

## Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Physiology and Biomechanics

My overall objective is to obtain a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree from an accredited graduate program. This Interdisciplinary Studies Degree will most adequately prepare me for my current goal of attending physical therapy school in the state of North Carolina. This undergraduate program is designed to incorporate both my graduate school pre-requisites and other courses that will supplement their focus. In addition, this program gave me the opportunity to integrate a Dance Minor into my studies. With my current career goal of being a physical therapist in the performing arts field, more specifically dance, this degree option gave me the ability to merge these two fields.

The courses I have selected for this major will give me a greater knowledge of the human body. Dr. Elizabeth Rogers, Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Professor of Physical Therapy Education at Elon University, suggested that I “immerse myself” in the various studies of human science, to include human anatomy, biomechanics, and kinesiology. Not only will this prepare me for entry into a physical therapy graduate school, but give me the ability to incorporate and apply this knowledge as I advance through my dance courses.

I do intend on pairing this degree with multiple shadowing programs and internships to build upon my studies. Dr. Walter L. Jenkins, Professor and Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy at Eastern Carolina University, advised that I expose myself to a wide variety of shadowing locations, to include hospitals and clinical offices, as well as specializations, such as prosthetics, sports, and pediatrics. I currently have a shadowing program arranged at the Naval Hospital on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune during the winter term.

This Bachelor of Science Interdisciplinary Studies Degree in Human Physiology and Biomechanics will best cater to my current and future educational needs, as it applies to preparing for physical therapy school. This unique degree option allowed me to merge both a dance and pre-physical therapy curriculum into one; giving me the opportunity to customize my education.