Physical Therapy

Department Information

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Physical Therapy Administrative Staff</th>
<th>(251) 445-9330</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Dennis W. Fell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professors</td>
<td>Fell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professors</td>
<td>Dale, Gubler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Professors</td>
<td>Day, Eaton, Fletcher, Saale, White, Waldheim</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emeritus</td>
<td>Gray, Kennedy, Wall</td>
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Department of Physical Therapy web site
http://www.southalabama.edu/colleges/alliedhealth/pt

A physical therapist, also called a PT, is a health care professional who provides direct patient care to persons who have disorders of movement, mechanical, physiological and developmental impairment and functional limitations, whether caused by injury, disease, or pain to help them achieve maximum physical function and mobility. Physical therapists have the necessary training to meet the total range of primary patient care responsibilities involved in preventing disabilities and promoting restoration of function to the physically impaired, including musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, cardiovascular/pulmonary and integumentary disorders that interfere with physical function. The Physical Therapist performs an examination and then uses clinical reasoning to plan and implement patient-centered PT intervention. Physical Therapists practice in rehabilitation centers, private practices, hospital-based and outpatient-based centers, home health care, sports medicine centers, school systems, and in universities to restore movement and function.

As its mission: The Department of Physical Therapy is: “Committed to high quality education and advancement of the professions through scholarship and service”.

Areas Of Study

Physical Therapy (DPT)

Courses

Physical Therapy (PT)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT 101</td>
<td>Orientation to PT</td>
<td>1 cr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>An orientation to the physical therapy profession, college life and the physical therapy department.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PT 490</td>
<td>PT Special Topics</td>
<td>1 TO 3 cr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Directed study of topics of interest related to human movement and physical therapy.</td>
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PT 499  Senior Honors Project-H-W  3 TO 6 cr
Under the advice and guidance of a faculty mentor, honors students will identify and carry out a research project relevant to the field of Physical Therapy study that will lead to a formal presentation at the annual Honors Student Colloquium. The senior project will be judged and graded by three faculty members chaired by the honors mentor. This course is requires permission of the department chair and completion of an approved project prospectus.
PT 600  Human Anatomy I  
A comprehensive study of human anatomy concentrating on the nervous, skeletal, articular, muscular, and circulatory systems of the superficial back, upper extremities, head, neck, and face. Lab consists of prospected material and dissection of aforementioned body parts. Skeletal models and diagnostic imaging will be introduced for each area of dissection. Labs also include surface palpation on live human subjects. Special fee.

PT 601  Human Anatomy II  
A comprehensive study of human anatomy concentrating on the nervous, skeletal, articular, muscular, and circulatory systems of the deep back, trunk, pelvis, and lower extremity. Lab consists of prospected material and dissection of the aforementioned body parts. Skeletal models and diagnostic imaging will be introduced for each area of dissection. Labs also include surface palpation on live human subjects. Special fee.

Pre-requisite: PT 600 Minimum Grade of C

PT 602  Life Span Human Development  
A study of the process of typical human development and aging across the life span, including neuromotor development in childhood and changes associated with aging.

Pre-requisite: PT 682 Minimum Grade of S

PT 603  Neuroscience in Phys Therapy  
A survey of the structure and function of the nervous system, with emphasis on principles related to physical therapy practice. Includes laboratory study of anatomic specimens. Special fee.

Pre-requisite: PT 601 Minimum Grade of C and PT 682 Minimum Grade of S

PT 604  Pathophysiology I  
A physiological approach to the study of pathological changes in the human body brought about by trauma or disease, including vascular, hematopoietic, nutritional, neurologic, urogenital, GI and hepatobiliary systems.

Pre-requisite: PT 604 Minimum Grade of C

PT 605  Human Learning  
This course incorporates application of the principles of human learning to patient/client management including patient, family/caregivers, and community education. Roles of the physical therapist as a clinical educator and academician are discussed as well as opportunities/responsibilities for lifelong learning and professional development.

