Riverside Health
College of Health Sciences

COLLEGE CATALOG
ADDENDUM A 2025 – 2026

316 Main Street ● Newport News, VA 23601-3814
757-240-2200 ● 757-240-2225 Fax ● www.riverside.edu

RIVERSIDE COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

316 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601
757-240-2200; Fax: 757-240-2225
www.riverside.edu

Robin Nelhuebel, PhD, MSN, RN, RT(R)
College President

Riverside College of Health Sciences is certified to operate in the Commonwealth of Virginia by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV).
101 N. 14th Street, James Monroe Building, Richmond, VA 23219
804-225-2600 www.schev.edu

The College is institutionally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES)
6116 Executive Blvd., Suite 730, North Bethesda, MD 20852
703-917-9503 www.abhes.org

Riverside College of Health Sciences has been approved to participate in the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements www.nc-sara.org

Riverside Regional Medical Center is accredited by DNVGL-Healthcare
400 Techne Center Drive, Suite 100, Milford, OH 45150
www.dnv.com/healthcare/

This institution is approved to offer GI Bill® educational benefits by the Virginia State Approving Agency. GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/

Addendum Publication Date: *January 15, 2026 (minor typo corrected)*

This Catalog is for informational purposes only and does not create a contract, nor does it constitute a guarantee of continued enrollment. Riverside College of Health Sciences continuously attempts to improve each program and reserves the right to modify admission criteria, curriculum, course content, and policies as deemed necessary. Policy references are for public information purposes only. Enrolled students should refer to the most current policies published in their learning management system.

Cover photo: College Administration Building.

Back cover photos clockwise from top left: students in a classroom; student study group on the campus lawn; students having fun on campus; students relaxing in the Treehouse Café.

Physical Therapist Assistant Program

A Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) is an essential partner in the treatment of patients with movement impairments related to injury or illness as well as preventative wellness programs. Under the direction of a licensed Physical Therapist, the PTA may provide therapies with the goal of improving mobility, relieving pain, and/or the prevention of further injury. Physical Therapist Assistants enjoy the ability to work in a variety of practice settings including hospitals, private practices, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, schools, and out-patient settings. Physical Therapist Assistants may choose to further their education in a variety of related fields such as Physical Therapy, Biology, Athletic Training, Exercise Physiology, Chiropractic, Massage Therapy, Education, Physician Assistant, etc.

The Riverside Physical Therapist Assistant Program was established in 2012. Graduates of the program are eligible to take a national examination from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) to become a licensed Physical Therapist Assistant.

What We Offer

- Program leading to an Associates of Applied Science Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant
- Full-time Day Option consisting of four 16-week semesters and one 8-week summer semester (72 total weeks – 2 academic years) in addition to specified College-level prerequisite preadmission courses - occasional evening and weekend hours may be required
- Theoretical instruction integrated with laboratory simulations and clinical experience
- Hands-on clinical experience in our modern medical center and a variety of affiliated clinical sites
- Financial aid for students who qualify
- Career Planning
- Online general education courses through Geneva College / Portage Learning contract agreement.

Goals and Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be clinically competent.
   - Students will effectively apply their knowledge of basic Physical Therapy skills in the clinical setting.
   - Students will identify the unique characteristics of various Physical Therapy settings.
2. Students will demonstrate communication skills.
   - Students will work as collaborative members of the healthcare team.
   - Students will demonstrate oral and written communication skills.
3. Students will develop critical thinking skills.
   - Students will demonstrate adaptation of standard treatments for the patient's unique needs.
   - Students will identify and communicate problems or concerns related to the patient's care to the supervising Physical Therapist.
4. Students will model professionalism.
   - Students will demonstrate ethical behavior in class, laboratory, and clinical practice.
   - Students will summarize the value of professional growth and lifelong learning.
   - Students will demonstrate personal involvement in both service to the community and the Physical Therapy profession.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program is to graduate competent, entry-level physical therapist assistants who are prepared to challenge the National Physical Therapy Examination and meet the growing therapy employment needs of the health system and the community.

Course Delivery Methods

The majority of courses in this program are delivered on-site with web enhancement via our learning management system. Some courses have an online component. These courses are designated as either blended or distance. Students enrolled in blended courses will have academic requirements which must be completed online prior to coming to class.

Educational Requirements for Specific State Licensing for PTA

The Program has determined that its curriculum meets the state educational requirements for licensure or certification in all states, the District of Colombia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands secondary to its accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, based on the following: CAPTE accreditation of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant program satisfies state educational requirements in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Thus, students graduating from CAPTE-accredited physical therapist and physical therapist assistant education programs are eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination and apply for licensure in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For more information regarding state qualifications and licensure requirements, refer to the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy website at www.fsbpt.org.

