Doctor of Physical Therapy
2017-2018
Program Brochure

Department of Physical Therapy
University of Central Arkansas
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UCA DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY FACULTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chairperson and Professor:</th>
<th>Nancy B. Reese, PhD, PT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professor:</td>
<td>William D. Bandy, PhD, PT, SCS, ATC</td>
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<td>James Fletcher, PhD, PT, ATC</td>
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<td>Associate Professors:</td>
<td>Steven W. Forbush, PhD, PT, OCS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Garrison, PhD, PT, NCS, GCS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chad Lailamore, PhD, PT, PCS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret McGee, PhD, PT, PCS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte Yates, PhD, PT, PCS</td>
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<td>Assistant Professors:</td>
<td>Larissa M. Collier, PhD, MSc, MA, MS</td>
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<td>Leah Lowe, PhD, PT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Van Hoose, PhD, PT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Clinical Instructor: Misty Booth, PT, DPT, PCS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twala Maresh, PT, DPT, NCS, ATP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Instructor II:</td>
<td>Stacey Stephens, MSc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Instructor I:</td>
<td>Darla Cathcart, PT, DPT, WCS, CLT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Advisor:</td>
<td>Mike Hawkinson (501) 450-3611 or <a href="mailto:mhawkinson@uca.edu">mhawkinson@uca.edu</a></td>
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DEPARTMENT MISSION
The mission of the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Central Arkansas is to develop collaborative Physical Therapist practitioners, leaders, and scholars.

ACCREDITATION STATUS
The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) curriculum is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). CAPTE can be contacted at accreditation@apta.org or 1111 North Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

PHYSICAL THERAPY: A DYNAMIC HEALTH CARE PROFESSION
Physical therapists provide physical therapy services to patients/clients who have impairments, functional limitations, disabilities, or changes in physical function and health status resulting from injury, disease, or other causes. These services include:

- Examination of individuals with impairment, functional limitations, and disability or other health related conditions in order to determine diagnosis, prognosis, and interventions;
- Alleviation of impairment and functional limitation by designing, implementing, and modifying therapeutic interventions;
- Prevention of injury, impairment, functional limitation, and disability, including the promotion and maintenance of fitness, health, and quality of life in all age populations;
- Participation in consultation, education, and research.

Therapeutic interventions provided by physical therapists include, but are not limited to, therapeutic exercise; functional training in self-care, home management, and community and work activities; manual therapy techniques; prescription, application, and fabrication of certain assistive, adaptive, orthotic, protective, supportive, and prosthetic devices and equipment; wound management; airway clearance techniques; electrotherapeutic modalities; and physical agents and mechanical modalities.

Salaries in Arkansas for new PTs are approximately $65,000. The median annual earnings of all physical therapists in the United States was $85,400 in 2016, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, 2016-17 Edition, [http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physical-therapists.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physical-therapists.htm).

**PROFESSIONAL DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY (DPT) DEGREE**

The curriculum leading to the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree at the University of Central Arkansas requires 37 hours of prerequisite course work and a completed baccalaureate degree. The program is designed as a 4+3 curriculum (4 years prerequisite course work culminating in a baccalaureate degree and 3 years of professional course work) with a clinical doctorate degree awarded after the final 3 years of study. Forty-three weeks of the three year DPT curriculum are devoted to clinical internships in physical therapy at clinical education sites.

