

## Pre-Physical Therapy

### In order to become an physical therapist, you must:

- complete a bachelor's degree (in any major) [WCU Undergraduate Major Options](#)
- take the appropriate prerequisite coursework [PTCAS Prerequisite Information](#)
- take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) [Examprep.wcu.edu](#)
- hands-on clinical / job shadowing experience required for most DPT [Observation Hours Information](#)
- apply through PTCAS.org, some colleges may require additional applications [PTCAS.org](#)
- complete a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree (DPT) from an accredited PT program [List of programs](#)
- complete a series of supervised clinical internships in a variety of settings
- pass the National PT Examination (NPTE) and/or applicable jurisprudence examination

### What should I major in?

While there is no prescribed major for admission into a physical therapy program, it is imperative that students complete all required courses for admission. PT programs vary significantly in their requirements, and it is important for you to learn what coursework the schools that interest you want. Students should choose their major according to their strengths, interests and alternative career choices. The Physical Therapist Central-ized Application Services (PTCAS.org) is used by the majority of PT schools but individual schools may also require a separate application to their institution as well.

Minimally, a student should complete these courses at WCU for entrance into many physical therapy programs:

#### **BIOL 140, BIOL 141, BIOL 291, BIOL 292**

Principles of Bio. I, Principles of Bio. II, Human Anat. & Phys. I, Human Anat. & Phys. II

#### **CHEM 139, CHEM 140**

General Chemistry I, General Chemistry II

#### **MATH 170**

Applied Statistics

#### **PHYS 130, PHYS 131**

Introductory Physics I, Introductory Physics II

#### **PSY 150 and/or other course in social or behavioral science**

General Psychology

#### **HPE 225 or other Exercise Physiology course**

Applied Kinesiology **\*\*HPE 225 will only be accepted by WCU's PT program for WCU graduates. If you are applying to other PT programs or you are not a WCU graduate, you will need to complete Exercise Physiology at another institution.**

### WHO CAN HELP ME AT WCU?

For information on undergraduate program options and admission requirements for Physical Therapy schools, contact pre-professional advisors:

#### **Pre-Professional Students:**

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#### **Honors College Students:**

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