Admission Requirements

Completion of the Pre-Allied Health Courses does not guarantee admission to the core Physical Therapist Assistant Program. For a list of additional Pre- or Co-Requisite courses, see the Program Curriculum Plan.

- Pre-requisite course requirements – see the curriculum plan.
- Preadmission testing required. See Application Procedures for information on ATI TEAS testing.
- Applicants must have completed the Anatomy & Physiology w/Lab, English Composition, and College Math requirements before a formal application can be submitted and reviewed.
- Psychology and Medical Terminology must be completed prior to matriculation.
- The applicant must be a graduate of an accredited high school with a GPA of 2.0 or higher or have earned a high school equivalency (GED) certificate.
- Prospective students for the Physical Therapist Assistant Program with prior criminal offenses are urged to contact the Virginia Board of Physical Therapy (VBOPT) to verify eligibility for licensure and employment in Virginia.

Programmatic Accreditation

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Riverside College of Health Sciences is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Ave., Suite 100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: http://www.capteonline.org. If needing to contact the program or institution directly, please call 757-240-2200 or email admissions@riverside.edu.

Credentialing

Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) to become licensed to practice as a Physical Therapist Assistant. Application for the exam is the responsibility of the student and involves additional fees charged by the FSBPT.

Additional information regarding the PTA exam may be obtained from:

Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
124 West Street South, Third Floor, Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 229-3100 www.fsbpt.org

To practice as a Physical Therapist Assistant in the State of Virginia, individuals must apply for a licensure from the Virginia Board of Physical Therapy (VBOPT). Application for licensure is the responsibility of the student and involves additional fees charged by VBOPT. Additional information regarding PTA licensure may be obtained from:

Department of Health Professions, Board of Physical Therapy
Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463
(804) 367-4674 www.dhp.virginia.gov/PhysicalTherapy

CURRICULUM PLAN

COLLEGE LEVEL GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS*	
Pre-Application Course Requirements: *(Completed before core program application submission)*	
BIOL 251 Human Anatomy & Physiology I with Lab**	4 credits
ENGL 101 English Composition	3 credits
MATH 101 College Algebra	3 credits
Pre-Matriculation Course Requirements: *(Completed prior to the first day of the core program start)*	
BIOL 103 Medical Terminology	3 credits
PSYC 121 General Psychology or PSYC140 Developmental Psychology	3 credits
Pre- or Co-Requisites Course Requirements*: *(May be taken in Level 1)*	
PHYS 165 Physics	3 credits
PHIL 120 Introduction to Ethics (Biomedical)	3 credits
GEN 111 Introduction to Healthcare (*taught by RCHS*)	1 credit

**These courses may be taken as co-requisites within the RCHS-Geneva/Portage contract agreement.*

***Anatomy & Physiology cannot be substituted with CLEP testing.*

All credits are reflected as semester credits. Prerequisite courses must be passed with a grade of "C" or better and taken at an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education (ED) or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) will be accepted. Foreign transcripts must be evaluated by a current member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services, Inc., (NACES). Quarter credits will be converted to semester credits.

CORE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM CURRICULUM All courses are residential (taught on campus) unless noted as follows: [B] Blended/Hybrid course [D] Distance Course				
LEVEL 1 – 16 weeks	***A***	***CS***	***CE***	***CH***
PHYS 165 Physics [D]	45			3.0
GEN 141 A&P for the Allied Health Professional	60			4.0
GEN 141L A&P for the Allied Health Prof Lab		45		1.0
GEN 111 Introduction to Healthcare [B]	7.5		22.5	1.0
PTA 111 Introduction to Physical Therapy	30			2.0
PTA 191 Seminar [D]	30			2.0
PTA 141 Patient Care Skills for the PTA	30			2.0
PTA 141L Patient Care Skills for the PTA Lab		67.5		1.5
Total Level Hours	**202.5**	**112.5**	**22.5**	**16.5**

LEVEL 2 – 16 weeks				
PHIL 120 Introduction to Ethics [D]	45			3.0
PTA 132 Documentation [B]	30			2.0
PTA 152 Kinesiology	45			3.0
PTA 152L Kinesiology Lab		135		3.0
PTA 162 Therapeutic Modalities	67.5			4.5
PTA 162L Therapeutic Modalities Lab		90		2.0
Total Level Hours	**187.5**	**225**	**0**	**17.5**

LEVEL 3 – 8 weeks				
PTA 243 Cardiopulmonary PT	30			2.0
PTA 243L Cardiopulmonary PT Lab		45		1.0
Total Level Hours	**30**	**45**	**0**	**3.0**

