

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY



Doctor of Physical Therapy DPT

Program Director: Marilyn Moffat, PT, DPT, PhD, FAPTA, CSCS

Our innovative entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program encompasses the study of normal and abnormal structure and function, and the theory and practice of physical therapy. Students obtain clinical experience in a variety of hospitals, rehabilitation centers, schools for children with physically disabling conditions, nursing homes, private practices, and public health agencies. Upon completing the program, students are: awarded a professional doctoral degree, eligible to sit for licensure, and prepared to practice in a clinical setting. Our DPT program aims to develop physical therapists who are critical thinkers, generalists, independent practitioners, and lifelong learners.

Why study physical therapy?

As a physical therapist, you will be an expert in the treatment and examination of musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, cardiovascular, and genito-urinary problems that can affect a person's ability to function without hindrance. You will help rehabilitate people recovering from cardiac problems, stroke, falls, sports-related injuries, and other diseases and disabilities. You will also prevent injuries and disabilities as well as work to maintain and promote overall fitness, health, and quality of life.

Why pursue a DPT degree at NYU Steinhardt?

- Learn from top faculty and visionary leaders in the profession while enjoying a more personalized learning environment due to small class size
 - Study at one of the most prestigious physical therapy programs in the nation. We have been at the forefront of physical therapy education since 1927
 - Choose from over 350 clinical affiliation sites across the country and play an active role in selecting your sites
 - Observe firsthand exactly what it takes to become a highly skilled professional practitioner as part of our pioneering Master Clinician Program
 - Graduate not only with your DPT degree, but with several certifications including basic life support, advanced cardiac life support, first aid and emergency preparedness, Pilates beginner mat, and the National Strength and Conditioning Association's Specialist Certification
 - Experience a variety of teaching methods and a seamless transition between classroom and laboratory instruction
 - Draw upon the resources of the largest private University in the United States with its rich academic environment, diverse cultural community, and connection to health facilities representing all aspects of physical therapy service delivery
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Required Courses

The DPT curriculum moves through the age span within the four major systems and from foundational to science. The four system areas are: cardiovascular/ pulmonary; musculoskeletal; neuromuscular; and other (genito-urinary, integumentary, endocrine, immune, and gastrointestinal). The following sequence of courses exists within each system area:

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- Clinical Sciences / Pathology / Imaging / Pharmacology
- Physical Therapy Examination
- Physical Therapy Interventions, including Prevention Programs and Wellness Programs

Intervention courses are based upon and integrate materials previously covered in:

- Principles of Exercise
- Fitness Theory and Practice
- Manual Techniques
- Prescription, Application, Fabrication of Assistive, Adaptive, Orthotic, Protective, Supportive, and Prosthetic Devices and Equipment
- Electrotherapeutic Modalities
- Physical Agents and Mechanical Modalities

Other required courses include:

- Histology/General Pathology
- CPR/First Aid/Advanced Emergency Techniques
- Human Gross Anatomy
- Professional Behavior
- The Physical Therapist as an Educator/Communicator
- Lifespan Development
- Exercise Physiology
- Kinesiology/Biomechanics/Ergonomics
- The Physical Therapist as an Administrator, Delegator, Manager, Consultant
- Business Practices, Reimbursement, Marketing, Technology, and Management of Care Delivery Systems
- Critical Inquiry and Clinical Decision Making I, II, and III
- Clinical Observation I, II, III, and IV
- Clinical Affiliation I, II, and III

Degree Requirements

Completion of a 3-year, full-time, 133-credit program including three summers of supervised clinical practice

What kinds of students apply to the DPT program?

The DPT program is open to students holding a baccalaureate degree with the appropriate prerequisites. Our students come from varied academic, cultural, and experience backgrounds, which makes our student body one of the most unique in the country. Students have baccalaureate degrees that range from a to z (from anthropology, business, dance, exercise science, psychology, to zoology).

Are there any special guidelines for foreign applicants?

All records from foreign colleges must be submitted for credentials evaluation in accordance with University policy. Official translations of all foreign documents in languages other than English are required. All transcripts, translations, and evaluations must be submitted as original documents; photocopies are not acceptable. Applicants whose first language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

How to Apply

NYU participates in an **APTA-sponsored central application program**. To download the application for the NYU DPT program, please visit www.ptcas.org.

In addition to the APTA-sponsored central application, applicants must also complete the NYU Steinhardt Supplemental Application which is available as of September 10. To complete this application, please visit:

www.steinhardt.nyu.edu/application

The application deadline is December 1 for summer admission.

Further Information

Visit www.steinhardt.nyu.edu/pt, send an email to physical.therapy@nyu.edu, or call 212 998 9400.

Requirements for Admission

- A baccalaureate degree with a minimum 3.00 cumulative grade point average (GPA) on a scale of 4.00
- A minimum combined score of 1000 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Competency in written and spoken English
- A minimum of 1 day of observation in each of 3 different physical therapy practice environments (e.g. hospital, nursing home, rehabilitation agency, etc.) with documentation from each facility
- Evidence of community service and leadership roles
- Two essays: one in partial fulfillment of the PTCAS common application requirements (visit www.ptcas.org to learn more) and a supplemental 500-word essay on your personal history for NYU
- 2 letters of recommendation, 1 of which must be from a physical therapist

Prerequisites

- A minimum GPA of 3.00 in 7 natural science courses.
- Biology I (or Zoology)
- Biology II
- Chemistry I (General or Inorganic)
- Chemistry II (Organic Chemistry or Biochemistry recommended)
- Physics I (General - Trigonometry or Calculus based)
- Physics II (General - electricity and magnetism)
- Physiology (Cell, Mammalian or Human). [Note: If Physiology is not available, you must take Anatomy/Physiology I & II for a total of 8 credits.]

All courses must be 4 credits and taught in science departments, and all, except physiology, must have a laboratory component. Grades must be available for a minimum of 5 of the 7 science pre-requisites courses before the December 1 application deadline.

- Three social science courses, one of which must be psychology
- One course (or equivalent) each in physical activity/movement/dance/ sports, speech communication, and statistics



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