

May 19, 2004



State University of New York  
**Upstate Medical University**

**College of Health Professions  
Department of Physical Therapy  
Portfolio and Transfer Credit Instructions**

**Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy (T-DPT) degree requirements**

Credit hours required for the T-DPT degree range from 16 to 50, depending on your entry-level physical therapist academic degree (Certificate, Bachelor's, Master's) AND the portfolio review. Up to 50% of the required credits may be transferred with appropriate documentation for students with Bachelor's degrees or Master's degrees from institutions other than SUNY Upstate Medical University.

**All T-DPT students are required to take the following 13 credit core:**

Core Curriculum:

PHYT 681	Informatics (2 credits)
PHYT 682	Evidence-Based Practice and Decision Making (2 credits)
PHYT 687	Differential Diagnosis for Physical Therapists (3 credits)
PHYT 655	Applied Decision Making – Case Report Methodology (2 credits)
PHYT 692	Case Analysis Seminar (2 credits)
PHYT 648	Imaging (2 credits)

**Applicants with MPT or MPS degrees from SUNY Upstate Medical University** are required to take the 13 credit core plus 3 additional elective credits for a total of 16 credit hours. Applicants may transfer up to three credits of academic, course equivalency, or competency credit (see transfer credit section) into the program with justification contained in the portfolio.

**Applicants with Master's degrees in physical therapy from other institutions OR applicants with post-professional Master's degrees** are required to take the 13 credit core plus 17 additional elective credits for a total of 30 credits. Applicants may transfer up to 15 credits (see transfer credit section), with justification contained in the portfolio. Up to 12 credits may be transferred through currency or enhanced professional development. Some required credits may be Director's Choice credits\*.

**Applicants with Bachelor's or Certificate degrees in physical therapy who do not have a post-professional Master's degree** are required to take the 13 credit core plus 37 additional elective credits for a total of 50 credits. Applicants may transfer up to 25 credits (see transfer credit section) with justification contained in the portfolio. Some or all of the credits may be through currency or enhanced professional development. Some required credits may be Director's Choice credits\*.

\* "Director's Choice" credits will be determined after portfolio review. The portfolio review is designed to bridge the gap between the competency expectations of the DPT and the applicant's demonstrated knowledge. This review identifies specific content areas the applicant must pursue as part of his/her program of study. Other courses the applicant must take to fulfill the degree requirements are determined jointly between the applicant and the T-DPT Director.

## **Portfolio**

All prospective applicants must submit a portfolio and a \$250 portfolio review fee or the results of the PTET (Physical Therapist Evaluation Tool) to receive transfer credit. The portfolio and portfolio review fee are not required for MPS and MPT graduates of SUNY Upstate Medical University (formerly SUNY Health Science Center at Syracuse) unless they are requesting transfer credit.

The purpose of the portfolio is to provide evidence of the applicant's professional development since receiving the entry-level physical therapist degree. This professional development may qualify as transfer credit and is determined from the portfolio review. The portfolio should be professional in appearance and must contain a minimum of three items:

### **1. Curriculum Vitae**

The curriculum vitae should include the following:

- Name and current address
- A summary of academic educational experiences
- A summary of work experience in physical therapy (include dates, settings and brief description)
- All professional certifications and licenses
- Continuing education activity since physical therapy licensure (limit to 1990-present)
- Scientific and professional presentations
- Teaching experience/activities
- Consultative and advisory positions held
- Membership/positions in professional organizations
- Honors/Awards
- Publications (include whether peer reviewed, invited or non-peer reviewed)

### **2. Proof of Licensure:**

- A copy of your current U.S. physical therapist license

### **3. Request for Transfer Credit:**

The portfolio drives the transfer credit process. Request for transfer credit must be carefully documented in the portfolio. T-DPT applicants may transfer credit in partial fulfillment of the DPT degree requirements by: (1) transferring graduate level academic courses, (2) receiving course equivalency credit for work that fulfills a SUNY DPT course listed at the end of this document, (3) receiving competency credit, or (4) receiving enhanced professional development and/or currency transfer credit or a combination of the above up to the maximum number of transfer credits allowed. The fourth option is permitted only for applicants with Bachelor's degrees or Masters degrees from institutions other than SUNY Upstate Medical University.

