

Physical Therapist Assistant (A.A.S.)

Physical therapist assistants have a rewarding opportunity to make a positive difference in the quality of people's lives. Their work involves extensive contact with both patients and other health care professionals. Physical therapist assistants work under the supervision of a physical therapist in implementing treatment programs specific to the plan of care. Physical therapist assistants work in hospitals, private physical therapy offices, community health centers, corporate or industrial health centers, sport facilities, research institutions, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, home health agencies, schools, pediatric centers, colleges, and universities. The Physical Therapist Assistant program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE); rules and regulations regarding accreditation can be found on their website: <http://www.capteonline.org/AccreditationHandbook>.

Program Requirements

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Written & Oral Communication (6 credits)

[ENG 101](#) (3 credits)

[ENG 102](#) or [ENG 105](#) (one 3-credit course)

Scientific Knowledge & Reasoning (8 credits)

[BIO 121](#) (4 credits)

[BIO 122](#) (4 credits)

Note: [BIO 121](#) Anatomy & Physiology I and [BIO 122](#) Anatomy & Physiology II transcripts older than 5 years will not be accepted for transfer to the PTA major. Credit for anatomy & physiology successfully completed within the last 5 years will only be granted for those courses taken at ECC or accepted in transfer.

Society & Human Behavior (3 credits)

[PSY 101](#) (3 credits)

Historical Perspective (3 credits)

Choose one of the following history courses: [HST 101](#)[HST 102](#)[HST 111](#)[HST 112](#)[HST 121](#)[HST 122](#)[HST 131](#)[HST 132](#)[HST 134](#)[HST 135](#)[HST 136](#)[HST 137](#)[HST 161](#) or [HST 162](#) (one 3-credit course)

MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS

[BIO 222](#) Kinesiology (4 credits)

[HSC 109](#) Medical Terminology (3 credits)

[PTA 101](#) Fundamentals of Physical Therapist Assisting I (5 credits)

[PTA 102](#) Principles of Physical Therapist Assisting I (5 credits)

[PTA 103](#) Physical Therapist Assisting Practicum (4 credits)

[PTA 106](#) Therapeutic Intervention in Child Development and Gerontology (3 credits)

[PTA 201](#) Principles of Physical Therapist Assisting II (4 credits)

[PTA 202](#) Principles of Physical Therapist Assisting III (4 credits)

[PTA 203](#) Physical Therapist Assisting Practicum II (4 credits)

[PTA 205](#) Physical Therapist Assisting Practicum III (6 credits)

[PTA 206](#) Professional Issues in Physical Therapist Assisting (1 credit)

[PTA 209](#) Therapeutic Exercise (2 credits)

[PSY 209](#) Abnormal Psychology (3 credits)

Note:

(1) The minimum passing grade for all courses designated BIO, PSY, HSC, and PTA is "C." If you earn a grade below "C", you need to repeat that course.

(2) Students enrolled in the Physical Therapist Assistant program will be required to submit to criminal background checks, health clearance, CPR certification, and possible drug screen prior to their clinical placement at certain health care organizations. All expenses for criminal background checks, health clearance, CPR certification, and drug screen are the responsibility of the student. Adverse results may disqualify students from clinical participation in which case the student will be unable to complete program requirements and, therefore, must withdraw from the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF COURSES

Total Credits Required for Degree: 68

Pre-admission (Prerequisite) Courses

[BIO 121](#) Anatomy and Physiology I (4 credits)

[ENG 101](#) College Composition I (3 credits)

[PSY 101](#) General Psychology I: Personality & Social Aspects (3 credits)

First Semester

[PTA 101](#) Fundamentals of Physical Therapist Assisting I (5 credits)

[BIO 122](#) Anatomy and Physiology II (4 credits)

[ENG 102](#) College Composition II or [ENG 105](#) Technical Writing (3 credits)

[HSC 109](#) Medical Terminology (3 credits)

Second Semester

[PTA 102](#) Principles of Physical Therapist Assisting I (5 credits)

[PTA 106](#) Therapeutic Intervention in Child Development & Gerontology (3 credits)

[PSY 209](#) Abnormal Psychology (3 credits)

Summer Session

[PTA 103](#) Physical Therapist Assisting Practicum (4 credits)

Third Semester

[PTA 201](#) Principles of Physical Therapist Assisting II (4 credits)

[PTA 203](#) Physical Therapist Assisting Practicum II (4 credits)

[PTA 209](#) Therapeutic Exercise (2 credits)

[BIO 222](#) Kinesiology (4 credits)

Fourth Semester

[PTA 202](#) Principles of Physical Therapist Assisting III (4 credits)

[PTA 205](#) Physical Therapist Assisting Practicum III (6 credits)

[PTA 206](#) Professional Issues in Physical Therapist Assisting (1 credit)

Historical Perspective requirement (one 3-credit course)