Pre-requisite: PT 673 Minimum Grade of C

PT 606  Pharmacology in Rehabilitation  
A study of pharmacological principles in relation to rehabilitation, with emphasis on the possible benefits and side-effects of chemotherapeutic agents on patients receiving physical therapy treatment.

Pre-requisite: PT 607 Minimum Grade of C and PT 682 Minimum Grade of S

PT 607  Pathophysiology II  
A physiological approach to the study of pathological changes in the human body brought about by trauma or disease, including vascular, hematopoietic, nutritional, neurologic, urogenital, GI and hepatobiliary systems.

Pre-requisite: PT 607 Minimum Grade of S

PT 610  Principles of Research & EBP  
An introduction to evidence-based practice as it relates to physical therapy, including basic understanding of research designs and research statistics, formulating appropriate clinical questions based on patient/client, accessing current evidence using databases and other resources to answer clinical/practice issues, and summarizing evidence for clinical case application.

PT 611  Research Proposal Development  
This course prepares students to achieve professional competence in critical appraisal of professional literature and in the design of a clinically relevant research proposal as an entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy student. The course focuses on the foundational aspects of research methodology including research design, data analysis, and critical evaluation of research evidence.

PT 612  Research Project  
This course focuses on implementation of the research proposal developed in PT 611. In addition, this course is designed for the student to contribute to the evidence for practice through the dissemination of clinical research outcomes, including professional reporting of the results to peers in written and oral platform presentation formats.

Pre-requisite: PT 611 Minimum Grade of C

PT 613  Clinical Case Report  
This course allows the student to develop a clinical case report based on a patient the student has treated during a full-time internship, an administrative/education process or a clinical risk management situation. An in-depth analysis of research from recent publications related to the case is required. The student will prepare a written case report and a presentation in seminar format.

Pre-requisite: PT 612 Minimum Grade of C and PT 674 Minimum Grade of C

PT 620  Clinical Kinesiology  
A study of human movement as it relates to clinical physical therapy practice with an emphasis on biomechanical principles of movement and normal gait. Includes laboratory study.

Pre-requisite: PT 601 Minimum Grade of C and PT 622 Minimum Grade of C
PT 621  Introductory PT Skills  4 cr
An introduction to the principles and techniques of patient care utilized in physical therapy practice. These basic therapeutic skills include, but are not limited to, positioning, draping, patient transfers, assistive gait devices, wheelchair use, and basic examination. Techniques including assessment of joint range of motion, muscle strength and length testing, massage, and soft tissue mobilization are presented. Includes laboratory study.

PT 622  Exercise Physiology  4 cr
A study of the effect of physical activity on human physiology with an emphasis on the musculoskeletal, cardiovascular/pulmonary, and endocrine systems. Modes of exercise, environmental considerations, and selected clinical populations are also covered in this course. Includes laboratory study.

PT 625  Therapeutic Intervention  4 cr
A study of specific techniques of therapeutic intervention in physical therapy practice including electrophysical agents and manual therapy techniques. The electrophysical agents unit will include the physical principles, physiological effects, therapeutic uses and clinical application of thermal, mechanical, electrical and photic energy. The manual intervention unit will include manual therapy techniques including soft tissue massage. Includes laboratory study. Special fee.
Pre-requisite: PT 621 Minimum Grade of C and PT 622 Minimum Grade of C

PT 626  Health Prom & Prev in PT  2 cr
A course to identify disablement risk factors and provide educational intervention to prevent certain diseases and facilitate a positive change in the health behavior of patients.
Pre-requisite: PT 621 Minimum Grade of C

PT 627  Medical Screening  2 cr
A course focusing on the use of screening tests and clinical tools to enhance the therapist’s role as an independent practitioner with the ability to identify medical conditions of concern that require referral to an appropriate health care provider.
Pre-requisite: PT 607 Minimum Grade of C

PT 628  Mobility Ortho & Prosthetics  2 cr
The study of human functional mobility, including pathological aspects of locomotion. The course will also address related topics including prosthetics and orthotics.
Pre-requisite: PT 620 Minimum Grade of C

