

# DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

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SACRAMENTO STATE

## In Workflow

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2. PT Chair (irwin.thompson@csus.edu)
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## Approval Path

1. Tue, 25 Feb 2025 03:13:03 GMT  
William Garcia (william.garcia): Approved for PT Committee Chair
2. Tue, 25 Feb 2025 04:45:02 GMT  
Scott Thompson (irwin.thompson): Approved for PT Chair
3. Fri, 21 Mar 2025 00:31:29 GMT  
Andrea Becker (andrea.becker): Approved for HHS College Committee Chair
4. Fri, 21 Mar 2025 16:21:53 GMT  
Robert Pieretti (sac19804): Approved for HHS Dean

## History

1. May 2, 2018 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. May 2, 2018 by clmig-jwehrheim
3. Sep 25, 2018 by Janett Torset (torsetj)
4. Dec 9, 2019 by Rolando Lazaro (rolando.lazaro)
5. Apr 6, 2021 by Janett Torset (torsetj)
6. Apr 11, 2022 by Katie Hawke (katiedickson)
7. Mar 7, 2023 by 212408496
8. Mar 15, 2023 by Katie Hawke (katiedickson)
9. Jan 29, 2025 by Scott Thompson (irwin.thompson)

Date Submitted: Mon, 24 Feb 2025 01:53:44 GMT

### Viewing: Doctor of Physical Therapy

**Last approved: Wed, 29 Jan 2025 16:59:30 GMT**

**Last edit: Tue, 04 Mar 2025 23:22:40 GMT**

Changes proposed by: Scott Thompson (223005614)

**Academic Group: (College)**

Health & Human Services

**Academic Organization: (Department)**

Physical Therapy

**Catalog Year Effective:**

2026-2027 Catalog

**Individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program:**

Name (First Last)	Email	Phone 999-999-9999
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**Type of Program:**

Major

**Program Change Type:**

Non-Substantive

**Delivery Format:**

Fully Face to Face

**Title of the Program:**

Doctor of Physical Therapy

**Designation: (degree terminology)**

Doctor of Physical Therapy

**Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification:**

The Doctor of Physical Therapy Program seeks to reorganize course content in the first and second years of the curricular sequence. Specifically, the program proposes to move PT 646 Acute Care & Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy from the Second Year Fall Semester to the First Year Spring Semester. Additionally, it is proposed to move PT 618 Foundations of Patient Management from the First Year Spring Semester to the First Year Summer Semester.

**Justification:**

Course faculty have determined that PT 646 would be better suited to the first academic year of the program, as it is a foundational course that provides DPT students with an initial theoretical exposure to acute and cardiopulmonary physical therapy care. Currently, it is taught in the same semester as PT 640 Physical Therapy Interventions II, which is a patient-management based course that focuses on teaching students to perform comprehensive examinations, interpret the examination findings, and design and implement a plan of care within the context of acute care and cardiopulmonary physical therapy. As both PT 646 and PT 640 run concurrently, learning is not hierarchically scaffolded to allow students to first acquire foundational knowledge in PT 646 prior to applying and synthesizing that knowledge in PT 640. It is believed that offering PT 646 in the first academic year would better prepare students with the foundational knowledge they could utilize for higher levels of learning in PT 640 during the second academic year.

Moving PT 646 to the First Year Spring Semester would increase the number of course units in that semester to 18; a heavy load within a doctoral program. Therefore, the program proposes moving PT 618 to the First Year Summer Semester. This would help to offset the potential increase in the course load during the First Year Spring Semester. Moreover, this would rebalance the First Year Summer Semester load, which is down to 6 units after moving PT 636 Geriatrics/Gerontology for Physical Therapists to the Second Year Fall Semester (changed last year). Doctor of Physical Therapy faculty support this move, as it is believed that the introduction of the Disablement Model (taught in PT 618) is better positioned in the Summer Semester as it would be more proximate to the patient management courses which DPT students will take in the Second Year Fall Semester. Thus, such a change would more logically scaffold course content between the first and second academic years of the DPT program.

These changes have been approved by both the DPT Curriculum Committee and the DPT Department Council.

