The mission of the physical therapy program is to foster the development of health-care professionals who practice the values of integrity, professional duty, social responsibility, excellence, accountability, altruism, caring, and compassion. Through our unique approach to learning, which includes cooperative education, the DPT program offers a rich environment that promotes lifelong personal and professional development in which students and faculty can engage to generate new knowledge through research. Graduates of our program are prepared to become reflective, evidence-based practitioners capable of responding to the changing needs of a complex world. The physical therapy program is designed to prepare its graduates to provide quality patient care in a time of changing concepts, trends, and challenges. Students are encouraged to help clients gain independence and to recognize and manage the emotional and socioeconomic problems that affect recovery.

The program in physical therapy has three admission points: freshman, transfer, or as a graduate student with a baccalaureate degree in a field other than physical therapy. The duration of the program is six years for freshman entry, four years for transfer or postbaccalaureate entry. The terminal degree for the program is the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree. Cooperative education is unique to and the hallmark of Northeastern University. Ongoing professional development is accomplished through integration of the combination of classroom and experiential activities. Students of physical therapy alternate semesters of academic study with semesters of cooperative education work experience. Students may be employed as physical therapy co-op students with increasing responsibilities commensurate with their academic studies, or they may perform other health-related duties. These experiences provide an opportunity for the application and reinforcement of the lessons learned in the classroom and laboratory. Prior to graduation, students have twelve months of work experience incorporated into the academic program.

Students also have the opportunity to work with faculty to conduct ongoing research and to participate in community service learning.

In addition to cooperative education, the program includes thirty weeks of clinical education. Clinical education allows the student to practice professional skills under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. Clinical sites across the United States, offering a wide range of specialties, participate in our clinical education program. Every effort is made to accommodate individual circumstances, but students should be prepared to travel out of state for two of the three clinical courses. Availability of a car may be required, as most sites are not accessible by public transportation. All expenses associated with clinical education, including travel and housing, are the responsibility of the student.

Physical therapists provide services to patients and clients who have impairments, functional limitations, disabilities, or changes in physical function resulting from injury, disease, or other causes. In addition, physical therapists are involved in wellness initiatives, including screenings, health promotions, and educational activities that promote healthy lifestyles. They perform administrative duties and direct and supervise support personnel. Physical therapists interact and practice in collaboration with a variety of health-care professionals, including, but not limited to, physicians, dentists, nurses, educators, social workers, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, and audiologists.

Physical therapists function in a variety of settings, including community and university hospitals; rehabilitation centers; private practices; educational settings; extended-care facilities; freestanding outpatient clinics; home health agencies; and community, state, and federal agencies.

Students do not need to reapply to the DPT phase of the program, provided they meet the academic standards. To progress in the program, students must maintain acceptable standards of scholarship and academic performance as stated in the academic requirements section of this catalog. Students must develop appropriate motor skills, professional behavior, and emotional maturity.

The program in physical therapy is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Graduates of the Doctor of Physical Therapy program are eligible to sit for the Physical Therapy Licensure Examination.

DPT—Doctor of Physical Therapy

Note: “TBD” stands for “to be determined.”

YEAR 1

Introduction to College
Complete the following course:
BHS U100 College: An Introduction 1 SH

Introductory English
Complete the following course with a grade of C or higher:
ENG U111 College Writing 4 SH

Mathematics
Complete the following course:
MTH U141 Calculus 1 4 SH
Psychology
Complete the following two courses:
PSY U101  Foundations of Psychology  4 SH
PSY U404  Developmental Psychology  4 SH

Chemistry
Complete the following two courses with corresponding labs:
CHM U101  General Chemistry  4 SH
for Health Sciences
with CHM U102 Lab for CHM U101  1 SH
CHM U104  Organic Chemistry  4 SH
for Health Sciences
with CHM U105 Lab for CHM U104  1 SH

Free Electives
Complete any two courses outside physical therapy. Only one remedial or education course may be applied to the entire program.

YEAR 2

Professional Development
Complete one of the following courses:
BHS U101  Professional Development  1 SH
for Bouvé Co-op
COP U101  Professional Development for Co-op  1 SH

Anatomy and Physiology
Complete the following two courses with corresponding labs:
BIO U117  Integrated Anatomy and Physiology 1  4 SH
with BIO U118 Lab for BIO U117  1 SH
BIO U119  Integrated Anatomy and Physiology 2  4 SH
with BIO U120 Lab for BIO U119  1 SH

Physics
Complete the following two courses with corresponding labs:
PHY U145  Physics for Life Sciences 1  4 SH
with PHY U146 Lab for PHY U145  1 SH
PHY U147  Physics for Life Sciences 2  4 SH
with PHY U148 Lab for PHY U147  1 SH

Statistics
Complete the following course:
MTH U280  Statistics and Software  4 SH

Physical Therapy Foundations
Complete the following two courses with corresponding lab:
BHS U200  Basic Skills for the Health-Care  2 SH
Professional
with BHS U201 Lab for BHS U200  1 SH
BHS U240  Human Development  2 SH

Comparative Study of Cultures
Complete one course to satisfy the NU Core comparative study of cultures requirement as described on page 42.

