what it means to be a professional and member within a professional organization. Models of physical therapy practice, corporate communication and compliance are also included. **Prerequisites:** admission to the DPT program

DPT 720 Human Pathophysiology

Learners in this course will explore an advanced study of the pathophysiology underlying all body systems. This course includes clinical presentations of congenital, acquired and age-associated pathology. This course provides the foundation for understanding human pathology that will inform clinical practice. **Prerequisites:** admission to the DPT program

Semester 2 (19 overall credits and 4 lab credits)

DPT 725 Upper Quadrant Musculoskeletal

In this course, learners acquire in-depth clinical examination, evaluation, differential diagnosis and management skills for managing musculoskeletal conditions of the cervical spine and upper quarter. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 1 DPT courses.

DPT 730 Evidence-Based Practice

In this course, learners learn to read and appraise current literature, in descending hierarchical order from systematic reviews to case reports. Learner's debate and discuss research findings in search of best practice and the appropriate application given patient context. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 1 DPT courses.

DPT 735 Therapeutic interventions

In this course, learners are presented with contemporary theory related to pain and pain management, inclusive of the biopsychosocial model. In addition, learners are introduced to the integument - examination, evaluation, and management of as a potential source for movement system dysfunction. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 1 DPT courses.

DPT 740 Nutrition and Pharmacology

In this course, learners examine fundamental nutritional concepts throughout the lifespan, along with dietary needs in the presence of disease or injury. There will be an advanced

discussion of special populations and their dietary needs. Learners are introduced to pharmacologic agents as interventions to promote, maintain, or restore health across the lifespan. This introduction includes concepts such as pharmacotherapeutics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacokinetics. Pharmacologic interactions with exercise and polypharmacy are also examined. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 1 DPT courses.

DPT 745 – Patient-Centered Care

This course explores the complexity of individual patient needs and examines both internal and external factors that influence adherence to therapeutic interventions and the achievement of optimal outcomes. Emphasis is placed on the role of interprofessional collaboration as a critical component of patient-centered care. Students will also analyze the impact of social determinants of health on patient outcomes and learn strategies to promote equitable care across diverse individuals and populations. **Prerequisite:** Successful completion of all Semester 1 DPT coursework.

Semester 3 (19 overall credits and 5 lab credits)

DPT 750 Lower Quarter Musculoskeletal

In this course, learners acquire in-depth clinical examination, evaluation, differential diagnosis and management skills for managing musculoskeletal conditions of the lumbosacral spine and lower quarter. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 2 DPT courses.

DPT 755 Neuroanatomy and Neurosciences

In this course, learners analyze the organization, development, structure, and function of the human nervous system, which is then applied to health, disease, and dysfunction.

Prerequisites: successful completion of semester 2 DPT courses.

DPT 760 Diagnostic Imaging

Course Description: In this course learners are presented with diagnostic tools used in physical therapy practice. Anatomic relationships and a focus on evaluating both disease and injury will be explored. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 2 DPT courses.

DPT 765 Cardiopulmonary PT Practice

Students will learn to evaluate and treat individuals with cardiovascular and pulmonary conditions, with a focus on optimizing patient outcomes through therapeutic interventions. Topics include pulmonary rehabilitation, cardiovascular exercise prescription, respiratory mechanics, and post-operative care. Emphasis is placed on evidence-based practice, clinical reasoning, and integrating cardiopulmonary care into comprehensive rehabilitation to include integumentary management. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 2 DPT courses.

DPT 770 Aging and Adulthood

In this course, learners analyze physical, physiologic, developmental, emotional and psychosocial dimensions associated with aging. Students explore community resources and mechanisms for referring older adults and their families into the social services network. Falls, fall risk, age bias, abuse, including financial abuse, death and dying are included among the topics in this course. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 2 DPT courses.

DPT 775 Experiential Learning: Basic Skills

This is a part time clinical experience which will reinforce concepts and skills completed in semesters 1 and 2 as well skills that are developing within semester 3. Students will be placed in facilities within their own communities to expose them to early clinical experiences.

Prerequisites: successful completion of semester 2 DPT courses.

Semester 4 (19 overall credits and 7 lab credits)

DPT 800 Neurologic Rehabilitation I

In this course, learners apply current theory and evidence to clinical examination, evaluation and management of neurologic and movement disorders, conditions, and pathologies.

Prerequisites: successful completion of semester 3 DPT courses.

DPT 805 Anatomy 2: Head, Neck, Abdomen, Pelvis

This course guides learners in an in-depth study and analysis of the regional and systemic organization of the body with focus on the head, neck, abdomen and pelvis. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 3 DPT courses.