**University Learning Goals****Doctorate Learning Goal(s):**

Disciplinary knowledge  
 Communication  
 Critical thinking/analysis  
 Information literacy  
 Professionalism  
 Intercultural/Global perspectives  
 Research

## Program Learning Outcomes

### Program Learning Outcomes

#### Learning Outcome

Student Learning Outcome 1.0: Demonstrate professional physical therapist effectiveness by creating and documenting a comprehensive physical therapy patient management process, including determination of the physical therapy needs of any individual, designing a plan of care that synthesizes best available evidence and patient preferences, implementing safe and effective psychomotor interventions, and determining the efficacy of patient outcomes.

Student Learning Outcome 2.0: Demonstrate the ability to plan, organize, administer, direct, and supervise human and fiscal resources for physical therapy practice management, and to communicate effectively with patients, families, other health care professionals and the public.

Student Learning Outcome 3.0: Demonstrate professional behaviors by reflecting on personal and professional development, and by integrating cultural, ethnic, age, economic, and psychosocial considerations in the communication and delivery of clinical services.

Student Learning Outcome 4.0: Practice in an ethical and legal manner through the consistent integration of sound decision-making with respect to established ethical, legal and professional standards.

Student Learning Outcome 5.0: Demonstrate the critical evaluation, interpretation and application of the scientific and professional literature to inform independent judgments and clinical decision-making, research and education.

### Learning Outcomes Display

Course Code	PLO 1	PLO 2	PLO 3	PLO 4	PLO 5
BIO 633					
PT 600					
PT 602					
PT 608					
PT 630					
PT 646					
PT 604					
PT 606					
PT 614					
PT 620					
PT 622					
PT 618					
PT 632					
PT 634					
PT 638					
PT 624					
PT 625					
PT 626					
PT 636					
PT 640					
PT 660A					
PT 627					

PT 644					
PT 645					
PT 648					
PT 660B					
PT 660D					
PT 660G					
PT 662					
PT 669					
PT 689					
PT 695A					
PT 660C					
PT 660E					
PT 660F					
PT 663					
PT 664					
PT 665					
PT 668					
PT 690					
PT 695B					
PT 680					
PT 695C					

Will this program be required as part of a teaching credential program, a single subject, or multiple subject waiver program (e.g., Liberal Studies, Biology) or other school personnel preparation program (e.g., School of Nursing)?

No

#### Catalog Description:

Units required for the DPT degree: 104

Available program units (including electives): 113

## Program Description

Physical Therapy at Sacramento State is one of several professional curricula in the College of Health and Human Services. The program complements others in the College and provides opportunities for scholarship, instructional collaboration, and interaction.

The doctoral curriculum of 3 years, including summers, encompasses didactic instruction, laboratory experience, and clinical education. The clinical component is thirty-six weeks of full-time, off-campus clinical internships.

**Admission Requirements:** Course prerequisites and other criteria for admission of students to the degree major program, and for their continuation in it.

## Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission consideration, students must meet the following criteria:

- Attain a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university prior to enrollment in the program;
- Eligible for admissions as a graduate student in good standing;
- Complete 6 of the 10 prerequisite courses by the application deadline. The four remaining courses must be completed in the Fall or Spring of the application year.
- Complete a minimum 50 total Observation hours (work/volunteer experience) observing licensed physical therapists at work. Please check the PTCAS program page or the Departmental website to see the current application cycle requirements on inpatient and outpatient setting minimums, if any;

- Three letters of recommendation, one from a college professor and two from licensed physical therapists;
- GRE taken within five years of application.

## Admission Procedures

Submit the following applications:

1. Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS) online application by the listed deadline;
2. CSU, Sacramento's Department of Physical Therapy (DPT) Supplemental Application, by the listed deadline.

Both applications are accessible via the department website. Following the initial screening, the top 100 applicants will be invited to interview and to submit a Cal State Apply application.

Applicants will submit the following requirements with their PTCAS application:

- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities that you have attended.
- Verification of completing a minimum 50 total hours of work/volunteer experience in at least one "Inpatient" and one "Outpatient" setting. Each setting must have at least sixteen (16) hours of exposure. All PT experience hours must be completed and verified by the deadline.
- Three letters of recommendation, two from U.S. licensed physical therapists and one from a college professor.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores taken within five years of applying to the DPT program using code: 7588.
- Applicants who do not possess a baccalaureate degree from a post-secondary institution where English is a principal language must take the TEST of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Submit TOEFL scores with your PTCAS application.
- Applicants who previously attended another professional entry-level physical therapy program must submit a letter from the director of the previous physical therapy program designating their academic standing (*if applicable*).