LEVEL 4 – 16 weeks				
PTA 234 Musculoskeletal PT	45			3.0
PTA 234L Musculoskeletal PT Lab		67.5		1.5
PTA 244 Neuromuscular PT	45			3.0
PTA 244L Neuromuscular PT Lab		67.5		1.5
PTA 235 Comprehensive Patient Care [B]	30			2.0
PTA 200 Clinical Orientation	7.5			0.5
PTA 201C Clinical Education I – 4 weeks			160	3.5
Total Level Hours	127.5	135	160	15

LEVEL 5 – 16 weeks	*A*	*CS*	*CE*	*CH*
PTA 202C Clinical Education II*			240	5
PTA 203C Clinical Education III**			320	7
PTA 300 PTA Capstone [B]	30			2
Total Level Hours	**30**	**0**	**560**	**14**
**6-weeks: PTA 202C follows successful completion of all Level 4 courses.*				
***8 weeks: PTA 203C follows successful completion of PTA 202C.*				

CURRICULUM SUMMARY	Clock Hours	Credits
Total GEN ED Pre/Co-Requisite Credits	**345**	**22**
Total GEN ED Pre/Co-Requisite Credits (Taught by RCHS)	*Included below*	**6**
Core Program Hours – Theory	487.5	32.5
Core Program Hours – Lab	517.5	11.5
Core Program Hours – Clinical	742.5	16
Total CORE Program Hours	2092.50	54
Total Physical Therapist Assistant Program Credit Hours		**82**

A =	Academic Instructional Hour (Theory)	15 clock hours	1 credit
CS =	Clinical Skills Lab Instructional Hour	45 clock hours	1 credit
CE =	Clinical Experience Hour	45 clock hours	1 credit
CH =	Credit Hour		

TUITION AND EXPENSES

Effective May 1, 2025

Pre-Allied Health (Geneva) Courses:	
	$300 per credit
Core Program Courses:	
GEN courses	$350 per credit
PTA courses	$450 per credit

Additional Expenses:	
Book Estimate	$1,405
Uniform and Shoe Estimate	$150
Credentialing Exam Estimate	$700
ATI Launch Program *(if assigned)*	$250

**General Education pre- and co-requisite courses may be taken at RCHS through an Education Provider Agreement with Geneva College/Portage Learning or may be transferred from an institution of higher education accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.*

Program tuition and expenses do not include application or transcript evaluation fees, textbooks, supplies, or living expenses. Textbooks, supplies, and living expenses are reflected in the student budgets available through the Financial Aid office. Textbook prices vary according to the vendor. Additional expense amounts provided are estimates based on date of publication. *See page 88 for additional fee details.*

Additional Program Costs Related to Clinical Placements

Students are responsible for all costs incurred in travel to preceptorship, clinical, and laboratory field trip sites. This may include clinical sites in Richmond, Tappahannock, and Franklin. Clinical placements are randomized, and clinical site requirements may vary. Students are responsible for meeting these requirements which may include but are not limited to fees for drug screens, repeated criminal history background checks, and/or additional immunizations.

Physical Therapist Assistant - Associate of Applied Science (AAS)

FULL TRADITIONAL Track

Semester (Level)	Credits	Tuition	Technology Fee	Campus Resources Fee	Clinical Subscription	Skills Lab Supplies	Totals
Pre-Track	16	$4,800	-	-	-	-	$4,800
1	16.5	$6,375	$100	$100	$50	$50	$6,675
2	17.5	$7,425	$100	$100	$50	$50	$7,725
3 - Summer	3	$1,350	-	-	-	-	$1,350
4	15	$6,750	$100	$100	$50	$50	$7,050
5	14	$6,300	$100	$100	$50	$50	$6,600
	82	$33,000	$400	$400	$200	$200	**$34,200**

Physical Therapist Assistant - Associate of Applied Science (AAS)							
ACCELERATED Transfer Track							
Semester (Level)	**Credits**	**Tuition**	**Technology Fee**	**Resource Fee**	**Clinical Subscription**	**Skills Lab Supplies**	**Totals**
Transferred	16	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	16.5	$6,375	$100	$100	$50	$50	$6,675
2	17.5	$7,425	$100	$100	$50	$50	$7,725
3 - Summer	3	$1,350	-	-	-	-	$1,350
4	15	$6,750	$100	$100	$50	$50	$7,050
5	14	$6,300	$100	$100	$50	$50	$6,600
	66	$28,200	$400	$400	$200	$200	**$29,400**

Course Descriptions

GENEVA/PORTAGE ONLINE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

BIOL 103 MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY (3.0 CR): A systematic approach to learning the language required to practice in a medically related field. The course will provide the ability to identify, build and recognize terminology used to describe the human body as well as representative pathological processes, procedures, conditions and diseases that may affect it.

