**WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY**

**College of Health and Human Sciences**

**Department of Physical Therapy**

**Doctor of Physical Therapy Curriculum Summary**

**[Includes Proposed Revisions as of March 2012]**

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| **FIRST FALL SEMESTER** | | | |
| **Course Name** | **Course Prefix and #** | **Catalog Description** | **Credit Hours** |
| Human Anatomy I | PT 821 | Advanced study of the upper body to include the musculoskeletal, cardiopulmonary, integumentary, nervous, and circulatory systems as well as abdominal structures. | 3  1 lec 4 lab  (split labs) |
| Exercise Physiology | PT 831 | Study of cardiovascular/pulmonary conditions; principles and clinical applications of exercise physiology across the lifespan | 3  2 lec 2 lab |
| Clinical Biomechanics I | PT 823 | Clinical biomechanics of the head, spine, shoulder joint complex, elbow joint complex and the joints of the wrist and hand | 4  3 lec 2 lab |
| Physical Therapy  Science I | PT 811 | Patient care skills: documentation, education, communication, joint range of motion, body mechanics, manual muscle testing, positioning, transfers, assisted gait, wheelchairs, basic exercise, and infection control. | 3  1 lec 4 lab |
| Professional Practice I | PT 895 | Investigation and discussion of issues impacting physical therapy practice; definition of profession; organization and impact of APTA; professional behaviors; portfolio development. Seminar. | 2 |
| Research Methods and Statistics I | PT 841 | Introduction to disciplined inquiry in physical therapy. Emphasis on critical appraisal of health care literature and clinical research design. | 2 |
|  |  |  | **17 SH in semester** |

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| **FIRST SPRING SEMESTER** | | | |
| **Course Name** | **Course Prefix** | **Catalog Description** | **Credit Hours** |
| Human Anatomy II | PT 822 | Advanced study of the lower body to include the musculoskeletal, integumentary, nervous, and circulatory systems. | 2  1 lec 2 lab  (split lab) |
| Human  Pathophysiology | PT 832 | Pathophysiology of the human body at the cellular, tissue, and system levels. | 3 |
| Clinical Biomechanics II | PT 824 | Clinical biomechanics of the lumbopelvic region, hip joint, knee joint and the foot and ankle joints | 4  2 lec 4 lab |
| Physical Therapy Science II | PT 812 | Principles of therapeutic exercise and application to various disorders; lower extremity goniometry and manual muscle testing; physical therapy management of cardiovascular/pulmonary conditions | 4  3 Lec 2 lab |
| Professional Practice II | PT 896 | Investigation and discussion of issues impacting physical therapy practice; psychosocial aspects of disability; effective interaction with patients/caregivers; intervention by healthcare team; portfolio development. Seminar | 1 |
| Research Methods and Statistics II | PT 842 | Intermediate level of disciplined inquiry in physical therapy. Emphasis on critical appraisal of the health care literature and clinical research design. | 2 |
| Clinical Practicum I  6 Weeks (mid-April to May) | PT 883 | Assignment to a clinical setting with supervision by a designated licensed physical therapist to gain practical experience with health-care delivery systems and physical therapy practice. S/U Grading with IP | 3 |
|  |  |  | **19 SH in semester/**  **36 SH total** |

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| **FIRST SUMMER** | | | |
| **Course Name** | **Course Prefix** | **Catalog Description** | **Credit Hours** |
| Physical Therapy Science III | PT 813 | Comprehensive study of physical agents and electrotherapeutic applications as applied to physical therapy management of various conditions; overview of physical therapy services in acute care environment. | 3  2 lec 2 lab |
| Medical Management and Diagnostics | PT 815 | Principles of medical screening including interpretation of diagnostic imaging and understanding of pharmacology as applied to physical therapy. | 2 |
| Pediatric Physical Therapy I | PT 827 | Foundations of pediatric physical therapy in family-centered model; focus on normal/abnormal development; assessment and standardized testing; practice in educational environments; and intervention for cardiovascular/pulmonary disorders. | 2  1 lec 2 lab |
| Administration & Management of Physical Therapy Practice | PT 835 | Study of the administration and management of physical therapy practice in various settings. Healthcare system; organizational structure; facility, fiscal and human resource management; legal aspects. | 3 |
| Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Physical Therapy | PT 826 | Integration of knowledge from medical and physical therapy sciences to perform physical therapy examination, evaluation, and intervention for patients with cardiovascular and/or pulmonary dysfunction. | 2  1 lec/2 lab |
|  |  |  | **12 SH in semester**  **48 SH total** |