Admission is granted on a competitive basis. Meeting the admission requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the DPT program.

## Selection Procedures

Application materials are reviewed by the DPT Admissions Committee. During the first screening applications are reviewed for the prerequisite coursework GPA, recommendation forms from two licensed physical therapists and one academic professional, GRE scores, volunteer hours, and additional background criteria. Based on the results of this first screening, the top applicants will be invited for a panel interview. The top thirty-two applicants along with alternates will be notified of their status within two weeks of the final interviews.

## Additional Information

### Health Requirements

Students admitted to the graduate program in the Department of Physical Therapy are required to have specified immunizations by the Student Health Center or a private physician prior to any clinical participation. Complete information on health requirements will be provided to incoming students.

### Costs and Fees

In addition to University tuition and fees, students can be expected to incur costs of approximately \$1,800 per year for books, and supplies. Students are required to assume responsibility for transportation and housing costs for clinical internships which may be anywhere in a contracted site in California.

### Health Insurance, Transportation Schedules, CPR Certification, and Background Screens

All students accepted into the graduate program in the Department of Physical Therapy must provide their own health insurance and transportation to clinical facilities. Major medical health insurance is mandatory prior to beginning clinical experiences. CPR certification (Basic Adult and Pediatric for healthcare providers) must be maintained according to the requirements of the American Heart Association or American Red Cross. Students will be required to complete a criminal background check prior to clinical placements. A positive criminal history may limit or preclude student participation in the clinical courses.

## Required Prerequisite Courses (38-39 units)

Prerequisite coursework must have been completed at an accredited college or university with a minimum grade of "C" or better.

Code	Title	Units
<b>Prerequisite Courses Required for enrollment consideration (38-39 Units)</b>		
<i>Human Anatomy with Lab</i> <sup>1</sup>		
Select one of the following:		4
BIO 22 or BIO 122	Introductory Human Anatomy Advanced Human Anatomy	
BIO 25 & BIO 26	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Human Anatomy and Physiology II	
<i>Human Physiology with Lab</i> <sup>1</sup>		
Select one of the following:		4
BIO 25 & BIO 26	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Human Anatomy and Physiology II	
BIO 131	Systemic Physiology	
<i>Psychology</i>		

PSYC 2	Introductory Psychology	3
Select one additional Psychology course similar to:		3
PSYC 148	Child Psychology	
PSYC 150	Psychological Aspects of Aging	
PSYC 151	Psychological Aspects of Death and Dying	
PSYC 168	Abnormal Psychology	
<i>Statistics</i>		
STAT 1	Introduction to Statistics	3 - 4
or STAT 50	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	
<i>Chemistry I with Lab</i>		
CHEM 1A	General Chemistry I	5
or CHEM 6A	Introduction to General Chemistry	
<i>Chemistry II with Lab</i>		
CHEM 1B	General Chemistry II	5
or CHEM 6B	Introduction to Organic and Biological Chemistry	
<i>Physics I with Lab</i>		
PHYS 5A	General Physics: Mechanics, Heat, Sound	4
<i>Physics II with Lab</i>		
PHYS 5B	General Physics: Light, Electricity and Magnetism, Modern Physics	4
<i>Physiology of Exercise (with lab preferred)<sup>1</sup></i>		
KINS 150	Exercise and Sport Physiology	3
or KINS 152	Physiology Of Exercise	
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>38-39</b>

<sup>1</sup> Anatomy, Physiology, and Exercise Physiology must have been completed within the last ten (10) years of the application deadline for the DPT program.

## Minimum Units and Grade Requirement for the Degree

Units Required for the DPT: 104-113

Minimum Cumulative GPA: 3.0; students must earn a grade of "B" in all courses taken in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

## Advancement to Candidacy

Each student must file an application for Advancement to Candidacy indicating a proposed program of graduate study. This procedure may begin as soon as the classified graduate student has:

- removed any deficiencies in admission requirements and achieved classified status;
- successfully completed all courses with a grade of "B" or higher in the first 4 terms with a minimum of 3.0 ("B") overall grade point average in all DPT graduate level coursework;
- passed (with a grade of "B" or higher) a Graduate Writing Intensive (GWI) course (PT 608) and
- passed the faculty candidacy assessment.


