

**University of North Florida  
Brooks College of Health  
Spring A  
PHT 7825C: Clinical Internship IV**

**Credits:** 5

**Contact Hours:** 40+/- hours per week non-lecture (commensurate with full-time employee)

**Class Schedule:** Per clinical facility

**Instructors:** Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education  
Clinical Faculty Members

**Course Description:** Clinical Internship IV targets a variety of clinical experiences based upon facility placement and patient population. Student assignments are individualized and based on the students' areas of clinical interest, academic performance, and prior clinical education experiences and clinical performance. Patients with orthopedic, musculoskeletal, neurological, and/or cardiopulmonary diagnoses may be encountered. Experiences in these settings will provide the student with an opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills acquired throughout the curriculum to any patient referred to physical therapy. The actual procedures and sequence of experiences will vary from student to student and will be determined by the nature of the patients available and the type of clinical setting. Under the direct supervision of a clinical instructor, the student will begin to advance hands-on clinical skills and further develop critical thinking abilities. Students will function as a member of the health care team providing consultation and educational services to others. Students will refine documentation skills. They will have the opportunity to supervise support personnel. Through reflective journal writing students will further develop their self-assessment skills as they begin to transition from the role of student to that of an entry-level doctorally prepared physical therapist. Students will practice in accordance with the American Physical Therapy Association Code of Ethics, *Guide to Physical Therapist Practice*, the practice act of the state in which they are practicing, and according to the policies and procedures of the individual facility where they are assigned.

**Prerequisites:** Clinical Practicum (PHT 5806C), Clinical Education Prep (PHT 5841) Clinical Internship I (PHT 5805), Clinical Internship II (PHT 6824), Clinical Internship III (PHT 6825) and all previously scheduled academic courses

Current documentation of the following is required prior to clinical placement:

Background Check completed by *Certified Background*

Drug Check approved by *Certified Background*

Up-to-date CPR certification

Yearly health examination

Measles/Rubella: Positive Titer or two immunizations

Mumps: Positive titer or immunization

Free from tuberculosis: Written proof of negative 1-step or 2-step Tb skin test/chest x-ray within 12 months (or as indicated by site)

Hepatitis B: Written proof of immunity or a signed waiver indicating you understand the implications and choose not to receive the vaccine.

Varicella: Positive titer

Tetanus/Diphtheria – not required, but recommended

If unable to complete any of the above for medical reasons, a written note from your physician noting the reasons is required

Note - Professional Liability is provided by the school

### **Instructional Methods:**

Students will learn from clinical demonstrations, inservices, hands-on patient instruction of specific clinical skills, reflective journal writing, and modeling of professional behaviors. The student will utilize library and internet resources and may be introduced to computer documentation, data collection, and management summaries specific to the facility assigned.

### **Course Accommodations:**

If for any reason you feel you will have difficulty meeting the objectives and expectations of this course, please notify the instructor within five (5) business days of the start of class so that accommodations may be implemented where indicated.

Students with documented disabilities are strongly encouraged to notify the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education (ACCE) prior to site selection, so that appropriate accommodations can be made prior to placement.

### **Required Texts/Resources:**

*Guide to Physical Therapist Practice*

Two copies of the Clinical Performance Instrument (CPI - Available on Blackboard)

Copy of the APTA Student Site Evaluation Form (Available on Blackboard)

Copy of the In-service evaluation form (Available on Blackboard)

Clinical Internship II packet (Available on blackboard)

**Recommended Texts:** Students will benefit from utilizing materials and texts associated with previous academic courses and course notes related to the type of internship in which they will be participating.

### **Grading Criteria:**

The on-site clinical instructor will assess and document the student's performance of skills and written and verbal communication with patients, families, and colleagues utilizing the CPI at midterm and during the final week of the internship. Students will also self-assess their clinical performance and professional behaviors using the CPI at midterm and during the final week. Students and Clinical Instructors should meet on an on-going basis throughout the internship to discuss goals and objectives, strengths and weaknesses, and to plan future learning experiences.

Students will be assigned to one of the following special interest groups on Blackboard: Neurological, Orthopedic, Pediatric, or Acute SNF (placement will be based on the type of internship the student is participating in). A faculty member will be assigned to monitor each special interest group. The student will be responsible for submitting weekly discussion board posts based on their clinical experience. For example, “The clinic that I am at uses the Optimal outcome measure on every patient.” You will be able to post on other groups discussion boards if applicable (for example, posting on the Neurological site when treating a patient with a CVA while on an orthopedic rotation). Be sure to follow HIPPA guidelines when posting about a patient.

Students will also be required to submit a written case study based on a patient treated while on the internship. Specific details and format are provided on the Clinical Education Virtual Office on Blackboard. A rough draft of the case study will be due to your assigned faculty member at Midterm for feedback. A final draft of the case study will be due upon completion of Clinical Internship II.