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| **SECOND FALL SEMESTER** | | | |
| **Course Name** | **Course Prefix** | **Catalog Description** | **Credit Hours** |
| Neuroanatomy | PT 921 | In-depth study of the human nervous systems with emphasis on structure and function. | 2 |
| Neuroscience | PT 922 | Application of neuroanatomy and physiology to neuropathology and comprehensive clinical cases. Emphasis on neural basis of movement and motor control. | 2 |
| Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy I | PT 951 | Integration of knowledge from the physical therapy sciences to perform physical therapy assessment and intervention for clients with musculoskeletal dysfunction of the extremities. | 4  2 lec 4 lab |
| Professional Practice III | PT 997 | Investigation and discussion of issues impacting physical therapy practice; professional ethics; moral reasoning; portfolio development. Seminar. | 2 |
| Research Methods and Statistics III | PT 843 | Advanced disciplined inquiry in physical therapy. Emphasis on critical appraisal of the health care literature and clinical research design. | 2 |
| Doctoral  Project | PT 899 | Integration of physical therapy knowledge and skills focused on specific area of disciplined inquiry or service; goals and methods determined with faculty advisor. Directed study. S/U grading. | 2 |
| Clinical Practicum II  6 weeks  (mid-November to mid-December) | PT 884 | Assignment to a clinical setting with supervision by a designated licensed physical therapist to gain practical experience with health-care delivery systems and physical therapy practice. S/U Grading with IP | 3 |
|  |  |  | **17 SH in semester**  **65 SH total** |

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| **SECOND SPRING SEMESTER** | | | |
| **Course Name** | **Course Prefix** | **Catalog Description** | **Credit Hours** |
| Motor Behavior | PT 861 | Comprehensive study of theories, principles, and research concerning motor development, learning, and control in general and special populations; emphasis on intervention for clients across lifespan. | 2 |
| Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy II | PT 952 | Integration of knowledge from the physical therapy sciences to perform physical therapy assessment and intervention for clients with musculoskeletal dysfunction of the spine. | 4  2 lec 4 lab |
| Neuromuscular Physical Therapy I | PT 923 | Physical therapy management for persons with neuromuscular disorders. Lecture and laboratory focus on stroke, balance dysfunction, selected neuromuscular diseases, rehabilitation models, and contemporary research application. | 4  2 lec 4 lab |
| Professional Practice IV | PT 998 | Investigation and discussion of issues impacting physical therapy practice; effective interaction with clients and their caregivers; and professional behaviors. | 1 |
| Research Methods and Statistics IV | PT 844 | Advanced disciplined inquiry in physical therapy. Emphasis on critical appraisal of health care literature and research design. | 2 |
| Doctoral Project | PT 899 | Physical therapy knowledge and skills focused on specific area of service. Goals and methods negotiated with course instructor(s) in advance. Directed study. | 2 |
|  |  |  | **15 SH in semester**  **80 SH total** |

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| **SECOND SUMMER - Mini-mester 4 weeks** | | | |
| **Course Name** | **Course Prefix** | **Catalog Description** | **Credit Hours** |
| Physical Therapy Science IV | PT 814 | Comprehensive study of conditions commonly requiring physical therapy management including wound care, rheumatology, women’s health, and urinary incontinence (male and female). | 3  2 lec 2 lab |
| Clinical Biomechanics III | PT 825 | Clinical biomechanics of normal and pathological human gait. | 3  2 lec 2 lab |
| Clinical Practicum III  10 Weeks  (June to mid-August) | PT 983 | Assignment to a clinical setting with supervision by a designated licensed physical therapist to gain practical experience with health-care delivery systems and physical therapy practice. S/U with IP Grading | 5 |
|  |  |  | **11 SH in semester**  **91 SH total** |
| **THIRD FALL SEMESTER** | | | |
| **Course Name** | **Course Prefix** | **Catalog Description** | **Credit Hours** |
| Neuromuscular Physical Therapy II | PT 924 | Physical therapy management for persons with neuromuscular disorders. Lecture and laboratory focus on brain and spinal cord injury, selected neuromuscular diseases and contemporary research application. | 3  2 lec 2 lab |
| Clinical Reasoning | PT 954 | Advanced clinical decision making in complex case studies; medical screening/referral; physical therapy examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis and intervention; patient/family circumstances and resources. | 3  2 lec 2 lab |
| Physical Therapy for Older Adults | PT 945 | Discussion of medical, social, and behavioral issues related to care of older adults. Emphasis on the chronic and complex needs unique to aging. | 2 |
| Pediatric Physical Therapy II | PT 927 | Management of infants and children with musculoskeletal and neuromuscular disorders; emphasis on neuropathology, examination, evaluation, physical therapy diagnosis, prognosis and intervention. | 3  2 lec 2 lab |
|  |  |  | **11 SH in semester**  **102 total** |

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| **THIRD SPRING SEMESTER - January 4 weeks** | | | |
| **Course Name** | **Course Prefix** | **Catalog Description** | **Credit Hours** |
| Health Promotion and Wellness | PT 930 | Theoretical foundation for health promotion, disease prevention, and maintenance of function across the lifespan. Emphasis on application of health promotion concepts to physical therapy practice. | 2 |
| Clinical Practicum IV  12 Weeks  (February to April) | PT 984 | Assignment to a clinical setting with supervision by a designated licensed physical therapist to gain practical experience with health-care delivery systems and physical therapy practice. S/U with IP Grading | 6 |
| Capstone | PT 920 | Comprehensive case study presentation; curriculum and program assessment; graduate performance self-assessment; professional portfolio completion/submission; and continuing education. S/U Grading | 1 |
|  |  |  | **9 SH in semester**  **111 total** |

Note: Curriculum requires fulltime attendance and is lockstep in nature with successful completion of each course a pre-requisite to subsequent course registration/enrollment.