Free Electives
Complete any two courses outside physical therapy. Only one remedial or education course may be applied to the entire program.

YEAR 3

Gross Anatomy
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:
PTH U301  Gross Anatomy  4 SH
with PTH U302 Lab for PTH U301  1 SH

Kinesiology
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:
PTH U303  Kinesiology  3 SH
with PTH U304 Lab for PTH U303  1 SH

Professional Seminar
Complete the following course:
PTH U305  Physical Therapy Professional Seminar  1

Psychosocial Management
Complete the following course:
BHS U460  (pending approval)

Therapeutic Modalities
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:
PTH U312  (pending approval)
with PTH U313  (pending approval)

Exercise Physiology
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:
CES U500  Exercise Physiology 1  4 SH
with CES U501 Lab for CES U500  1 SH

Pharmacology
Complete the following course:
TBD  (pending approval)

Pathology
Complete the following course:
PTH U310  Pathology  4 SH

Motor Control
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:
PTH U400  Motor Control  3 SH
with PTH U402 Lab for PTH U400  1 SH

Neuroscience
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:
PTH U308  Neuroscience  4 SH
with PTH U309 Lab for PTH U308  1 SH

YEAR 4

Health-Care Research
Complete the following course:
BHS U450  Health-Care Research  4 SH

Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Management
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:
PTH U503  Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Management  4 SH
with PTH U504 Lab for PTH U503  1 SH

Musculoskeletal Management
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:
PTH U505  Musculoskeletal Management  4 SH
with PTH U506 Lab for PTH U505  1 SH
**Integumentary System and Advanced Modalities**
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:

- PTH U515 Integumentary System and Advanced Modalities 2 SH
  - with PTH U516 Lab for PTH U515 1 SH

**Clinical Integration 1: Evidence and Practice**
Complete the following course with corresponding case studies:

- PTH U520 Clinical Integration 1: Evidence and Practice 2 SH
  - with PTH U521 Case Studies for PTH U520 1 SH

**Physical Therapy Business Management**
Complete the following course:

- PTH U351 Physical Therapy Business Management 2 SH

**Advanced Writing in the Disciplines**
Complete the following course with a grade of C or higher:

- ENG U306 Advanced Writing in the Health Professions 4 SH

**YEAR 5—FALL, SPRING**

**Physical Therapy Project 1**
Complete the following course:

- PTH U512 Physical Therapy Project 1 3 SH

**Assistive Technology**
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:

- PTH G215 Assistive Technology 3 SH
  - with PTH G216 Lab for PTH G215 1 SH

**Neurological Management**
Complete the following two courses with corresponding labs:

- PTH U517 Neurological Management 1 4 SH
  - with PTH U518 Lab for PTH U517 1 SH
- PTH G221 Neurological Management 2 4 SH
  - with PTH G222 Lab for PTH G221 1 SH

**Administration**
Complete the following course:

- PTH G219 Physical Therapy Administration 4 SH

**Health Assessment**
Complete the following course:

- PTH G243 Health Assessment and Wellness 3 SH

**Physical Therapy Project 2**
Complete the following course:

- PTH U533 Physical Therapy Project 2 2 SH

**Professional Seminar 2**
Complete the following course:

- PTH U510 Physical Therapy Professional Seminar 2 2 SH

**Integrative Physical Therapy Practice**
Complete the following course:

- PTH U531 Integrative Physical Therapy Practice 2 SH

**Musculoskeletal Management 2**
Complete the following course with corresponding lab:

- PTH G223 Musculoskeletal Management 2 4 SH
  - with PTH G224 Lab for PTH G223 1 SH

**Graduate Elective**
Complete one graduate elective.

**YEAR 5—SUMMER**

**Clinical Education 1**
Complete the following course:

- PTH G441 Clinical Education 1 6 SH

**Differential Diagnosis**
Complete the following course:

- PTH G240 Differential Diagnosis in Physical Therapy 3 SH

**Advanced Topics**
Complete two courses from the following list:

- PTH G231 to PTH G237

**YEAR 6**

**Clinical Education 2**
Complete the following ten-week clinical:

- PTH G445 (pending approval)

**Clinical Education 3**
Complete the following twelve-week clinical:

- PTH G448 Clinical Education 3 9 SH

**Diagnostic Imaging**
Complete the following course:

- PTH G251 Diagnostic Imaging 3 SH

**PHYSICAL THERAPY MAJOR GRADE REQUIREMENT**
A grade of C or higher is required in all PTH courses.

**NU CORE REQUIREMENTS**
See page 42 for requirement list.

**GENERAL ELECTIVES**
Additional courses taken beyond college and major course requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

**COOPERATIVE EDUCATION**

**UNIVERSITY-WIDE REQUIREMENTS**
210 total semester hours required
Minimum 2.000 GPA required