DPT 810 Pediatric Physical Therapy

In this course learners analyze stages of development beginning with conception, through birth and up to the age of majority, including physical, physiologic, emotional, and psychosocial progressions. Movement theories and team and family management are included in this course. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 3 DPT courses

DPT 815 Technologies to Manage Movement

In this course, learners explore contemporary technology in analysis and design of devices that improve human movement and movement efficiency. Prosthetics, orthotics and emerging technologies will be explored. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 3 DPT courses

Semester 5 (13 overall and 3 lab credits)

DPT 820 Neurologic Rehabilitation II

This course is a continuation of Neurologic Rehabilitation I. Students will use patient-centered; evidence-based clinical reasoning in more complex neurological patients throughout the lifespan. The course will include: neurological assessment for the complex neurological population, problem analysis, clinical reasoning, treatment planning and progression within this patient population. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 4 DPT courses

DPT 825 Journal Club

The focus of the course is to allow students to become content experts in an area of study by reading, analyzing, and presenting current literature. Research dissemination and key aspects of teaching and learning will be covered. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 3 DPT courses.

DPT 830 Clinical Internship I

Clinical Internship I is designed to provide the student with a progressive full-time opportunity to practice the examination and intervention techniques learned in preceding courses with patients in a clinical setting. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 4 DPT courses.

Semester 6 (11 credits overall, 0 lab credits)

DPT 835 Differential Diagnosis in PT

This course prepares students to apply systematic clinical reasoning models to patient examination and evaluation in order to establish a diagnosis and determine an appropriate plan of care. Emphasis is placed on identifying conditions outside the scope of physical therapy practice, ruling out red flags, and making appropriate referrals to other healthcare providers. **Prerequisites:** successful completion of semester 3 DPT courses

DPT 840 Leadership & Business Management

This course introduces students to foundational concepts in leadership and business operations relevant to healthcare. Topics include business planning, healthcare delivery models, compliance strategies, and advocacy at the patient, professional, and policy levels. Leadership theory and professional growth opportunities are explored.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of all Semester 5 DPT courses.

DPT 845 Professional Responsibilities

Students explore the ethical, legal, and professional responsibilities of physical therapists, with an emphasis on the APTA Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice. Topics include patient rights, informed consent, defensible documentation, and ethical billing practices using ICD-10 and CPT coding. Case-based learning facilitates application of concepts to clinical practice.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of all Semester 5 DPT courses.

DPT 850 Clinical Internship II

This full-time clinical education experience allows students to apply skills developed in prior coursework to patient care in real-world clinical settings. Students will manage a progressive caseload under supervision, demonstrating growing competence in evaluation, treatment planning, and professional behavior.

Required Electives

Students are required to complete two credits from the following list of options. The student may choose to complete either two separate one credit electives, or one of the electives worth two credits (Independent Research or Manual Therapy) (total credits =2)

DPT 855. Independent Research

This elective offers students the opportunity to conduct independent research under the guidance of faculty mentors. Students will engage in designing, conducting, and presenting research on a topic of faculty directed interest. The course emphasizes the development of research skills, critical thinking, and the application of evidence-based practice to address basic science or clinical questions.

DPT 860. Manual Therapy Interventions

Students refine and expand manual therapy skills for the spine and extremities, grounded in anatomical and biomechanical principles. Techniques build upon foundational competencies and incorporate evidence-based approaches to assessment and treatment.

DPT 865. Advanced Topics in Pelvic Health

This course addresses evaluation and treatment strategies for pelvic floor dysfunction, pelvic pain, and urinary incontinence. Content includes considerations following gender reassignment surgery and management of gender-specific health concerns within the scope of physical therapy.

DPT 870. Advanced Topics in Orthopedics

This course covers advanced concepts in orthopedic physical therapy, focusing on the evaluation, diagnosis, and management of complex musculoskeletal conditions. Students will refine their skills in differential diagnosis, and evidence-based interventions for orthopedic pathologies. Emphasis will be placed on evidence-based practice and innovations in orthopedic care.

DPT 875. Advanced Topics in Pediatrics

This course covers advanced concepts in pediatric physical therapy, focusing on the assessment and treatment of children with developmental, neurological, and musculoskeletal conditions. Students will explore specialized interventions, family-centered care models, and strategies for supporting children's growth and development across different stages. The course integrates evidence-based practice for pediatric pathology.

DPT 880. Advanced Topics in Neurology

This course provides an in-depth exploration of advanced topics in neurologic rehabilitation, emphasizing management of complex neurological conditions. Students will learn evidence-based strategies for improving function and quality of life in patients with neurological impairments.

DPT 885. Gender health issues

This course examines the role of gender in physical therapy, with an emphasis on understanding how gender identity, expression, and cultural norms influence patient care. Students will explore gender-specific health issues, disparities in healthcare access, and the impact of gender on patient outcomes. The course will provide an in-depth understanding of how physical therapists can deliver inclusive and affirming care to all patients, with particular focus on transgender and gender non-conforming individuals.

Semester 7 (9 overall credits, 0 lab credits)**DPT 890 Complex patients**

This capstone case driven course challenges students to integrate knowledge from across the curriculum to address complex clinical cases. Students engage in collaborative clinical reasoning, applying evidence-based strategies and interprofessional principles to realistic patient scenarios.

DPT 895 Clinical Internship III

The final full-time clinical internship offers students the opportunity to achieve entry-level competence through independent patient care. Students apply skills across the continuum of care, demonstrating proficiency in clinical reasoning, intervention, documentation, and professional behavior.

