

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2024-2025

Introduction

The Student Handbook outlines the mission, goals and outcomes, and philosophy of the School of Physical Therapy at George Fox University (GFU). It also contains department policies and procedures that affect students enrolled in the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. The policies are intended (1) to protect and make explicit student rights and responsibilities, and (2) to ensure that DPT program operation is consistent with its obligations as a professional physical therapist education program.

In addition, the program provides a Clinical Education Handbook designed for use by students as well as clinical instructors.

Students are responsible to be familiar with the contents of both handbooks and to seek verification of any questions regarding the contents.

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Mission, Philosophy Goals and Educational Outcomes

University Mission

[George Fox University](#), a Christ-centered community, prepares students spiritually, academically, and professionally to think with clarity, act with integrity, and serve with passion.

Wellness Enterprise Mission

Members of the Wellness Enterprise are committed to providing high quality educational programs that

Guide to Physical Therapist Practice
Code of Ethics and the Guide for Professional Conduct
Normative Model for Physical Therapist Professional Education
Statement on Professionalism in Physical Therapy: Core Values
The APTA web Clinical Performance Instrument
The Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education's Evaluative Criteria for Educational Programs for Preparation of Physical Therapists

Program Goals

1. The program will prepare physical therapists who are capable of practicing in direct access clinical environments in a manner that is ethical, safe, and demonstrates effective use of evidence and resources.
2. The program will deliver a curriculum emphasizing the affective, relational, and moral dimensions and responsibilities of physical therapy care delivery.
3. The program will graduate physical therapists prepared to apply critical thinking and self-reflection to provide creative and innovative solutions to human movement challenges.
4. The program will assume a leadership role in education, research, and innovation directed at enhancing the quality and value of physical therapy.
5. The program will graduate physical therapists prepared to deliver service as a member of the interprofessional healthcare team.

George Fox University College of Physical Therapy is committed to offering a quality physical therapist education program that operates within compliance of the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association.

The following practice expectations are set forth in the APTA's Standards & Required Elements:

Professional Ethics, Values and Responsibilities

1. Adhere to legal practice standards, including all federal, state, and institutional regulations related to patient/client care and fiscal management.
2. Report to appropriate authorities suspected cases of abuse and vulnerable populations. ~~5-37-11~~

10. Apply current knowledge, theory, and professional judgment while considering the patient/client perspective, the environment, and available resources.
11. Identify, evaluate and integrate the best evidence for practice with clinical judgment and patient/client values, needs, and preferences to determine the best care for a patient/client.
12. Effectively educate others using teaching methods that are commensurate with the needs of the learner, including participation in the clinical education of students.
13. Participate in professional and community organizations that provide opportunities for volunteerism, advocacy and leadership.
14. Advocate for the profession and the healthcare needs of society through legislative and political processes.
15. Identify career development and lifelong learning opportunities, including the role of the physical therapist in the clinical education of physical therapist students.

Patient/Client Management

Screening

16. Determine when patients/clients need further examination or consultation by a physical therapist or referral to another health care professional.

Examination, Evaluation and Diagnosis

17. Obtain a history and relevant information from the patient/client and from other sources as needed.
18. Perform systems review.
19. Select, and competently administer tests and measures appropriate to the patient's age, diagnosis and health status including, but not limited to, those that assess:
 - a. Aerobic Capacity/Endurance
 - b. Anthropometric Characteristics
 - c. Assistive Technology
 - d. Balance
 - e. Circulation (Arterial, Venous, Lymphatic)
 - f. Self-Care and Civic, Community, Domestic, Education, Social and Work Life
 - g. Cranial and Peripheral Nerve Integrity
 - h. Environmental Factors
 - i. Gait
 - j. Integumentary Integrity
 - k. Joint Integrity and Mobility
 - l. Mental Functions
 - m. Mobility (including Locomotion)
 - n. Motor Function
 - o. Muscle Performance (including Strength, Power, Endurance, and Length)
 - p.

20. Evaluate data from the examination (history, health record, systems review, and tests and measures) to make clinical judgments.
21. Use the International Classification of Function (ICF) to describe a patient's/client's impairments, activity and participation limitations.
22. Determine a diagnosis that guides future patient/client management.

