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
TCL Clinical Education Manual: As provided in pre-Clinical Education Meetings

COURSE OBJECTIVES/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 physical therapy interventions at an entry-level of competence as directed by an actual Plan of Care developed by a licensed physical therapist.
5. Provide patient education for patients with various conditions at an entry-level of competence as directed by an actual Plan of Care developed by a licensed physical therapist.
6. Demonstrate an entry-level of competence in actively problem solving patient related situations and modifying 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 to changes in patient status at an entry-level of competence.
9. Progress patient care activities as directed by an actual Plan of Care developed by a licensed physical therapist.
10. Document the provision of physical therapy interventions at an entry-level of competence as directed by the Plan of Care developed by a licensed physical therapist.
11. Assist the physical therapist in discharge planning as directed by the Plan of Care developed by a licensed physical therapist.
12. Demonstrate the appropriate practice of physical therapy as outlined in the Physical Therapy Practice Act of the State of South Carolina.
13. Supervise a Physical Therapy Technician or Aide under the guidance of the Clinical Instructor.
14. Recognize when interventions are inappropriately delegated and initiate clarification from the supervising licensed physical therapist.
15. Demonstrate appropriate professional behaviors and conduct in the clinical setting.
16. Respond appropriately to the individual, developmental and cultural differences of others.
17. Examine the role of the physical therapist assistant in Clinical Education activities.
18. Demonstrate the ability to educate other professionals and students through presentation of an in-service.

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.

Course Goals
The following list of course goals will be addressed in the course. These goals are directly related to the performance objectives. (*designates a CRUCIAL goal)
1. accept personal responsibility*
2. accept professional responsibilities*
3. adhere to institutional policies
4. complete delegated tasks
5. demonstrate initiative
6. demonstrate professional behavior*
7. guard patient confidentiality
8. maintain safe working environment
9. observe safety regulations
10. respect culturally diverse patients
11. use appropriate antiseptic techniques
12. write weekly journal entries
13. complete 320 clinical education hours
14. adapt to schedule changes
15. assist physical therapists
16. communicate patient status*
17. demonstrate active listening skills
18. demonstrate ethical physical therapy practice
19. encourage patients
20. establish staff rapport
21. establish patient rapport
22. execute safe patient transfer techniques
23. exhibit compassionate patient care*
24. implement effective guarding techniques
25. obey physical therapy legal practice guidelines*
26. protect patient modesty
27. request necessary assistance
28. choose appropriate exercise equipment
29. choose appropriate patient transfer techniques
30. choose correct adaptive equipment
31. conduct therapeutic exercise interventions
32. deliver selected electrotherapy interventions
33. deliver selected physical agent interventions
34. develop home exercise programs
35. measure joint ROM
36. measure muscle strength
37. monitor patient status*
38. produce concise documentation
39. produce legible documentation
40. produce timely documentation
41. write daily progress notes
42. advance patient interventions*
43. analyze common muscle substitution patterns
44. analyze gait patterns
45. analyze postural abnormalities
46. assess patient functional levels
47. comprehend patient medical charts
48. execute physical therapy care plans
49. formulate manual therapy interventions
50. implement effective manual therapy skills
51. implement effective neuromuscular rehabilitation skills
52. instruct care givers
53. manage patient treatment time*
54. modify patient interventions
55. provide family education
56. perform manual therapy techniques
57. provide patient education
58. relate treatment to function*
59. teach home exercise programs
60. attend team patient conferences
61. consult other health care providers
62. delegate rehab technician responsibilities
63. explain decision making rationale
64. guard patient resources
65. guard patient welfare
66. identify medical necessity
67. identify patient impairments
68. identify patient problems
69. interpret nonverbal communication*
70. manage a daily patient schedule*
71. predict appropriate patient interventions
72. prioritize patients treatment goals*
73. prioritize treatment interventions*
74. respond to patient status change*
75. suggest treatment plan modifications
76. watch physical therapist patient evaluations
77. calculate treatment charges
78. complete medical chart reviews
79. perform chart review
80. plan patient discharge needs
81. present an in-service education program
82. prioritize multiple patient treatments
83. produce accurate documentation
84. record accurate treatment time
85. utilize multiple information sources
86. accept instructional criticism*
87. assess professional growth
88. establish weekly clinical education goals
89. evaluate clinical instructors
90. manage work related stress
91. 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
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. The student must achieve a satisfactory rating on the PTA CPI which includes the following:
e. A score of 95 to 100% on Items 1-5 of the PTA CPI.
f. A score of 90 to 100% on all remaining Items of the PTA CPI.
g. The student must demonstrate safe, responsible, respectful, ethical and legal practice patterns as determined by Clinical and Program faculty members.

**Required Pre-Clinical Paperwork: (specific due dates to be posted)**

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

**Required Paperwork at conclusion of clinical assignment: (specific due dates to be posted)**

a. At completion of the clinical education experience, return completed PTH 266 Clinical Performance Tool (self-assessment and Clinical Instructor’s assessment) to the ACCE
b. At completion of the Clinical Education experience, return completed APTA PTA Student Clinical Experience Evaluation Form to the ACCE

**Course assignments include:**

b. Weekly journal entry submitted online, due by Friday 5p.m. each week.

**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) 525-8228 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 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
   c. or
   d. 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.
   e. 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.

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, WGZD 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](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 TLC 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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