

Physical Therapy (MS)

Degree Requirements

The Department of Physical Therapy offers a Master of Sciences in Physical Therapy aimed at providing students with rich, robust, clinically relevant, and evidence-based learning experiences. Graduates will have a strong understanding of entry-level and advanced clinical services, will utilize evidence-based research relevant to the field, demonstrate leadership skills that impact delivery of high quality care for patients, and develop skills needed to serve as a patient educator, clinical educator, or faculty member. This program is intended to support international clinicians and academicians wishing to gain further experience with a variety of disorders and principles of rehabilitation. This program is not accredited by the Accreditation Council of Physical Therapy Education and does not lead to licensure or certification in the United States. Graduation from this program does not guarantee admission to a Doctor of Physical Therapy Program. Students enrolled in this program are not eligible for federal financial aid. Admission to the MSPT program is on a competitive basis. For admissions information, visit the department's website.

The MSPT program is an in-residence program requiring 30 credit hours. The program runs August to July and is divided into three semesters (Fall, Spring and Summer).

The MSPT program requires the following coursework:

Abbr	Course Description	Credit Hours
PT 501	Kinesiology/Lab	3
PT 502	Foundational Concepts/Lab	3
PT 503	Therapeutic Modalities/Lab	3
PT 504	Examination Methods	3
PT 505	Prosthetics & Orthotics/Lab	3
PT 506	Orthopedic Science/Lab	3
PT 507	Neurologic Science/Lab	3
PT 508	Therapeutic Exercise/Lab	3
PT 509	Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Science/Lab	3
PT 510	Differential Diagnosis & Assessment/Lab	3

Department Information

Physical Therapy Administrative Staff

(251) 445-9330

Chair

Barry Dale

Professors	Dale
Associate Professors	
Assistant Professors	Cahanin, Eaton, Fletcher, Jordan, McDermott, Saale
Emeritus	Fell, Gray, Kennedy, Wall

[Department of Physical Therapy website](https://www.southalabama.edu/colleges/alliedhealth/pt)
<https://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, promoting and generating scholarship, and engaging in local to global service."