Course Description

PTH 253 Clinical Practice II
Lec. 0 Lab. 9 Cr. 3
This course involves the student’s participation in the basic treatment techniques of physical therapy in the clinic setting.
Prerequisites: PTH 240, PTH 242, PTH 252. Corequisites: PTH 115, PTH 228, PTH 246, PTH 253.

Course Focus

This course involves the student’s participation in the basic treatment techniques of physical therapy in the clinic setting.

Text and References


Other Course Requirements:

Clinical Education Information Packets as required by specified clinical sites
TCL Clinical Education Manual
**Course Objective/Learning Objectives:** At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of their capabilities and limitations as a student physical therapist assistant.
2. Demonstrate safe, ethical and legal patient care practices.
3. Integrate information from an actual plan of care developed by a licensed physical therapist into a safe and appropriate physical therapy intervention session.
4. Carry out basic, select physical therapy interventions for patients with various conditions as directed by an actual plan of care developed by a licensed physical therapist.
5. Provide basic patient education for patients as directed by an actual plan of care developed by a licensed physical therapist.
6. Refine the ability to actively problem solves patient related situations and modify interventions accordingly within an actual plan of care developed by a licensed physical therapist.
7. Use information from data collection techniques to monitor patient status during intervention sessions.
8. Respond appropriately to changes in patient status.
9. Document the provision of physical therapy interventions as directed by the plan of care developed by a licensed physical therapist.
10. Assist the physical therapist in discharge planning as directed by the plan of care developed by a licensed physical therapist.
11. Begin to supervise a physical therapy technician or aide under the guidance of the clinical instructor.
12. Recognize interventions that are inappropriately delegated and initiate clarification with the supervising licensed physical therapist.
13. Respond appropriately to individual, developmental and cultural differences of others.
14. Demonstrate appropriate professional behaviors and conduct in the clinical setting.
15. Discuss the role of the physical therapist assistant in clinical education activities.
16. Demonstrate the ability to educate other professionals and students through presentation of an in-service and a case overview.

**Course Outline/Purpose**

This course is the second formal clinical education experience for the TCL PTA students. It is a four-week (160 hour) experience designed to allow students to build upon the clinical procedures practiced in class and in the first clinical experience. All patient care activities performed by students in clinical education courses are directed by the plan of care developed by the licensed physical therapist and are supervised by a licensed physical therapist and physical therapist assistant.

**Course Structure:**

Pre-clinical education activities will be conducted to prepare the student for the clinical education experience. Students are required to attend all such pre-Clinical Education activities in order to be eligible to attend clinical assignment. In order to maximize learning, students will be required to complete any assignments from the clinical education faculty and complete any indicated study and review outside of the clinical schedule. If a student is falling behind in clinical performance or achievement, it is imperative to seek immediate assistance from the PTA Program faculty and the clinical instructor (CI). Required post-clinical education activities will be conducted at the college to assist students in fully processing the depth of the clinical education experience.
Course Goals

The following list of course goals will be addressed in the course. (*designates a CRUCIAL goal)

1. Adhere to institutional policies*
2. demonstrate ethical physical therapy practice*
3. demonstrate initiative*
4. demonstrate professional behavior*
5. establish patient/staff rapport
6. exhibit compassionate patient care
7. follow physical therapy legal practice guidelines*
8. observe safety regulations*
9. respect culturally diverse patients
10. adapt to schedule changes*
11. assist physical therapists
12. complete delegated tasks
13. demonstrate safe patient handling techniques*
14. follow physical therapy care plans*
15. maintain safe working environment*
16. manage a daily patient schedule
17. manage patient treatment time
18. request necessary assistance*
19. understand patient charts
20. utilize multiple information sources
21. conduct therapeutic exercise interventions
22. deliver selected electrotherapy interventions
23. deliver selected physical agent interventions
24. demonstrate effective neuromuscular rehabilitation skills
25. measure joint ROM
26. measure muscle strength
27. monitor patient status*
28. perform manual therapy techniques
29. write daily progress notes
30. communicate patient/staff/self concerns*
31. demonstrate active listening skills
32. identify patient problems
33. interpret non-verbal communication
34. attend team/patient conferences
35. maintain patient confidentiality*
36. produce accurate concise legible timely documentation
37. report patient status*
38. respond to patient status changes*
39. accept instructional criticism
40. assess professional growth
41. explain decision making rationale
42. modify patient interventions
43. progress patient interventions
44. provide patient/family education
45. seek learning opportunities

Student Contributions
Classes are designed to employ a variety of teaching techniques. In order to maximize learning, required readings and Web enhanced sections should be done prior to class. If a student is falling behind in clinical performance and/or academic achievement, it is imperative to seek immediate assistance from the instructor.

**Course Evaluation**

A Grade of "PASS" must be achieved in order to pass the course and progress in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program. This includes progressing to any scheduled clinical experiences. In order to achieve a grade of "PASS", the following criteria must be met:

1. The student must successfully complete the required number of clinical hours (160) as assigned.
2. The student must satisfactorily complete and turn in all required clinical education paperwork (both pre-clinical and post-clinical) as outlined below in this syllabus. Late paperwork will not be accepted.
3. The student must complete all course assignments outlined in this syllabus.
4. The student must achieve a satisfactory rating on the PTA CPI which includes the following:
   a. A score of 100% or above on Items 1-5 of the PTA CPI.
   b. A score of 50% or above on the remaining Items of the PTA CPI.
5. The student must demonstrate safe, responsible, respectful, ethical and legal practice patterns as determined by Clinical and Program faculty members.
   a. Student Clinical Education Agreement
   b. Student Data Sheet
   a. PTA Clinical Performance Instrument (CPI) completed by the clinical instructor(s).
   b. PTA Clinical Performance Instrument (CPI) completed by the student. The completed form must include a rating for each criterion and comments to support the rating.
   c. At completion of the Clinical Education experience, return completed APTA PTA Student Clinical Experience Evaluation Form.