PT 631  Musculoskeletal Disorders I  4 cr
Etiology, diagnostic procedures and radiography, medical management, physical therapy examination, evaluation, and intervention of selected musculoskeletal disorders with an emphasis on the upper extremities. Additionally includes the fundamentals, principles, and practice of therapeutic exercise. Includes laboratory study.
Pre-requisite: PT 601 Minimum Grade of C

PT 632  Musculoskeletal Disorders II  3 cr
Etiology, diagnostic procedures and radiography, medical management, physical therapy examination, evaluation, and intervention of selected musculoskeletal disorders with emphasis on the lower extremities. Includes laboratory study.
Pre-requisite: PT 631 Minimum Grade of C

PT 633  Musculoskeletal Disorders III  4 cr
A continuation of PT 632 that includes etiology, diagnostic procedures and radiography, medical management, physical therapy examination, evaluation, and intervention of selected musculoskeletal disorders with an emphasis on the lumbar spine and pelvis. Includes laboratory study.
Pre-requisite: PT 632 Minimum Grade of C

PT 634  Musculoskeletal Disorders IV  3 cr
A continuation of PT 633 that includes etiology, diagnostic procedures and radiography, medical management, physical therapy examination, evaluation, and intervention of selected musculoskeletal disorders with an emphasis on the cervical and thoracic spine. Includes laboratory study.
Pre-requisite: PT 633 Minimum Grade of C

PT 635  Musculoskeletal Disorders V  2 cr
Special topics in the management of musculoskeletal conditions including, but not limited to, ergonomics, sports physical therapy, and musculoskeletal issues in obstetrics and gynecology. Includes laboratory study.
Pre-requisite: PT 634 Minimum Grade of C

PT 640  Neuromusc PT Exam/Eval  4 cr
This course includes study of the principles and concepts of normal human movement and PT examination/evaluation in patients with disorders of the neuromuscular systems across the lifespan. The course will focus on examination (patient/client history, systems review, tests and measurements), evaluation of examination data (clinical decision-making), with formulation of problem list, functional goals and PT plan of care. Includes laboratory study.
Pre-requisite: PT 602 Minimum Grade of C and PT 603 Minimum Grade of C

PT 641  Ped Neuromusc PT Exam/Eval  2 cr
This course prepares the student to provide services to children with special health care needs/disabilities and their families in a manner consistent with family-centered care; includes patient/family history, systems review, and tests and measures and opportunities for clinical decision-making and establishing a plan of care based on examination data with emphasis on prognosis for a wide variety of pediatric diseases, conditions, and syndromes impacting typical development. Review of pediatric practice settings and legislation, medical management, pharmacologic treatment, radiographic imaging and other diagnostic testing related to neuromuscular disorders and developmental delay are included. Includes laboratory study.
PT 642  Neuromuscular PT Intervention  4 cr
A course to follow PT 640 and 641 with added emphasis on principles and concepts of physical therapy intervention in patients with disorders of the neuromuscular systems. Includes laboratory study.
Pre-requisite: PT 641 Minimum Grade of C

PT 650  PT in Integumentary Disorders  4 cr
A study of the practice of physical therapy in management of skin disorders and underlying disease with an emphasis on the patient with open wounds, including burns. Includes laboratory study.
Pre-requisite: PT 604 Minimum Grade of C

PT 660  PT Cardio/Pulmonary Disorders  4 cr
A study of the principles and practice of physical therapy for patients with cardiovascular and pulmonary disease, including radiography, and medical and surgical management. Includes laboratory study.
Pre-requisite: PT 607 Minimum Grade of C and PT 622 Minimum Grade of C and PT 682 Minimum Grade of S

PT 671  Clinical Case Studies I  1 cr
A case-based course providing opportunities to develop clinical judgment as part of patient management including establishment of differential diagnosis, patient prognosis, and development of a plan of care for patients with musculoskeletal disorders of peripheral joints. Students will also analyze cases involving ethical, legal and psychosocial concerns for which professional decisions and interprofessional practice or referrals are necessary.
Pre-requisite: PT 671 Minimum Grade of C and PT 682 Minimum Grade of S