**PREREQUISITE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DPT PROGRAM**

To be considered for admission, candidates must complete a baccalaureate degree and meet the specific prerequisite requirements of the UCA Department of Physical Therapy prior to the enrollment date. Students may pursue the bachelor’s degree in any chosen field of study at UCA or at another accredited university or college, as long as the departmental prerequisite requirements are met. Prerequisite course work taken at another institution must be equivalent to or exceed the courses required at UCA (refer to [http://uca.edu/ubulletin](http://uca.edu/ubulletin)). Students pursuing their baccalaureate at UCA may want to consider the BS in Health Sciences with Physical Therapy emphasis. This degree was designed to incorporate the UCA Department of Physical Therapy prerequisites within the degree plan and can be viewed at [http://uca.edu/go/prePT](http://uca.edu/go/prePT). Please visit [http://uca.edu/ubulletin](http://uca.edu/ubulletin) to access the UCA Undergraduate Bulletin or [http://uca.edu/gbulletin](http://uca.edu/gbulletin) to access the UCA Graduate Bulletin. For undergraduate or graduate admission applications, students should visit [http://uca.edu/admissions/](http://uca.edu/admissions/). Please call 1-800-243-8245 for more information. Applications to UCA for prerequisite course work must be processed through the University’s Admissions Office. Upon enrollment in the DPT program, students must perform certain essential functions. A list of these essential functions and the departmental policy regarding essential functions is available at [http://uca.edu/go/PTEssential](http://uca.edu/go/PTEssential). All prospective students should review the document “Essential Functions of the Student in the DPT Program” and the departmental policy prior to applying for admission to the DPT Program. Applications to the Professional DPT Program must be processed through the American Physical Therapy Association’s Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS) at [https://portal.ptcas.org/](https://portal.ptcas.org/).

International Applicants: Please note that World Education Services (WES) is the only foreign transcript evaluation service for PTCAS applicants with non-US coursework.

**DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY PREREQUISITE COURSE WORK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREREQUISITE COURSES</th>
<th>CREDIT HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry I and II* (two semester sequence with lab)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Physics I and II* (two semester sequence with lab)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology for Majors with Lab* (i.e. BIOL 1440)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology course* above BIOL 1440, not botany</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology two course sequence in anatomy and physiology* or one course in anatomy with lab and one course in physiology with lab</td>
<td>8</td>
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**Note:** All science (biology, chemistry and physics) courses or their substitutes must be completed with a grade of C or above. Applicants must possess a science GPA of at least 3.00. All applicants must complete 22 of the 31 hours of the prerequisite science course work (see * items above) prior to the application deadline. Courses taken elsewhere must be equivalent or evaluated and approved in advance. All college course work must be submitted regardless of when completed or the nature of the course work.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

The professional DPT program has strict admission requirements and enrollment limitations. Acceptance is by specific application and competitive admission only. A new DPT class begins each Fall semester. Applications for either Freshman Admission or Admission to the professional DPT program are due on October 1st. Prior to the August enrollment date, all applicants must:

- Have an earned baccalaureate degree and
- Have completed all departmental prerequisite requirements.
OPTIONS FOR ADMISSION

Freshman Admission

Application for Freshman Admission should be completed with the Program Advisor by October 1 of the freshman year. Students who begin study at UCA as a freshman will be admitted to the DPT program, if they scored at least 30 on the ACT or 1320 on the SAT (Critical Thinking and Mathematics) from high school. Actual enrollment into the professional program will occur after completion of the baccalaureate degree. To maintain Freshman Admission status, the applicant must:

- Take all coursework at UCA,
- Complete the GRE by DPT application deadline,
- Attend three Pre-PT Club meetings each year (12 total in 4 years),
- By September 1 of application year hold a 3.70 cumulative GPA and a 3.50 cumulative science GPA for all undergraduate work,
- Complete 45 hours of observation at 3 different physical therapy settings by DPT application deadline,
- Complete 22 hours of 31 required science prerequisite hours by the DPT application deadline, and
- Complete the baccalaureate degree and all required prerequisites by August of the year of enrollment in the DPT program.

No interview is required of applicants entering the program under Freshman Admission. Contact the Physical Therapy Program Advisor (Mike Hawkinson at 501-450-3611) for more details regarding Freshman Admission.

