

**MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY  
PHYSICAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT  
DPT 877 Clinical Education IV  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
Fall**

**CREDITS:** 10

- Full-time placement (40 hours per week) at an affiliating clinical education site under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

**PREREQUISITE COURSES:** Successful completion of all required DPT academic courses is required prior to starting any Clinical Education experience. Successful completion of DPT 837 Clinical Education I, DPT 847 Clinical Education II, and DPT 867 Clinical Education III are also prerequisites for this course.

**CONCURRENT COURSES:** None

**FACULTY:**

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- Clinical Instructor(s): Assigned by clinical education site

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

This is a ten-week, full-time clinical education experience, occurring during the eighth semester in the program (Fall III). This experience will provide the opportunity for integration of current professional competencies into direct patient care using problem solving strategies. Facilitation from Physical Therapy Clinical Faculty will assist in the utilization of these skills in critically analyzing a variety of patient and role problems. This experience will begin the process of professional socialization and cultivation of interpersonal communication skills; clinical decision making; self-assessment; proactive learning; and development of personal values, attitudes, and motivations in relationship to ethical, legal, and moral practice. 40 hours per week for 10 weeks.

**INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES:** Direct patient care and practice of physical therapy under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist; On-line activities through Blackboard.

**PROGRAM GOALS ADDRESSED BY THIS COURSE:**

1. Be prepared to practice as physical therapist generalists capable of contemporary, reflective, competent, legal, autonomous and ethical practice.
2. Competently utilize and contribute to, evidence for the validation and advancement of the art and science of physical therapy.
3. Apply appropriate and effective teaching methods to educate others.
4. Effectively communicate and interact with colleagues for the benefit of optimal service to clients.
5. Respect and respond to individual differences in interactions with clients, families, colleagues and the community.

**UNIVERSITY GRADUATE EDUCATOPM GOALS ADDRESSED BY THIS COURSE:**

1. Integrate the values of mercy, service, justice, and hospitality in their scholarly activity and professional work.
2. Demonstrate leadership and service to their communities and professions.
3. Advocate responsible ethical decision-making and behavior.
4. Think independently and creatively, using evidenced-based research.
5. Demonstrate cultural competence and the ability to consider global perspectives within their communities and professions.
6. Value and foster effective oral, written, and technological communication within their communities and professions.
7. Incorporate current technologies to enhance communication and professional practice.
8. Pursue life-long learning and continued professional growth.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this clinical education experience, the student will be able to:

1. Create a safe working environment that minimizes risk to patients, self and others. (PC 1)
2. Respond appropriately to emergent or urgent situations according to facility safety policies and procedures. (PC 1)
3. Exhibit professional behavior during all clinical education activities. (PC 2)
4. Practice within established legal, professional and ethical guidelines. (PC 3)
5. Communicate verbally and nonverbally with others in an appropriate and timely manner. (PC 4)
6. Provide optimal care in a compassionate manner within the context of client wishes and both personal and societal constraints. (PC 5)
7. Provide care for patients and families in a nonjudgmental way while respecting personal differences, values and beliefs.(PC 5)
8. Identify personal strengths and weaknesses through CI's assessment and self-assessment.(PC 6)

9. Develop a plan for personal and professional growth based on CI's assessment and self-assessment. (PC 6)
10. Communicate and collaborate as professional health care providers with other health professionals, health and social service agencies and the community in the areas of: health promotion; prevention of disease, illness and participation restriction; health maintenance; and intervention for movement dysfunction. (PC 6)
11. Recognize clusters of signs, symptoms, and predisposing factors which enable categorization of problems and establish a physical therapy diagnosis. (PC 7)
12. Screen for relevant moderating variables, signs and symptoms that may contribute to determination of the physical therapy diagnosis and aid in selection of the most appropriate intervention strategies. (PC 8)
13. Decide whether physical therapy treatment is appropriate for a client as being within the scope of practice of physical therapy and the expertise of the therapist. (PC8)
14. Refer clients to another practitioner if physical therapy intervention is not appropriate and/or if there are related or unrelated problems for which other health care intervention may be indicated.(PC 8)
15. Select and accurately perform relevant physical therapy tests and measures during the examination of a patient. (PC9)
16. Consider patient response to selected tests and measures to optimize efficiency and accuracy. (PC 9)
17. Evaluate information from the client/family interview, the medical record, and physical therapist's examination of the client, in making clinical decisions. (PC 10)
18. Synthesize information to establish a physical therapy diagnosis and prognosis to create a patient/client plan of care. (PC 11)
19. Develop the short and long term goals for physical therapy in consultation with given clients and their significant others to maximize functional outcomes. (PC 12)
20. Select and design appropriate physical therapy intervention given constraints of moderating variables and limitations of knowledge. (PC 12)
21. Implement and manage physical therapy intervention in cooperation with the clients, significant others, and other health professionals, and in consideration of the moderating variables and contemporary health care and professional issues and constraints. (PC 13)
22. Monitor and evaluate responses to intervention, including physiological status, and modify or terminate treatments as appropriate. (PC 13)
23. Apply concepts from teaching and learning theories in designing, implementing, and evaluating learning experiences used in the education of clients, significant others, students, colleagues, community, and self. (PC 14)
24. Provide thorough, accurate, and organized documentation in a timely manner to justify physical therapy services. (PC 15)
25. Function with a spirit of critical inquiry by: applying basic principles of the scientific method to read and interpret professional literature; systematically collecting, analyzing, and documenting clinical data; participating in activities to validate clinical theory and practice; and critically analyzing new concepts and findings. (PC 16)
26. Apply concepts and principles of management in the provision of cost-effective physical therapy services to individuals, organizations and communities in recognition of the influence of social, economic, legislative, ethical and demographic factors on the delivery of health care. (PC 17)

