Physical Therapy (DPT)

Physical Therapy Doctoral Degree Program (https://healthprofessions.missouri.edu/physical-therapy-program)  
School of Health Professions  
801 Clark Hall  
573-882-7103  
573-884-8369 (fax)  
MUSHPPPT@missouri.edu  

Students who enter the MU Physical Therapy program will complete a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree program.

Careers

The DPT degree is an entry-level clinical degree that prepares the student to enter the field of physical therapy as a general practitioner with a background in musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, cardiovascular/pulmonary and integumentary systems.

Financial Aid from the Program

The Department of Physical Therapy recognizes the financial commitment of attending PT school and how financial decisions can influence your future. MU is an exceptional value and it's understandable that financing your PT education can be daunting. The Financial Aid Office (https://financialaid.missouri.edu) offers support in the area of student finances including financial aid, financial literacy as well as individual financial counseling.

It is important for students to review their finances and consider the resources available to pay for their DPT degree. Mizzou DPT students finance their education through savings, scholarships, and student loans. Financial aid resources are allocated on the basis of academic merit and financial need.

Students may apply for scholarships at the end of their first and second year in the professional phase of the program. For PT scholarship information, download PT Scholarships: Application instructions (https://healthprofessions.missouri.edu/physical-therapy-program/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2016/06/Department-of-Physical-Therapy-Scholarships.docx).

Curriculum

Degree Requirements

All students admitted must maintain a 3.0 grade point average with no grade below C (2.0) in courses required for the degree. Failure to achieve a semester or professional cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in required courses will result in probation or dismissal from the program. Students are expected to maintain full-time enrollment in the curriculum and complete the degree requirements as outlined in the course of study. Any exception must be approved by departmental faculty. Students must demonstrate the personal behaviors and characteristics associated with optimal patient welfare and professional trust.

Prerequisites for the Doctoral Degree

Note: The DPT program accepts students to begin the professional program only for summer terms, which begin in June.

Admission to the DPT program is available through regular admission (applicants will have a bachelor's degree prior to beginning the professional program) or through an early admission option that allows students to enter the professional program with 90 credit hours.

Regular admission applicants must have at least a 3.0 GPA in the core required courses (https://healthprofessions.missouri.edu/physical-therapy-program/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2018/03/2018professional-numbers.pdf) and the cumulative GPA in the last 60+ credit hours.

Students who enter without a bachelor's degree must have satisfied general education and graduation requirements, including two Writing Intensive courses. These applicants must have at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA at the time of application.

On-campus interviews are required for admission to the professional program.

Applicants are notified of the selection committee’s decision by December.

All students are strongly encouraged to contact the School of Health Professions Office of Student Services for advisement and planning well in advance of application.

Admission to the program is selective.

Plan of Study

The professional program is offered in sequential blocks and requires full-time enrollment for three academic years (including summer sessions), beginning in the summer session following acceptance. The curriculum contains foundational and clinical sciences combining traditional lectures and course work, laboratory sessions, problem-based learning classes and clinical education. More than 200 clinical sites in Missouri and beyond are available for supervised clinical education.

A graduate must pass the National Physical Therapy Examination to receive a license to practice in the United States. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). Graduates are eligible for licensure anywhere in the United States.

*DPT Sample Curriculum

Subject to Change

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PH_THR 5360 Pharmacology in Rehabilitation 2

Summer Second Year
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Fall Second Year
PH_THR 6510 Differential Diagnosis in Physical Therapy 3
PH_THR 6520 Evidence-Based Practice 3
PH_THR 6530 Orthopedic Physical Therapy 3
PH_THR 6540 Pediatric Physical Therapy 4
PH_THR 6550 PhysZOU III 0.5
PH_THR 6560 Rehabilitation of the Neurologically Impaired Adult 4

Spring Second Year
PH_THR 6610 Assessment and Neuropsychology of Pain 1
PH_THR 6620 Case Management: Acute and Chronic Medical and Surgical Conditions 5
PH_THR 6630 Clinical Education II 7
PH_THR 6640 Medical Testing in Rehabilitation 3
PH_THR 6650 PHYSZOU IV 0.5
PH_THR 6660 Psychosocial Issues for Health Promotion 2

Summer Third Year
PH_THR 6710 Case Management: Neurological Impairments Across the Lifespan 5

Fall Third Year
PH_THR 6810 Case Management: Geriatrics and Orthopedics 5
PH_THR 6820 Clinical Education III 6
PH_THR 6830 Health Policy for Physical Therapy 2
PH_THR 6840 PhysZOU V 0.5
PH_THR 6850 Professional Issues 3

Spring Third Year
PH_THR 6910 Clinical Education IV 5
PH_THR 6920 PhysZOU VI And Professional Development Plan 0.5
PH_THR 6930 Seminar in Physical Therapy 4
PH_THR 6940 Special Skills in Physical Therapy 1

Total Credits 113

Admission Criteria
- Minimum TOEFL scores:

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- Minimum IELTS scores:

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Required Application Materials
To Graduate School:
- All required Graduate School documents/application fee
- Departmental application/application fee
- 2 letters of recommendation as specified by the application instructions
- Curriculum Vitae (résumé) as specified by the application instructions
- Unofficial transcripts (year of application, summer grades must be recorded on transcript)
- GRE scores must be sent to MU, Institution Code R6875

Application and Admission Information
All applicants will apply to the Graduate School online admission process. Graduate School applications must be submitted and complete by September 30th.

The departmental application will be completed during the on-line admission process.

Students who are admitted without a degree will receive a bachelor’s degree upon completion of the first year of the program.

Admission Contact Information
Beverly Denbigh
School of Health Professions
801 Clark Hall
573-882-7103
573-884-8369 (Fax)