**Course assignments:**

All students are required to submit answers to questions regarding their clinical education experience. Questions will be posted on Blackboard each Monday and must be answered by 5:00PM that Friday. One SOAP note will be emailed to ACCE by 5:00PM each Wednesday.

**Course Schedule**

Determined by individual clinical education sites

**ADA STATEMENT**

The Technical College of the Lowcountry provides access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability
accommodation, contact the counselor for students with disabilities at (843) 525-8228 during the first ten business days of the academic term.

ATTENDANCE

The College’s statement of policy indicates that students must attend ninety percent of total class hours or they will be in violation of the attendance policy.

1. Students not physically attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.

2. Students taking an online/internet class must sign in and communicate with the instructor within the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester to indicate attendance in the class. Students not attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.

3. Reinstatement requires the signature of the division dean.

   a. In the event it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw from the course OR if a student stops attending class, it is the student’s responsibility to initiate and complete the necessary paperwork. Withdrawing from class may have consequences associated with financial aid and time to completion.

   b. When a student exceeds the allowed absences, the student is in violation of the attendance policy. The instructor MUST withdrawal the student with a grade of “W”, “WP”, or “WF” depending on the date the student exceeded the allowed absences and the student’s progress up to the last date of attendance or

   c. under extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the faculty member teaching the class, allow the student to continue in the class and make-up the work. This exception must be documented at the time the allowed absences are exceeded.

   d. Absences are counted from the first day of class. There are no "excused" absences. All absences are counted, regardless of the reason for the absence.

4. A student must take the final exam or be excused from the final exam in order to earn a non-withdrawal grade.

5. Students are expected to be in class on time. Arrival to class after the scheduled start time or leaving class prior to dismissal counts as a tardy. Three tardies and/or early departures are considered as one absence unless stated otherwise.

6. It is the student’s responsibility to sign the roll/verify attendance with instructor upon entering the classroom. Failure to sign the roll/verify attendance results in a recorded absence. In the event of tardiness, it is the student’s responsibility to insure that attendance is marked. The student is responsible for all material/announcements presented, whether present or absent.

7. Continuity of classroom and laboratory (which includes clinical experiences) is essential to the student’s progress in providing safe and competent patient care. Students are expected to use appropriate judgment for participating in clinical activities. To evaluate the student’s knowledge and skills, it is necessary for the student to be present for all clinical experiences. If absence does occur, the designated clinical site, in addition to the Division of Health Sciences Administrative Assistant, must be notified by telephone no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of the clinical experience. The Division of Health Sciences telephone number is 843-525-8267.

8. Absences from the clinical area are strongly discouraged. The attendance policy applies to clinical activities. “No call, no show” for clinical is unprofessional conduct and the student will be withdrawn from the program with a WF.

Developed/Revised: November 9th 2011/approved M. Sapp  8-6-12jcu
A copy of TCL’s STATEMENT OF POLICY NUMBER: 3-1-307 CLASS ATTENDANCE (WITHDRAWAL) is on file in the Division Office and in the Learning Resources Center.

HAZARDOUS WEATHER

In case weather conditions are so severe that operation of the College may clearly pose a hardship on students and staff traveling to the College, notification of closing will be made through the following radio and television stations: WYKZ 98.7, WGCO 98.3, WGOZ 103.1, WFXH 106.1, WWVV 106.9, WLOW 107.9, WGZR 104.9, WFXH 1130 AM, WLVH 101.1, WSOK 1230 AM, WAEV 97.3, WTOC TV, WTGS TV, WJWJ TV, and WSAV TV. Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

There is no tolerance at TCL for academic dishonesty and misconduct. The College expects all students to conduct themselves with dignity and to maintain high standards of responsible citizenship.

It is the student’s responsibility to address any questions regarding what might constitute academic misconduct to the course instructor for further clarification.

The College adheres to the Student Code for the South Carolina Technical College System. Copies of the Student Code and Grievance Procedure are provided in the TCL Student Handbook, the Division Office, and the Learning Resources Center.

Health care professionals hold the public trust. Academic misconduct by health science students calls that trust into question and academic integrity is expected.

It is a fundamental requirement that any work presented by students will be their own. Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to):

1. copying the work of another student or allowing another student to copy working papers, printed output, electronic files, quizzes, tests, or assignments.
2. completing the work of another student or allowing another student to complete or contribute to working papers, printed output, electronic files, quizzes, tests, or assignments.
3. viewing another student’s computer screen during a quiz or examination.
4. talking or communicating with another student during a test.
5. violating procedures prescribed by the instructor to protect the integrity of a quiz, test, or assignment.
6. plagiarism in any form, including, but not limited to: copying/pasting from a website, textbook, previously submitted student work, or any instructor-prepared class material; obvious violation of any copyright-protected materials.
7. knowingly aiding a person involved in academic misconduct.
8. providing false information to staff and/or faculty.
9. entering an office unaccompanied by faculty or staff.
10. misuse of electronic devices.

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