27. Determine appropriate direction and supervision of personnel working with patients/clients with consideration for the legal, professional and ethical guidelines of the profession. (PC 18)

**TEXTS AND RESOURCES:** Students are strongly encouraged to access required texts, not only to meet course requirements, but also as the basis for preparation for the National Physical Therapy Examination (licensure).

**Required Textbooks:**

1. *Guide to Physical Therapist Practice*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Alexandria, VA: American Physical Therapy Association; 2003.
2. The course Blackboard page is used to provide supplemental information throughout the semester.

**Recommended Textbooks and Other Resources:** All textbooks and resources utilized in the academic portion of the curriculum prior to the clinical education experience.

**COURSE CONTENT, CLASS SCHEDULE, AND ASSIGNMENTS:** See separate schedule.

**COURSE POLICIES:** Students are responsible for complying with all policies found in the student handbooks, including those on attendance requirements, academic integrity, and special needs.

All course materials are the property of the instructor and the University. Students do not have permission to copy, sell, distribute, or present notes, tapes, electronic media presentations, or other course materials for any purpose other than personal educational use.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Completion of the Student Data Form to be reviewed and discussed with the Director of Clinical Education (DCE) and mailed to the clinical site no later than **three weeks** prior to the beginning of the clinical education experience.
2. Completion of the student's self-assessments (midterm and final) utilizing the Physical Therapist Clinical Performance Instrument Web.<sup>\*</sup> These must be reviewed and signed by the CI and CCCE. The student must complete the Comments sections under each PC as well as the Summative Comments section for both the midterm and final.
3. Completion of the Clinical Education Journal. Each week the journal must be reviewed and signed by the CI. It is the **student's responsibility** to return this form to the DCE within **three days** of the completion of the clinical education experience.
4. Completion of the Physical Therapist Clinical Performance Instrument Web (CPI) by the clinical instructor (CI) to be reviewed and signed by the CI.<sup>\*</sup> The CI must complete the comments section for each of the performance criteria. Once the student and CI have completed the PT CPI at both midterm and final, they will need to sign off on the evaluation. To sign off on the document either click on the flashing paper and pencil icon to go to the signature page, or scroll to the bottom where it says "Evaluation Sign Off". <sup>\*</sup> These will now be completed and submitted in an on-line format accessed through the following website: [https://cpi2.amsapps.com/user\\_session/new](https://cpi2.amsapps.com/user_session/new).

5. Completion of the Physical Therapist Student Evaluation: Clinical Experience and Clinical Instruction. \*This must be reviewed and signed by the CI and CCCE. \*This Evaluation will be completed and submitted in an on-line format accessed through the following website: <https://sharepoint.misericordia.edu/ptstudents/default.aspx>
6. Satisfactory completion of all online assignments by the end of week nine (9). The student must submit written assignments and complete all discussion posts by the end of week nine (9) of the clinical experience.

Prior to the start of DPT 877 Clinical Education IV, the student will receive the necessary information to access the Weekly Journal, the Physical Therapist Student Evaluation: Clinical Experience and Clinical Instruction, and course syllabi. The CCCE will receive a package containing the completed Student Data Form, along with instructions on how to access course syllabi, PT CPI Web, etc. This packet should be passed on to the clinical instructor(s).

**GRADING POLICY:** Evaluation is based on the course requirements listed above. Submission of all of forms and assignments is required before a student is evaluated:

DPT 877 Clinical Education IV is graded as being either satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U). The determination of grades is made by the Director of Clinical Education based on recommendations of the clinical instructor(s).

If the student receives a grade of U in DPT 877 Clinical Education IV, the student will be dismissed from the professional program.