



Graduate Academic Learning Compact

Physical Therapy CAPTE (new)

Program Mission Statement

The faculty of the Physical Therapy Program at the University of North Florida is dedicated to preparing students for entry-level physical therapy clinical practice by utilizing an evidence-based curriculum, engaging students in on-going research, and participating in clinical internships that stimulate critical inquiry. The program is committed to life-long learning and seeks to provide opportunities to engage students, faculty and the community in professional development and service.

Outcomes

Graduates will be able to:

Professional Skills (opt)

- The faculty and students will participate in professional activities and community service at the local, regional, national and local level.

Student Goal

- Area 1: Content/discipline-Specific Knowledge:

Upon program completion, students will demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the foundational sciences of anatomy, physiology, neurology and pathology for application to the discipline of physical therapy.

Upon program completion, students will correlate and apply theoretical foundations of knowledge to the practice of physical therapy; evaluate and clarify new or evolving theory relevant to physical therapy.

Upon program completion, students will demonstrate mastery of entry level clinical skills based on contemporary physical therapy practice and evidence, including physical therapy examination, evaluation, diagnosis, intervention, prevention activities, wellness initiatives and appropriate health care utilization.

- Area 2: Knowledge of the literature of the discipline

Upon program completion, students will consistently use information technology to access sources of information to support clinical decisions.

Upon program completion, students will consistently and critically evaluate sources of information related to physical therapy practice, research, and education, and apply knowledge from these sources in a scientific manner.

- Area 3: Ability to engage in independent learning or scholarship

Upon program completion, students will demonstrate the behaviors of the scholarly clinician by developing and utilizing the process of critical thinking and inquiry particularly focused on the improvement of the practice of physical therapy and the delivery of healthcare.

Upon program completion, students will apply the principles of evidence-based practice to clinical decision-making.

Upon program completion, students will contribute to the evidence for practice by written systematic reviews of evidence or written descriptions of practice.

- **Area 5: Demonstration of effective communication skills**

Upon program completion, students will expressively and receptively communicate in a culturally competent manner with patients, professionals and communities.

Upon program completion, students will use information technology such as word processing, presentation, data analysis software, e-mail, and electronic records to improve clarity and efficiency of communications.

Upon program completion, students will use a variety of communication skills to effectively educate others using appropriate teaching methods that are commensurate with the needs of the learner.

- **Area 4: Demonstration of intermediate to advanced level professional skills**

Upon program completion, students will practice as a reflective and competent clinician whose clinical decision making skills are guided by ethical practice standards.

Upon program completion, students will experience areas of personal growth necessary for the transition into becoming a professional

Upon program completion, students will actively promote the profession of physical therapy by participating in professional organizations recognizing how the organizations' values relate to the practice of physical therapy.

Areas 6: Demonstration of critical thinking skills applied to patient care and reflective ethical professional behavior

Upon program completion, students will demonstrate the professional, ethical and social skills to adapt to changing health care environments to effectively provide physical therapy care.

Upon program completion, students will determine when patients/clients need further examination or consultation by a physical therapist or referral to another health care professional.

Upon program completion, students will engage in reflective practice through sound clinical decision-making, critical self-assessment, and commitment to lifelong learning.

Program Goal

- Policies of the parent institution, College of Health and physical therapy program clearly support the program's mission, goals, and expected outcomes. The faculty and students of the program are involved in the governance of the program and in the ongoing efforts to improve program quality.
- Expected Program Outcome: Recruit, admit, retain, and graduate a diverse student body able to provide culturally competent health care.
- High quality applicants will be admitted to the DPT program that have the necessary academic preparation, physical abilities and a sufficient understanding of the UNF DPT program values and commitment community service, the physical therapy profession and other relevant program information.
- Students will be able to provide safe physical therapy services based on knowledge of basic sciences, clinical sciences, and synthesis of APTA core documents of professional practice principles in a compassionate, reflective way as an autonomous practitioner.
- The fiscal and physical resources are sufficient to enable the program to fulfill its mission, goals and expected outcomes.

Faculty Goal