Regular Admission

The deadline for DPT application is October 1 of the year of planned enrollment. The UCA DPT application for Admission is posted on the American Physical Therapy Association’s PTCAS at http://www.ptcas.org. To be eligible for Regular Admission, by the application deadline, the applicant must:

- Possess a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.00 based on a 4.00 scale.
- Possess a science GPA of at least 3.00 for all biology, chemistry, and physics course work.
- Have completed a minimum of 22 hours of the 31 required hours of science prerequisites by the DPT application deadline.
- Have received a score on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Have all GRE scores sent to PTCAS GRE Code 3630. No minimum score is required, however average revised GRE combined total score (verbal and quantitative) was 309 (refer to next page). GRE scores are weighted twice as heavily as GPA for ranking of applicant.
- Have completed 45 hours of PT observation at 3 different clinical settings (10-20 hours per facility) by the application deadline. Contact PTCAS Customer Service for instructions of how to document observation hours.

Grade Point Averages for recent coursework (30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours): The GPA for recent course work may be considered by the DPT Admission Committee as a substitute for the cumulative GPA for admission purposes only. The substitution may be made if the GPA for the last 30 semester hours (45 quarter hour equivalent) is at least 10% higher than the cumulative GPA and includes 15 hours of appropriate science coursework. A minimum 3.00 cumulative GPA requirement and a minimal 3.00 science GPA requirement must be met before utilizing this option. The total hours for the recent college GPA are obtained by beginning with the last semester or quarter of course work and moving backwards chronologically on the transcript(s) until 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hour equivalents are obtained. All courses are included. No more than 8 hours of science course work may be repeated course work. No more than one-fourth of the non-science course work included in the recent course work GPA may be repeated course work. All other requirements still apply.

All applicants must submit the PTCAS Application. All applications of candidates who meet qualifications for DPT Admission are reviewed by the DPT Admission Committee composed of physical therapy faculty, other university faculty, the Graduate Dean, and the Registrar. Applicants are ranked using a composite score derived from the cumulative grade point average (CGPA), the science grade point average (SGPA), and scores on the GRE. Extra science course work above the prerequisites (beyond freshman level) will be considered, but will not be a part of the formula for the composite score. Of the criteria, the SGPA and GRE are weighted most heavily. No repeated science courses counts as extra science course work.

The top applicants are invited to a mandatory interview scheduled for the first Friday in December. The DPT Admission Committee Chair will inform invited applicants of their interview time. The interview is used to assess such factors as the ability to present oneself professionally, to use verbal and non-verbal communication appropriately, to express knowledge about the profession of physical therapy, to function within the group for the interview, and to express ideas quickly and succinctly. Applicants accepted for admission are notified in December. A ranked alternate list is also prepared. Individuals may be chosen from this list to replace applicants who decline their appointment at any time. Ranking as an alternate is indicative of the Committee’s high opinion of a candidate’s potential, but does not assure placement in the class or in any future class.

Students who do not meet the stated criteria for admission may appeal to the DPT Admission Committee. Requests for exceptions to the prerequisite course work and policies must be submitted to the DPT Admission Committee by the application deadline. Failure to be admitted does not prevent reapplying for a later year.