As defined by policy <http://www.csus.edu/umannual/acadaff/fsm00010.htm>, a change in units constitutes a substantive change to the program. If your changes constitute a substantive change, please refer back to the "Program Change Type" field above to ensure that "Substantive" is selected.

**Program Requirements: (If new courses are being created as part of a new program, it will be useful to propose courses first.)**

**Units required for the DPT degree: 104**

**Available program units (including electives): 113**

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Units
<b>First Fall Semester (16 Units)</b>		
BIO 633	Human Gross Anatomy for Physical Therapists	3
PT 600	Pathokinesiology	5
PT 602	Evidence Informed Practice I	3
PT 608	PT/Patient/Professional Interactions 	2
PT 630	Pathophysiology	3
<b>First Spring Semester (17 Units)</b>		
PT 646	Acute Care and Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy	2
PT 604	Principles of Human Movement	2

PT 606	Therapeutic Measurements and Techniques	4
PT 614	Neuroscience for Physical Therapy	3
PT 620	Physical Therapy Interventions I	3
PT 622	Evidence Informed Practice II	3
<b>First Summer Semester (7 Units)</b>		
PT 618	Foundations for Patient Management	1
PT 632	Pharmacology for Physical Therapists	2
PT 634	Diagnostic Imaging for Physical Therapy	2
PT 638	Health, Wellness and Ergonomics in Physical Therapy	2
<b>Second Fall Semester (16 Units)</b>		
PT 624	Adult Neuromuscular Patient Management I	4
PT 625	Musculoskeletal Patient Management I	4
PT 626	Clinical Agents	2
PT 636	Geriatrics/Gerontology for Physical Therapists	2
PT 640	Physical Therapy Interventions II	3
PT 660A	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar A: Research <sup>1</sup>	1
<b>Second Spring Semester (21 Units)</b>		
PT 627	Physical Therapy Educator	1
PT 644	Adult Neuromuscular Patient Management II	4
PT 645	Musculoskeletal Patient Management II	4
PT 648	Health Care Delivery in Physical Therapy I	2
PT 660B	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar B: Research <sup>1</sup>	1
PT 660D	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar ID: Electrotherapeutics <sup>1</sup>	2
PT 660G	Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) <sup>1</sup>	2
PT 662	Differential Diagnosis in Physical Therapy	3
PT 669	Psychosocial Issues in Physical Therapy	1
PT 689	Doctoral Project Proposal 	1
<b>Second Summer Semester (6 Units)</b>		
PT 695A	Clinical Experience I	6
<b>Third Fall Semester (17 Units)</b>		
PT 660C	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar C: Research <sup>1</sup>	1
PT 660E	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar IE: NeuroPediatric Laboratory <sup>1</sup>	2
PT 660F	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar IF: Adult Neuromuscular Laboratory <sup>1</sup>	2
PT 663	Integumentary Patient Management	2
PT 664	Neuropediatric Patient Management	2
PT 665	Musculoskeletal Patient Management III	3
PT 668	Health Care Delivery in Physical Therapy II	2
PT 690	Doctoral Project/Culminating Experience	3
<b>Third Spring Semester (6 Units)</b>		
PT 695B	Clinical Experience II	6
<b>Third Summer Semester (7 Units)</b>		
PT 680	Graduate Physical Therapy Seminar II	1
PT 695C	Clinical Experience III	6
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>113</b>

<sup>1</sup> Elective Course. A minimum of 2 elective units is required.

## Fiscal Impact to Change an Existing Program

Indicate programmatic or fiscal impact which this change will have on other academic units' programs, and describe the consultation that has occurred with affected units:

No fiscal impact is expected. The number of program units will not change. Doctor of Physical Therapy students pay a flat tuition per semester, irrespective of the number of units.

Provide a fiscal analysis of the proposed changes:

No fiscal impact expected.

**How will the above changes be accommodated within the department/College existing fiscal resources?**

No fiscal impact expected.

**Will the proposed changes require additional resources?**

No

**What additional space, equipment, operating expenses, library, computer, or media resources, clerical/technical support, or other resources will be needed?**

No additional equipment, space, technology resources/support, or faculty are required to accommodate these proposed changes.

**Estimate the cost and indicate how these resource needs will be accommodated:**

None.

Key: 194