PT 672  Clinical Case Studies II  1 cr
A case-based seminar designed to provide opportunities to develop clinical reasoning and communication skills as part of patient management. Students will develop skills in communicating with the healthcare team, recognizing and ameliorating barriers to patient outcomes, and developing plans of care for patients with complex health and psychosocial issues.
Pre-requisite: PT 671 Minimum Grade of C and PT 682 Minimum Grade of S

PT 673  Clinical Case Studies III  1 cr
A case-based course to provide opportunities to apply clinical reasoning to promote evidence-based physical therapy practice by integrating best available evidence for patient management and to challenge the status quo of practice to raise it to the most effective level of care.
Pre-requisite: PT 672 Minimum Grade of C

PT 674  Clinical Synthesis & Pat Mgmt  1 cr
A review and synthesis of physical therapy examination, evaluation, and development of a plan of care in patient management for specific clinical disorders, emphasizing clinical decision-making based on clinical experience and evidence.
Pre-requisite: PT 627 Minimum Grade of C and PT 635 Minimum Grade of C and PT 642 Minimum Grade of C

PT 675  Comprehensive Capstone  1 cr
This course is a continuation of PT 674 that emphasizes comprehensive review and preparation for taking the National Physical Therapy Examination. All students must pass the final capstone exam to be awarded the DPT degree.
Pre-requisite: PT 674 Minimum Grade of C and PT 683 Minimum Grade of C

PT 680  Professional PT Practice - W  2 cr
A study of physical therapy as a profession with emphasis on the history of physical therapy; role and scope of practice; professional, ethical, and legal responsibilities; licensure; physical therapy education; contemporary practice issues; and the patient management model. Introductory information on psychiatric disorders and communication skills is also included.

PT 681  Clinical Practice Issues - W  2 cr
This course is designed to prepare the student for clinical practice by incorporating the patient management model, clinical decision-making models, health care systems, patient documentation including electronic health records, cultural competence, universal precautions, and risk management.
Pre-requisite: PT 680 Minimum Grade of C

PT 682  PT Internship I  6 cr
A planned learning experience of clinical education designed to integrate previous didactic knowledge in a full time, supervised clinical internship in Physical Therapy practice settings.
Pre-requisite: PT 620 Minimum Grade of C and PT 625 Minimum Grade of C and PT 632 Minimum Grade of C

PT 683  PT Internship II  8 cr
A continuation of PT 682, providing another planned learning experience, designed to integrate previous knowledge in a full time, supervised clinical internship in Physical Therapy practice settings. Good Academic Standing with no required course retakes pending.
Pre-requisite: PT 635 Minimum Grade of C and PT 642 Minimum Grade of C and PT 650 Minimum Grade of C and PT 660 Minimum Grade of C and PT 682 Minimum Grade of S

PT 684  PT Internship III  6 cr
A continuation of PT 682 and 683, providing another planned learning experience, designed to integrate previous knowledge in a full time, supervised clinical internship in Physical Therapy practice settings. Good Academic Standing with no required course retakes pending.
Pre-requisite: PT 683 Minimum Grade of C

PT 685  Management of PT Practice  3 cr
A study of current organizational and management principles and issues related to health care delivery systems with special emphasis on the current and future roles of Physical Therapy.
Pre-requisite: PT 687 Minimum Grade of C
PT 686  PT Internship IV  6 cr
A continuation of PT 682, 683 and 684, providing another planned learning experience, designed to integrate previous knowledge in a full time, supervised clinical internship in physical therapy practice settings. Good academic standing with no required retakes pending.
Pre-requisite: PT 684 Minimum Grade of P

PT 687  Profess Topics in PT Practice  1 cr
This course entails a continuation of professional practice issues including interprofessional education and practice, communication between patient/client and healthcare provider, patient-centered care, and cultural aspects of patient care which all relate to professional development as a competent healthcare provider.
Pre-requisite: PT 681 Minimum Grade of C

PT 689  Evidence Library Skills  1 cr
Discussion of evidence-based practice (EBP) and the importance of literature searching and information management skills.