REGARDING STUDENTS RECENTLY ADMITTED

Average Science GPA: 3.67
Average GRE Score: Total = 306 (Verbal=154, Quantitative=153)
Average Cumulative GPA: 3.71
Matriculation Rate: 82.3%
Acceptance Rate: 38%
### UCA DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY COURSES SEQUENCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st FALL SEMESTER (17 credits)</th>
<th>1st SPRING SEMESTER (18 credits)</th>
<th>2nd SUMMER SEMESTER (13-14 credits)</th>
<th>2nd FALL SEMESTER (16-17 credits)</th>
<th>3rd SUMMER SEMESTER (6 credits)</th>
<th>3rd FALL SEMESTER (13-16 credits)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PTHY 5505 Gross Anatomy (5)</td>
<td>PTHY 6501 Neuroscience (5)</td>
<td>PTHY 6402 Kinesiology II (4)</td>
<td>PTHY 7403 Physical Agents (4)</td>
<td>PTHY 7530 Clinical Ed. Practicum V (5)</td>
<td>PTHY 6424 Clinical Administration &amp; Management (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTHY 6406 Human Pathophysiology I (4)</td>
<td>PTHY 6250 Pharmacology in Physical Therapy (2)</td>
<td>PTHY 7515 Neurological Rehabilitation in Pediatrics (5)</td>
<td>PTHY 7404 Musculoskeletal PT I (4)</td>
<td>PTHY 7103 Outcomes Assessment in Physical Therapy (1)</td>
<td>PTHY 7409 Clinical Reasoning &amp; Differential Diagnosis (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PTHY 6404 Clinical Foundations in PT Practice (4)</td>
<td>PTHY 6405 Therapeutic Exercise (4)</td>
<td>PTHY 7105 Research III (1)</td>
<td>PTHY 7114* Research Practicum (1)</td>
<td>PTHY 7102 Clinical Ed. Practicum III (5)</td>
<td>PTHY 7720 Complex Pt. Management (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTHY 6307 Professional Dev. I (3)</td>
<td>PTHY 6314 Neuropathophysiological Principles of Motor Control (3)</td>
<td>PTHY 7114* Research Practicum (1)</td>
<td>PTHY 7728 Clinical Ed. Practicum II (3)</td>
<td>PTHY 7528 Clinical Ed. Practicum III (5)</td>
<td>PTHY 7328 Clinical Ed. Practicum I (3) (8 weeks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTHY 6105 Research I (1)</td>
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<td>PTHY 6205 Research II (2)</td>
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<td>PTHY 7329 Clinical Ed. Practicum IV (5) (10 weeks)</td>
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### UCA Graduate Bulletin

![Image](http://www.uca.edu/gbulletin)

### COST OF PROGRAM

Total costs for the three years of the UCA DPT program are below national average for public universities. When calculated with Fall 2017 tuition rates, the three year program is estimated to cost approximately $41,569.05 for an Arkansas resident (not including room/board or books). As of the Fall 2017 semester, GRADUATE tuition and hourly fees total $335.24 per graduate semester hour for Arkansas residents AND residents of states contiguous to Arkansas (Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas). Out of state residents pay $602.29 per graduate semester hour for tuition and fees (of states non-contiguous to Arkansas). In addition, the College of Health and Behavioral Sciences Fee is $14.00 per credit hour and the Lab Fee is $5.00 per credit hour. In example, students in the first semester of the DPT Program take 17 credit hours resulting in combined tuition and fees of $6,002.08 for 2017 for an in-state student. Students seeking financial aid should make known in their application for aid the actual per semester hours in the DPT Program as noted in the curriculum sequence on page 7. Tuition and fees are subject to change at any time. Information on tuition and fees is available from the UCA Student Accounts office at http://www.uca.edu/studentaccounts.

Upon enrollment in the Professional DPT Program students are required to have personal health insurance covering at minimum accidental injury. Upon enrollment students must also provide a copy of immunization records and complete an annual Tuberculosis (TB) skin test or chest x-ray. During the first year of the program, students will be instructed regarding completion of a national criminal background check and become certified in Healthcare Provider Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). Depending on clinical education placements, students may possibly need to become certified in First Aid or complete a Child Maltreatment Registry Check, drug screen, physical exam, or update of immunizations. Students will be informed in advance and responsible for the costs of such items. Students should also anticipate potential expenses related to travel for clinical education experiences.

### GRADUATE OUTCOMES

Performance of UCA DPT graduates over the past two years (2015, 2016) is as follows:

- Graduation Rate: 96%
- Ultimate Pass Rate on National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE): 100%
- Employment Rate: 100% (2014, 2015, of those passing the NPTE)

In 2016, UCA DPT graduates achieved a 92.3% first time pass rate on the NPTE and an ultimate pass rate of 100%.

### ADDITIONAL OFFERINGS

**PhD Program**: Qualified students may be accepted to the DPT/PhD program allowing them to simultaneously pursue the DPT (CAPTE accredited) and PhD degrees (Higher Learning Commission Accredited). Application to this program occurs following admission to the DPT program.

**Pediatric Residency Program**: UCA offers an accredited residency program in Pediatric Physical Therapy, providing physical therapists an opportunity to achieve advanced skill and knowledge in this clinical practice area. Admission is competitive and occurs following completion of the DPT degree.