Prognosis and Plan of Care

23. Determine patient/client goals and expected outcomes within available resources (including applicable payment sources) and specify expected length of time to achieve the goals and outcomes.
24. Establish a safe and effective plan of care in collaboration with appropriate stakeholders, including patients/clients, family members, payors, other professionals and other appropriate individuals.
25. Determine those components of the plan of care that may, or may not, be directed to the physical therapist assistant (PTA) based on (a) the needs of the patient/client, (b) the role, education, and training of the PTA, (c) competence of the individual PTA, (d) jurisdictional law, (e) practice guidelines policies, and (f) facility policies.
26. Create a discontinuation of episode of care plan that optimizes success for the patient in moving along the continuum of care.

Intervention

27. Competently perform physical therapy interventions to achieve patient/client goals and outcomes. Interventions include:
 - a. Airway Clearance Techniques
 - b. Assistive Technology: Prescription, Application, and, as appropriate, Fabrication or Modification
 - c. Biophysical Agents
 - d. Functional Training in Self-Care and in Domestic, Education, Work, Community, Social, and Civic Life
 - e. Integumentary Repair and Protec Tc 0 Tw 1.268 e(-)T0 Tc 0 Tw 5.202 1e afTT1 1 Tf0 Tc 0 Tw 0.678 0 557(

Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual's work, academic, or student life environment. Students and employees are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that shows respect to all and ensures no discrimination or harassment occurs.

The Program recognizes the need for, and is committed to, the education of Physical Therapists representative of our diverse American population, to include people of any ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

Technical Standards, Essential Functions and Students with Disabilities

as required in the ADA, 28 CFR 119.4 (z) 13 (c) 403 (m) 47 (a) 402 (s) 2.35 (1) 4 (iv) 0.73 (f) 10.2 (n) 04.7 (w) 8.1 (c) 5.

Prior to the clinical placement, the SCCE signs the Field Experience Accessibility Plan. The SCCE may

suppress information are available through the

Compliance with Accreditation

George Fox University is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities which is recognized by both the Commission on Higher Education and the US Department of Education.

Effective May 28th, 2015 George Fox University has been granted full accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association (1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314; phone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org).

Process for filing a complaint can be found at the [CAPTE website](#).

Department of Accreditation, APTA
3030 Potomac Ave; Suite 100
Alexandria, Virginia 22305
Email: accreditation@apta.org
Phone: (703)-684-2782 or (703)-706-3245

DPT Curriculum

The DPT Program offers a 2.5-year curriculum.

Successful completion of all academic and clinical coursework in successive order is required for graduation. The focus of the coursework begins with foundational sciences in order to establish adequate groundwork in normal human structure and function as well as basic physical therapy modalities and practices. The student is introduced to differential diagnosis, clinical reasoning, and evidence-based practice across a lifespan and advances to a greater understanding of systems,

PDPT 520 Biomechanics and Kinesiology I (3)
PDPT 531 Neuroscience (4)
PDPT 550 Therapeutic Exercise I (2)
PDPT 570 Applied Physiology (3)

2) Spring Year 1 (20 credits)

PDPT 504 Principles of Motor Control (2)
PDPT 511 Human Anatomy II (3)
PDPT 521 Biomechanics and Kinesiology I (3)
PDPT 529 Evidence Based Practice and Clinical Decision Making (3)
PDPT 540 Therapeutic Modalities (2)
PDPT 551 Therapeutic Exercise II (2)
PDPT 573 Pathophysiology (3)
PDPT 619 Health and Wellness in Physical Therapy (2)

by the faculty, the grade will be replaced with an "F". Students cannot progress to the next sequenced course until the "I" is replaced with a passing grade. If circumstances arise such that the student is unable to complete the semester they must either apply for a leave of absence, withdraw, or be dismissed

Course grades of D and F are unacceptable and cannot be included as graduate credit and may result in immediate dismissal from the program. Students may appeal grades through the university's academic appeals process. A student will also be dismissed from the program for the following reasons:

1. Repeating more than one clinical rotation.
2. Fails to achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 by the end of the final semester.

Clinical Grading

The DCE will assign a grade of "pass, no pass or incomplete" to the clinical education internship based upon the completion surveys, final CPI and input from the SCCE/CI as appropriate. This grade will be determined in part using the following as a guideline for determining a passing grade:

4. The associate dean discusses the appeal with the faculty member and student.
A decision is rendered by the associate dean and communicated in writing from the dean to the faculty member and the student. A copy is kept in the Academic Affairs Office and sent, along with the original Academic Appeal Form, to the Registrar's Office to be kept with the student's official academic record.
5. The decision made by the associate dean may be appealed to the Academic Appeals Board.
If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the associate dean, a hearing by the Academic Appeals Board may be requested. To request a hearing, the student must submit a written appeal to the Academic Appeals Board within ten (10) working days after receipt of the written decision from the program dean.
6. The Academic Appeals Board decides whether or not to hear the appeal.
If the Board meets to consider the appeal, the decision of the Board is submitted in writing to the Provost, program dean, faculty member, and the student. A copy of the decision will also be forwarded to the Registrar's Office to be kept with the student's official academic record.