PT 690  Update in Exercise Physiology  1 cr
This course reviews the effects of exercise intervention upon human physiology and the acute and chronic adaptations associated with physical activity.

PT 691  Clinical Reasoning  2 cr
This course should be one of the first courses taken and will include principles of evidence-based practice, access and evaluation of scientific literature, and application to clinical decision making in specific patient populations.

PT 692  Applied Human Movement  2 cr
This course will focus on recent advances in the understanding of human movement with particular emphasis on biomechanics, kinesiology and motor control.

PT 693  Adv in Musculoskeletal PT  2 cr
An interactive discussion and exploration of physical therapy practice for populations with orthopedic disorders, including examination, intervention and outcome. The focus will be on evidence-based clinical practice. Course topics will include updated research on operative and non-operative procedures for the peripheral joints and spine, spinal and peripheral joint diagnostic imaging (radiography), pharmacology, therapeutic exercise, clinical reasoning, and lifespan issues with a focus on geriatrics.

PT 694  Adv in Neuromuscular PT  2 cr
An interactive discussion and exploration of physical therapy practice for populations with neuromuscular disorders, including examination through intervention and outcomes. The focus will be on clinical practice in this population based on evidence. The course will include diagnostic imaging (radiography), pharmacology, therapeutic exercise, clinical reasoning, and lifespan issues with a focus on geriatrics.

PT 695  Adv in Integumentary PT  2 cr
An interactive discussion of new developments in skin and wound care with an emphasis on development of a plan of care that evolves over the episode of care, prevention of recurrence, and the interaction with the patient and other health care providers.

PT 696  Adv in Cardiovasc/Pulmonary PT  2 cr
An in-depth, interactive discussion of issues related to the examination, evaluation, and plan of care for patients/clients with primary and secondary cardiovascular and pulmonary disorders across the lifespan. Clinical reasoning, pharmacology and imaging techniques will be emphasized.

PT 697  DPT Directed Study  1 TO 3 cr
Directed research or comprehensive review of evidence-based literature completed in a clinical area of interest under the supervision of a faculty mentor. The student will document incorporation of course content into their current clinical practice. This course may be repeated up to two times with a different focus-topic each time.

PT 698  Professional Issues/Ethics  2 cr
Discussion of current professional issues including clinical practice, management, legal, ethical/moral and psychosocial topics embedded within the current health care market faced by health care providers. This course will include interactive discussions among students and instructor and will include literature to support discussion topics.

PT 699  DPT Seminar -  1 TO 8 cr
An elective seminar to update information in specific areas of study. Course number may be repeated three times.

Faculty

DALE, ROBERT BARRY
Associate Professor
BSPT, University of South Alabama
MA, Univ of Alabama-Birmingham
PHD, University of Alabama
DPT, University of Tennessee-Chatt

DAY, JOSEPH M.
Assistant Professor
BS, Murray State University
MS, University of Kentucky
PHD, University of Kentucky
EATON, KAREAION D.
Assistant Professor
BS, Auburn University
MS, University of Mobile
DPT, Alabama State University

FLETCHER, JEREMY C.
Assistant Professor
BS, Univ of Louisiana at Monroe
DPT, University of South Alabama

GUBLER, CORAL M.
Associate Professor
BS, State University of New York
MS, United States Sports Academy
MPT, University of Delaware
PHD, University of Montana

SAALE, BLAIR P.
Assistant Professor
BA, Furman University
DPT, Belmont University

WALDHELM, ANDREW G.
Assistant Professor
BS, Baylor University
MPT, Nova Southeastern University
PHD, Louisiana State University

WHITE, LAURA W.
Assistant Professor
BS, Baylor University
MS, Univ of Alabama-Birmingham
DSCPT, Univ of Alabama-Birmingham