Minimal acceptable criteria for this internship are as follows:

1. Satisfactory completion of all pre-requisite requirements as outlined above. Immunizations and certifications must be in compliance with site policies.
2. Attendance at all scheduled clinical internship sessions.
3. Timely completion of any written or oral assignments by the ACCE/CCCE/CI.
4. Most students will be required to complete an inservice on a topic selected in consultation with your CI or CCCE. Some sites may require a student to complete an educational or administrative project rather than an inservice.
5. Completion and submission of documentation provided to the ACCE according to deadlines provided. Documentation includes, but is not limited to: reflection journals, written copy of the final CPI reviewed and signed by student and the CI, copy of inservice evaluation when appropriate, copy of the Student Evaluation of Clinical Experience signed by both the student and the clinical instructor (electronic copy when available).
6. No “significant concerns” marked by the CI on the CPI.
7. Satisfactory completion of performance criteria on the CPI as determined by the ACCE in conjunction with the CI. ACCE to determine final grade (Pass/Fail).

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

Attendance is mandatory for scheduled work hours with the CI. These hours may vary according to the facility. Any absences must be reported to the ACCE on or before the day of occurrence. Students may be required to make-up absences. Multiple absences may result in termination of the clinical rotation and failure in the course. Students must be punctual throughout the internship. Failure to comply will result in termination of the clinical rotation and failure in the course.

### **Grading Scale:**

This course will be graded on a pass/fail basis. Students must show satisfactory completion and

submission of all documentation noted in the Grading Criteria section of this syllabus.

***If at any time a student suspects a potential or current problem within the clinical rotation, the ACCE should be notified as soon as possible. Failure to do so may severely negatively impact the ability of the program to assist the student in the completion of a satisfactory rotation that would ultimately delay the student's graduation.***

You may contact the ACCE at 904-620-1411 or at [a.noonan@unf.edu](mailto:a.noonan@unf.edu). **In case of an emergency,** notify any faculty member or the department secretary.

### **Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Consistently practice in a safe, ethical, and legal manner. (CC-5.3, CC-5.1, CC-5.35)
2. Consistently conduct self in professional manner. (CC-5.1)
3. Consistently demonstrate professional interpersonal skills and communications. (CC-5.11, CC-5.17)
4. Consistently document within the facility's guidelines in an accurate and timely manner. (CC-5.42)
5. Demonstrate good body mechanics at all times. (CC-5.35)
6. Screen patients for deficits as a component of differential diagnosis and select the appropriate methods for examination of the patient. (CC-5.27)
7. Perform screening and examination methods properly. (CC-5.30, CC-5.29, CC-5.28)
8. Utilize objective findings to determine patient status, change in status, and effectiveness of treatment. (CC-5.38, CC-5.33)
9. Demonstrate problem solving and critical thinking when developing treatment plans. (CC-5.31, CC-5.34, CC-5.20)
10. Effectively select and utilize functional outcome measures. (CC-5.45 thru CC-5.49)
11. Develop a treatment plan to include functional goals based on objective findings. (CC-5.34, CC-5.35, CC-5.36)
12. Incorporate the patient's goals and objectives into the plan of care. Modify treatment plans based on patient response. (CC-5.38)
13. Perform treatments in safe and effective manner with reevaluation to determine change in patient status and/or effectiveness of treatment. (CC-5.39, CC-5.38)
14. Educate others using relevant and effective teaching methods based on a needs assessment. (CC-5.26)
15. Participate in ergonomic evaluations based on appropriate principles. (CC-5.30)
16. Refer and coordinate services with other healthcare providers as needed. (CC-5.27)
17. Participate in quality assurance monitoring. (CC-5.63, CC-5.12, CC-5.13)
18. Utilize time and resources efficiently. (CC-5.11)
19. Submit billing accurately and in timely fashion. (CC-5.10, CC-5.3, CC-5.42)

20. Incorporate reimbursement issues into treatment plans. (CC-5.2, CC-5.3, CC-5.37, CC-5.34)
21. Demonstrate flexibility related to scheduling as well as to interpersonal and/or administrative concerns. (CC-5.14, CC-5.4)
22. Demonstrate self-directed learning and self-assessment through reflection. (CC-5.12)
23. Maintain confidentiality by exchanging information only with appropriate professionals, and reviewing written documents in approved, secured areas according to the policy and procedures of the facility. (CC-5.11, CC-5.3, CC-5.1)
24. Direct and supervise support personnel in an ethical and legal manner. (CC-5.11, CC-5.40)
25. Participate in health promotion, wellness, and prevention programs. (CC-5.50, CC-5.51, CC-5.52, CC-5.64, CC-5.5)
26. Promote physical therapy by participating in professional organizations. (CC-5.16)