Course Description

PTH 266 Physical Therapy Practicum I
Lec. 0 Lab. 18 Cr. 6
This course includes patient treatments under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist and/or a licensed physical therapist assistant.
Prerequisites: PTH 115, PTH 228, PTH 235, PTH 246. PTH 253. Corequisites: PTH 270, PTH 275.

Course Focus

This course includes patient treatments under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist and/or a licensed physical therapist assistant.

Text and References


Clinical Education Information Packets as Required for Specified Clinical Sites: Details provided to each student

Clinical Site Information

Information regarding the different clinical sites is located in the file cabinet in the PTA laboratory (room 122).

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, students will:
1. Perform in a safe manner that minimizes risk to patient, self, and others in all aspects of physical therapy practice as delineated under criterion 1 of the APTA CPI for PTA.*
2. Demonstrates expected clinical behaviors in a professional manner in all situations including all sample behavior cited under criterion 2 of the APTA CPI for PTA.*
3. Performs in a manner consistent with established legal standards, standards of the profession, and ethical guidelines as delineated under criterion 3 of the APTA CPI for PTA.*
4. Adapts delivery of physical therapy services with consideration for patients’ differences, values, preferences, and needs as cited under criterion 4 of the APTA CPI for PTA.*
5. Communicates in ways that are congruent with situational needs as delineated under criterion 5 of the APTA CPI for PTA.*
6. Demonstrate clinical problem solving based on patient status and in accordance with the POC as delineated under criterion 7 of the APTA CPI for PTA.*
7. Document all aspects of patient care concisely and accurately with minimal to no input from the clinical instructor.
8. Recognize the need for modification to the POC with minimal to no input from the clinical instructor.
9. Competently performs all entry level physical therapist assistant intervention skills with minimal to no input from the clinical instructor and in accordance with the POC
10. Provide effective education to patients, care-givers, and staff with minimal to no input from the clinical instructor.
11. Consistently utilize clinical instructor feedback to improve their physical therapy skills.
12. Engage in activities that address quality of service and fiscal management by completing a medical chart review/audit.
13. Identifies patient needs for other services with minimal to no input from the clinical instructor.
14. Displays effective time management skills consistent with the expectations of an entry level physical therapist assistant.
15. Utilize support personnel correctly to improve efficiency of the physical therapy clinical setting.
16. Demonstrate an appreciation for life-long learning including preparation and presentation of an in-service training module.
17. Assist the clinical instructor in health and wellness activities per the goals of the clinical site.
18. Demonstrates self-assessment by filling out APTA Values-Based Behaviors for the Physical Therapist Assistant Self-Assessment Tool.

DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE/PURPOSE
This course is the third and final formal Clinical Education experience for the TCL PTA student. It is an eight-week (320 hour) experience designed to allow students to progress to an entry-level of competence in patient care and professional skills. 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 or licensed physical therapist assistant.

Student Contributions
Each student is required to actively participate in all aspects of clinical education as directed by their CI. Appropriate and professional behavior is expected at all times in the clinical setting. Students demonstrating inappropriate behaviors in a patient care setting will be dismissed from the learning situation undergo disciplinary procedures including possible dismissal from the program and will be assessed grading penalties related to the behavior.

When in the clinical setting, students' apparel and grooming must conform to health, sanitation, and safety standards. Students must adhere to the following requirements unless otherwise directed by the faculty or clinical instructor:

1. The required clinic attire for students includes wearing student ID badge or other student ID badge as required by the clinical facility.
2. Students must have with them a black ink pen and a notebook.
3. If the clinical site does not provide a dress code, students will follow these guidelines: khaki, black or navy pants with a belt and a collared shirt with sleeves. Clothing should not be transparent or see-through in any way. Clothing must be clean and free of stains and wrinkles, and must be of a type that does not limit the ability to perform patient care activities. Shoes must be worn with socks and must have closed toes and flat heels. Rubber soles are recommended for comfort in the clinic. Hair must be maintained off the collar and away from the face. Ornate hair fasteners are not appropriate. Students with a beard or mustache must
keep it neat, clean and well-trimmed. Fingernails must be clean and no longer than ¼ inch in length. Only clear or neutral colored nail polish is permitted and artificial nails of any type are not allowed. Jeans, mini-skirts, T-shirts and sandals are not acceptable clinical attire.

4. If the clinical site requires, students will comply with the clinical site policy of wearing scrubs.

5. Only the following items of jewelry are permitted: wedding bands, medical identification bracelets, and one small, plain stud earring in each ear; other visible forms of body jewelry may not be worn in the clinical setting. A watch with a second hand must be worn.

6. Tattoos and other forms of body art must be covered.

7. The close physical contact that is necessary in the clinic requires consistent attention to personal hygiene. To prevent offending patients, students should use deodorant and maintain proper oral hygiene at all times.

8. Perfume or strong after-shave lotions are not appropriate in clinical settings.

9. Gum chewing and tobacco chewing are not permitted in clinical settings.

10. Failure to comply with the dress code will result in dismissal from the clinical area resulting in an unexcused absence.

11. Students may not use cell phones except during scheduled breaks.

Course Evaluation
Unlike other courses in the TCL PTA curriculum, this Clinical Education course is graded on a PASS/FAIL basis. Grades are assigned by the Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education.

Grading Methodology: 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:

a. The student must successfully complete the required number of Clinical hours (320) as assigned.

b. 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.

c. The student must complete all course assignments outlined in this syllabus.

d. A score entry-level on all items of the PTA CPI.

Required Pre-Clinical Paperwork
a. Student Authorization for Release of Records Form
b. Student Clinical Education Agreement
c. Student Data Sheet

Required Paperwork at conclusion of clinical assignment
a. Clinical Performance Instrument must be completed on-line for midterm and final by CI and Student

b. Return completed APTA PTA Student Clinical Experience Evaluation Form to the ACCE
c. In-service sheet
d. Medical Chart Review form
e. Self-reflection tool

Course assignments include:

a. Completed Medical Chart Review Form
b. OP weekly journal entry submitted on line, due by Friday midnight each week.
c. Two R2P journal entries submitted on line, due by Sunday midnight each week.
d. Present in-service from PTH 275
e. Self-reflection tool

Course Schedule
As assigned

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) 525-8219 or (843) 525-8242 during the first ten business days of the academic term.

ATTENDANCE
1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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 withdraw 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.
5. A student must take the final exam or be excused from the final exam in order to earn a non-withdrawal grade.
6. Students are expected to be in clinic on time. Arrival 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. The CI and the ACCE must be notified prior to start time if a student is running late. Failure to do so will result in a learning contract.
7. 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.
8. Continuity of 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. Absences from the clinical area are strongly discouraged. If absence does occur, the designated clinical site, and the ACCE must be notified by telephone no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of the clinical day. Failure to do so is considered “No call, No show”

9. “No call, No show” for clinical is unprofessional conduct and the student will be withdrawn from the program with a WF.

10. Students are not legally allowed to be at clinical when the college is officially closed. If clinical hours extend beyond M-F the ACCE must be notified prior to the occurrence. A student is prohibited from being at a clinical site more than 40 hours in a 7 day period. Failure to comply with any of the above stated situations is unprofessional conduct and the student will be withdrawn from the program with a WF.

*Please refer to the Division Handbook for clarification of the No Call/No Show process.*

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, WGZO 103.1, WFXH 106.1, WWVV 106.9, WLOW 107.9, WGZR 104.9, WFXH 1130 AM, WLHV 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](http://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.

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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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