

**Big
ideas.**
Real-world thinking.



**MINNESOTA STATE
UNIVERSITY**
MANKATO

PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY *College of Allied Health & Nursing*

WHAT DEGREE AND PROGRAM DO WE OFFER?

There is no degree offered – only a course of study for Pre-Physical Therapy, which focuses on pre-requisite courses for graduate programs. An undergraduate degree is required along with the Pre-Physical Therapy track.

OPPORTUNITIES

If accepted, the graduate may go on to Physical Therapy school. Physical therapists must pass the state examination.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job description

Physical therapists work with patients to restore function and prevent disability after disease or injury. The goal is to help people reach their maximum physical ability, so they may assume productive roles in society while learning to live within the limits of a disease or disability. Physical therapists evaluate patients and plan a treatment program involving exercise, heat, cold, water, and ultrasound. The therapist may give strengthening exercises to someone who has fractured a leg; lessons in walking and stair climbing to a patient with paralysis after a stroke; or coordination exercises to a child with cerebral palsy. Sometimes therapists teach patients how to walk with an artificial leg or straight-leg braces. When progress is slow, the therapist must keep up the patient's morale and cooperation. Thus, physical therapists need a good understanding of people and what motivates them. Physical therapists also work to prevent injury and disease by coordinating fitness programs.

Job settings

Hospitals, rehabilitation centers, schools for handicapped children, public schools, clinics, physicians' offices, nursing homes, and summer camps. Physical therapists can also be self-

employed, serve in the armed forces, or work in public health agencies, industry, or sports medicine clinics.

Projected needs

High need in greater Minnesota; opportunities in the Twin Cities should be good to excellent, depending on setting and personal qualifications.

Salaries

The median annual wage for physical therapists was \$85,400 in 2016, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Related careers

Any of the other rehabilitative therapies or nursing might provide similar personal satisfactions.

Differences in training

Doctorate programs in physical therapy are offered at the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth; the Mayo School of Health-Related Sciences, Rochester; the College of St. Catherine's, St. Paul; Concordia St. Paul; and the University of Minnesota; as well as numerous institutions outside of Minnesota. All Minnesota doctorate programs in Physical Therapy require baccalaureate degrees and pre-requisites completed to apply.

Admission is extremely competitive for applicants into all programs.

Credentials

Physical therapists must be registered by the Minnesota Board of Medical Examiners prior to employment within the state. To be registered, the individual must satisfactorily complete an approved course in physical therapy and pass the state examination.

BACKGROUND PREPARATION

You should take all the science, math, and English available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

Advisor:

Mary Visser, Ph.D., mary.visser@mnsu.edu, 507-389-2672

Student Relations Coordinator:

Shirley Murray, shirley.murray@mnsu.edu, 507-389-6315

College of Allied Health and Nursing

Minnesota State University, Mankato

124 Myers Field House

Mankato, MN 56001

Phone

507-389-5194 (V)

800-627-3529 or 711 (MRS/TTY)

Email

shirley.murray@mnsu.edu

You are encouraged to visit the campus.

To arrange for a visit, please call:

Office of Admissions: 507-389-1822

Toll-Free: 800-722-0544

The Pre-Physical Therapy curriculum is primarily a science-oriented curriculum which meets the standard requirements for admission to most physical therapy programs. The majority of schools require a Bachelor's degree prior to application for admission, although some still accept students following two or three years of college preparation. It is important that students check requirements for their professional school of choice as some require classes in addition to those contained in this concentration. Most programs also require that the student take the GRE and score at a certain level.

Pre-Physical Therapy Concentration Courses at Minnesota State Mankato	
BIOL 105: General Biology I (4)	CHEM 201: Gen Chemistry I (5)
BIOL 106: General Biology II (4)	CHEM 202: Gen Chemistry II (5)
BIOL 220: Human Anatomy (4)	PSYC 101: Psychology (4)
BIOL 330: Human Physiology (4)	PSYC 433: Child Psych. <u>AND</u> PSYC 436: Adolescent Psych. <u>AND</u> PSYC 466: Psych. of Aging <u>OR</u> KSP 235: Human Development (3-8)
PHYS 211: Princ. Physics I (4)	PSYC 455: Abnormal Psych (4)
PHYS 212: Princ. Of Physics II (4)	SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology (3) – Recommendation only; see graduate program requirements
MATH 112 & 113 or MATH 115 (Must meet PHYS 211 math requirement) (4-8)	HLTH 321: Medical Terminology (3) – Recommendation only; see graduate program requirements
STAT 154: Statistics (4)	HP 265: Orientation to PT and OT (2)
TOTAL: 53-68 credits	

APTA Website for Accredited PT Programs:

<http://www.apta.org/ProspectiveStudents/>

*Be sure to check the specific pre-requisite courses of programs you plan to apply to and tailor the above list to meet those requirements.

Majors to Consider with PT Concentration:

Exercise Science

Biology

Health Science: Applied Health Science

*Graduate programs generally do not specify what undergraduate major must be completed. They are concerned about your performance within the major (including GPA) and that you have successfully completed all pre-requisite coursework.

Rev. 07/21



An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity University. This document is available in alternative format to individuals with disabilities by calling the telephone numbers listed on this page.