#### **1. Academic Course Credit**

A graduate-level, academic course may be eligible for transfer credit. The course must be from an accredited school, be of a grade of B or higher, and be of graduate level. You should provide the transfer course number, name, description of the course, institution, and grade.

Note: Since a student is transferring his/her entry-level physical therapist degree and, in some cases, a post-professional degree, courses taken as part of these degrees or work done as part of those courses cannot be considered for credit transfer.

## 2. Course Equivalency Transfer Credit

Course equivalency transfer credit can be granted for work that closely resembles an eligible SUNY DPT course. To qualify a course for course equivalency credit, the learning experience must be similar in content to a course in the DPT curriculum (listed below). An example of how professional experience can qualify for course equivalency follows:

You may have teaching experience that demonstrates personal reflection and modification of the course based on the feedback, reflection, and professional input you received following the teaching experience. This type of experience could qualify for the PHYT 641 Teaching and Learning course (2 credit hours).

Applicants must provide a detailed explanation of how the work they are submitting for course equivalency transfer credit meets the description of an eligible SUNY Upstate Medical University DPT course. This description should include the course number and name for which you are petitioning credit, description of the professional experience, and evidence of compatibility.

Evidence of the course's compatibility could be certifications, documentation of the process of completion of the course, course objectives, evidence of projects completed, etc.

## 3. Competency Transfer Credit

Competency transfer credit is granted for recognition of significant professional experiences that does not match a SUNY DPT course. Emphasis is placed on the consistency and extensiveness of the experience. Experiences could include:

- evidence of publishing
- scientific or professional presentations
- professional association or state board activities
- advocacy efforts
- clinical research
- editorial board work
- teaching
- clinical instruction\*\*
- clinical residency and/or fellowship
- clinical specialization or other certifications

Applicants must provide a **detailed** explanation and tangible evidence of these experiences in the portfolio. Evidence of the specific work may include a published paper, course materials, presentation brochures, actual clinical certifications, awards, projects, etc.

\*\*To qualify for competency credit as a clinical instructor (CI), you must have

taught clinical students at the masters level or higher. You should include a description of the number of students, length and types of affiliations, number of years you have served as a CI and your role (were you the primary instructor or did you coordinate the experience involving one or more CIs). Please include any creative activities that you used with students, professional development that you have completed that enhanced your skills as a CI (such as CI certification), and other distinguishing features. A short recommendation from the ACCE or copy of student evaluations is desirable.

#### **4. Enhanced Professional Development/Currency Credit**

Enhanced professional development (EPD) includes continuous professional development activities that are concurrent with the applicant's area of practice. Currency credit is awarded for licensure since 1994, relative to the year of licensure. Ten credits are awarded for licensure from 1994-1998 and 15 credits are awarded for licensure from 1999 to present. Applicants with master's degrees from institutions other than SUNY Upstate Medical University may transfer up to 12 EPD/currency credits and applicants with Bachelor's degrees may transfer up to 25 EPD/currency credits. **Note:** *The fourth option is permitted only for applicants entering with a Bachelor's degree or with a Master's degree from an institution other than SUNY Upstate Medical University.*

#### **Courses that Qualify for Course Equivalency Credit**

The following list of required courses are eligible for course equivalency credit:

PHYT 601	Gross Anatomy (1-6 credits)
PHYT 621	Foundations of Patient/Client Management (3 credits)
PHYT 625	Movement Analysis & Patient/Client Management I (4 credits)
PHYT 626	Movement Analysis & Patient/Client Management II (4 credits)
PHYT 641	Teaching and Learning in Physical Therapy (2 credits)
PHYT 631	Patient/Client Management: Adult Neurological Disorders (3 credits)
PHYT 632	Patient/Client Management: The Spine (1 credit)
PHYT 633	Patient/Client Management: Acquired Conditions (3 credits)
PHYT 634	Patient/Client Management: Developmental Disabilities (3 credits)
PHYT 635	Patient/Client Management: Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Disorders (3 credits)
PHYT 642	Research Methods (2 credits)
PHYT 646	Special Topics in Orthopedics (2 credits)
PHYT 649	Personal and Professional Marketing (1)
PHYT 650	Integumentary Management (1 credit)
PHYT 652	Management Principles (3 credits)
PHYT 653	Medical Ethics for Physical Therapists (3 credits)
PHYT 654	Gerontology for Physical Therapists (2 credits)
PHYT 657	Health Systems and Reimbursement (2)
PHYT 683	Health Promotion/Marketing (3 credits)
PHYT 684	Rehabilitation Pharmacology (2 credits)

PHYT 688	Movement Science and Motor Learning (2 credits)
PHYT 693	Critical Inquiry (3 credits)

### Course Descriptions

**PHYT 601 Gross Anatomy** (6 credit hours) - This course utilizes a regional approach to the study of human anatomy. Cadaver dissection in the laboratory is supplemented by lectures, clinical correlation presentations, and audiovisual aids. Clinical correlations use a problem-based format.

**PHYT 621 Foundations of Patient/Client Management** (3 credit hours) - This course introduces the students to foundational concepts that serve as a framework for the process of examination and evaluation of patients/clients across all ages, diagnoses and practice settings. A holistic approach is utilized, emphasizing the concept of function as it relates to the practice of physical therapy. Health risks, screening and assessment are reviewed. Topics include the disablement model, chart review and history taking, functional tests, use of evidence-based practice, wellness and health promotion, documentation and the Guide to PT Practice. Clinical experiences are integrated into this course.

**PHYT 625 Movement Analysis & Patient/Client Management I** (4 credit hours) - This course introduces and integrates basic kinesiological/biomechanical principles related to the normal function/movement of the cervical spine and upper quarter with the basic principles of patient/client management of common conditions of the cervical region and upper extremities across the life span. The use of tests and measures associated with abnormal movement/function of the cervical spine and upper extremities, particularly those for joint integrity and mobility, muscle performance, range of motion, and pain are covered. Principles of diagnosis and the determination of the associated anatomical structure or musculoskeletal pathology are also introduced, as is the medical management for selected upper extremity conditions. Intervention rationale includes evidence-based practice. Clinical experiences are integrated into this course.

**PHYT 626 Movement Analysis & Patient/Client Management II** (4 credit hours) - This course integrates kinesiological/biomechanical principles related to the normal function/movement of the spine and lower quarter, including posture and gait, with the basic principles of patient/client management of spinal and lower extremity conditions across the life span. The use of tests and measurements associated with abnormal movement/function of the lower extremity, particularly those for joint integrity and mobility, muscle performance, range of motion, pain, posture, gait and locomotion are covered. Diagnosis and the determination of the associated anatomical structure or musculoskeletal pathology of the lower quarter is also covered, as is the medical management of selected lower extremity conditions. Intervention rationale includes the use of evidence-based practice. Clinical experiences are integrated into this course.

**PHYT 631 Patient/Client Management: Adult Neurological Disorders** (3 credit hours)  
This course begins the development of skills in examination, evaluation and interventions with individuals with neurological impairments. Content focuses on the adult patient with central nervous system dysfunction, such as head trauma, cerebral vascular accident and other neurological disorders. A problem solving approach utilizing evidence-based practice is emphasized, integrating student's previous knowledge from Neuroscience regarding normal functioning of the nervous system, as well as disorders of the nervous system.

**PHYT 632 Patient/Client Management: The Spine** (1 credit hour) - This introductory course includes demographics, classification, examination, evaluation and physical therapy diagnosis of the spine.