The lists below are examples. ***Many other behaviors that disrupt learning activities, vary from acceptable clinical standards or deviate from the “Professional Behaviors Matrix” document may also be classified as a major or minor offense requiring faculty action.***

- Major offense examples (not an exhaustive list):
 - o Abuse of power such as sexual harassment and/or physical violence
 - o Misrepresentation, including but not limited to lying, cheating, and/or fraud
 - o

Conversation: A discussion will be had between the student and the faculty most directly affected (often the course lead instructor), or another involved faculty (which can include the

Financial Aid

Information on financial aid can be found on the George Fox University website & the APTA website:

students who have also been trained in the use of the respective equipment. Likewise, students may only practice examination and intervention procedures that have been presented and practiced in a physical therapy class. Practice is only allowed with other physical therapy students who have also been trained in the use of the examination or intervention procedures. Students are not to provide injury treatment to themselves or other students in an unsupervised lab setting. Students engaging in unsafe or unprofessional behavior may lose their unsupervised access privileges to the laboratories. Students may also be held responsible for damage to equipment and supplies if the damage is related to inappropriate use. Maintenance and calibration of equipment is the responsibility of the College of Physical Therapy.

Should an injury occur during unsupervised lab times, the incident must be reported. If the incident is a medical emergency, call 911 for Newberg Fire, Police, or Ambulance.

Office Equipment and Staff

Telephones and Fax Machine - Students may use department telephones, printer, and fax machine ONLY when given permission by faculty or the Administrative Assistant in an emergency or for College-related business.

Cell Phones - Are a distraction to others. It is expected that the use of cell phones be limited to the student lounge or outdoors. No text messaging, calls or other use of a cell phone is permitted in the classroom, lab or clinical setting

Clinical Education Internship

Overview

The clinical education component of the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program includes four blocks (minimum of 33 weeks) of full-time clinical education of varying lengths over 2.5 years. During these blocks of clinical practice, each student will have experiences with patients

PDPT 780 (8 weeks full time/320 hours) Expected performance level on APTA web-based CPI- Intermediate or above in all criteria.

PDPT 781 (9 weeks full time/360 hours) Expected performance level on APTA web-based CPI- Advanced intermediate or above in all criteria.

PDPT 782 (10 weeks full time/400 hours) Expected performance level on APTA web-based CPI- Entry level to above entry level in all criteria.

Total clinical internship time is 33 weeks full time.

Course Syllabi are found on the Physical Therapy website:

<http://www.georgefox.edu/physical-therapy/Clinical Education/resources.html>

Student Liability Insurance

The following coverage is maintained by George Fox University, Oregon, covering their staff and students:

General Liability \$1,000,000 per occurrence
 \$3,000,000 per year

Auto Non-Owned \$1,000,000 Combined
& Hired Liability Single Limit

Excess Liability \$25,000,000 per year

Prof Med. Mal. \$2,000,000 per occurrence
 \$4,000,000 per year

Workers Statutory Workers Statutory SAIF
SAIF

(Excluding students / Exception: Clinical rotation students and students completing internships as part of their curriculum are covered under a participant accident through Philadelphia Insurance Policy #PHPA0210205 with limits up to \$25,000.)

E

Physical Therapy Profession and Degree Program Essential Functions, Skills, and Abilities

**Admission, Retention, and Graduation Requirements
George Fox University Physical Therapy Program**

Introduction

the student with disabilities to request those accommodations that they feel are reasonable and are needed to execute the essential requirements described.

Professional Behaviors Matrix

I have been provided a copy of the Professional Behaviors Matrix and understand that I can access a copy of the document online at XXXXX

Initials _____



Handbook Acknowledgement Form

I, (name)_____ have received and read all the information contained in this handbook. Further, I agree to ask for clarification if any information is not clear.

Print Your Name

Date

Signature

Liability Disclaimer

The reader should take notice that while every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information