**PHYT 633 Patient/Client Management: Acquired Conditions** (3 credit hours) - This course presents the theories and principles of examination, evaluation, and interventions for specific conditions across the life span. These conditions include amputation and spinal cord injury. Topics including orthotics, home and work barriers, and adaptive equipment management are reviewed. Intervention rationale includes evidence-based practice.

**PHYT 634 Patient/Client Management: Developmental Disabilities** (3 credit hours) - This course is a continuation of the skill development in examination, evaluation, and intervention that began in Patient/Client Management: Adults with Neurological Disorders as it applies to individuals with developmental disabilities. Theory and principles of development as they pertain to examination, evaluation, and intervention using evidence-based practice are examined. Topics for discussion include family-centered care, special concerns of various age groups and selected medical diagnoses, impact of public law on delivery of care, and clients with multiple disabilities.

**PHYT 635 Patient/Client Management - Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Disorders** (3 credit hours) – Using a problem based learning format, this course focuses on cardiovascular fitness and the management of patient/clients with cardiovascular and pulmonary disorders across the life span. A review of normal structure and function of the cardiovascular and pulmonary systems including relevant laboratory and diagnostic tests is included. The pathophysiology of the disorders of respiratory system, heart and the circulatory system is discussed in detail as it applies to patients with a cardiovascular and/or pulmonary impairment. Exercise interventions and evidence-based practice are stressed.

**PHYT 641 Teaching & Learning in Physical Therapy** (2 credit hours) - This course emphasizes the knowledge, skills and behaviors needed by the physical therapist to educate patients/clients, caregivers, families, professional colleagues, students and community members across the life span. Content includes application of teaching and learning theories, motivational theory, curriculum design, lesson plan development, didactic and clinical teaching techniques, methods of instruction and evaluation, and an introduction to the use of technology in education. A requirement of this course is to participate in a videotaped microteach session.

**PHYT 642 Research Methods** (2 credit hours) - This course acquaints the student with the basic language, logic and methods of quantitative, qualitative and epidemiological research as they apply to the health sciences. Principles of research are introduced through lecture, readings and assignments. Students are also introduced to the statistical tools most commonly employed in health research and to the use of a computer software package to store, manipulate and analyze data. Prerequisite: Foundations of Scientific Inquiry.

**PHYT 646 Special Topics in Orthopedics** (2 credit hours) - This course encompasses medical lecture and physical therapy intervention for a variety of orthopedic disorders across the life span. A problem based learning format utilizing evidence-based practice is used to analyze case studies emphasizing spinal and TMJ intervention.

**PHYT 650 Integumentary Management** (1 credit hour) - This course presents physical therapy management of common pathological conditions of the skin across the life span encountered by physical therapists. The contributions of other health care professionals in the management of pathological conditions of the skin are identified, and strategies for prevention of skin conditions are discussed.

**PHYT 652 Management Principles** (3 credit hours) - This course allows the student to analyze the administrative process as it relates to the practice of physical therapy in a variety of health care systems. Content includes personnel management, legislation, strategic planning, marketing, budgeting, conflict resolution, negotiating, networking, and consulting and fiscal management. Learning formats consist of lectures, small group work and completion of an administrative project.

**PHYT 653 Medical Ethics for Physical Therapists** (3 credit hours) - This course involves an examination of ethical theories and principles as they inform contemporary health-care dilemmas. Students learn how philosophical principles - such as autonomy, confidentiality, veracity, justice, beneficence, non-maleficence, and informed consent - create a context for exploring particular ethical topics (i.e., suicide, reproductive rights, death and dying, abortion, testing and screening, biomedical research, and professional conduct). Though dealing with practical situations, this course emphasizes critical and theoretical thinking. An oral presentation and research paper are required.

**PHYT 654 Gerontology for Physical Therapists** (2 credit hours) - This writing intensive course provides an in depth examination of aging as it relates to physical therapy. Concepts and principles of aging are examined in light of evidence-based practice, including the biological, psychological, social and cultural aspects of aging. Care is given to differentiate between normal biological age changes and those due to other factors such as physical inactivity, emotional responses, and disease processes.