BIOL 121 NUTRITION (3.0 CR): This course will provide the student with the fundamentals of nutrition, both in theory and application. The digestion, absorption, metabolism, and functional importance of nutrients are emphasized. Basic principles of applied nutrition such as energy balance, weight control, and the role of nutrition from birth to death are discussed. The mechanisms and onset of disease states as a result of insufficient nutritional intake are examined. Case studies encourage students to apply the information and prepare them for healthy living. Upon course completion, students will be able to apply nutrition principles to their own lives and be able to make informed nutrition choices.

BIOL 251 HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY I w/LAB (4.0 CR): A systematic integration of the structure and function of the cells, tissues, organs and systems of the human body. The systems discussed are the respiratory system, digestive system, skeletal system, axial and appendicular musculature, endocrine system, and the integumentary system. This course also includes an overview of basic anatomical terminology, cell composition, and a discussion of the cellular membrane. Modules include discussions of anatomy and physiology of the individual systems as well as common pathology and treatments associated with each. The laboratory component of this course is delivered using virtual labs and interactive simulations with detailed instruction and demonstrations from an experienced instructor.

BIOL 252 HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY II w/LAB (4.0 CR): A continued systematic discussion of the anatomical and physiological systems within the human body. The systems discussed are the nervous system and the special senses, circulatory system, reproductive system including discussions of mitosis/meiosis and heredity, and the urinary system with a discussion of fluid and electrolyte balance. Modules cover the common pathology and treatments associated with each of the systems outlined above. The laboratory component of this course is delivered using virtual labs and interactive simulations with detailed instruction and demonstrations from an experienced instructor.

BIOL 271 MICROBIOLOGY w/LAB (4.0 CR): A systematic examination of the microbial world, with an emphasis on pathogens. Topics covered include morphology, physiology, and genetics as well as the

metabolic and enzymatic reactions associated. Strategic techniques for the growth, isolation and visualization of microbes are included as are microscopic and diagnostic methods. The causative agents and treatment strategies of various pathogens are emphasized. Viral composition, replication and the associated disease states are also covered in detail. The laboratory component of this course is delivered using virtual labs and interactive simulations with detailed instruction and demonstrations from an experienced microbiologist.

CHEM 103 GENERAL CHEMISTRY w/LAB (4.0 CR): This course comprehensively covers foundational concepts essential to understanding chemistry, emphasizing measurement and problem-solving through dimensional analysis. It covers matter's phases, atomic theory including atomic structure and symbolism, and the Bohr model. Quantum theory is explored with electron configurations and periodic variations in elemental properties, tracing the historical development of the periodic table. Ionic and molecular compounds are introduced, along with bonding principles and chemical nomenclature. Students learn Lewis symbols, molecular geometry, and properties such as polarity. The course details chemical formulas, the mole concept, and solution concentrations, emphasizing practical applications. It covers chemical equations, precipitation, acid-base reactions, and oxidation-reduction reactions, as well as gas laws, stoichiometry, and the Kinetic-Molecular Theory. Energy concepts like calorimetry and enthalpy are explored alongside ionic and covalent bond characteristics. The properties of liquids, solids, and colloids are comprehensively examined, including intermolecular forces and phase transitions. The laboratory component of this course is delivered using virtual labs and interactive simulations with detailed instruction and demonstrations from an experienced chemist.

COMM 180 FOUNDATIONS OF PUBLIC SPEAKING (3.0 CR): Foundations of Public Speaking is designed to help students develop effective presentation skills through an understanding of both communication theory and practice. Throughout this course, students will explore such topics as: ethics and public speaking, the power of language, credibility, speaker confidence, how to adapt a presentation for different occasions, purposes, and audience, speech design and organization, research, and methods of delivery. Civility, ethical speech making, and audience centered communication are the foundations of this course.

ENGL 101 ENGLISH COMPOSITION I (3.0 CR): The ability to write well is a key contributor in achieving a high degree of success in academic, business, and medical fields. To be able to effectively communicate one’s ideas through a logical and methodical writing process is a necessary skill in today’s competitive world. Essentials of English Composition I (ENGL 101) will help you, the student, to generate effective compositions using various modes of writing. The course will focus on developing your ability to utilize critical thinking, organize your thoughts, and clearly express those thoughts in standard, written English.

ENGL 102 ENGLISH COMPOSITION II (3.0 CR): English Composition 102 enhances the writing practices and skills acquired in English Composition 101. You will read a wide variety of texts and engage in writing activities that promote critical thinking, literary analysis, and the ability to create argumentative essays that establish a position supported by evidence.

HUMN 160 GLOBAL RELIGION & CULTURE (3.0 CR): This course examines the intersection of religion, culture and globalization, particularly as they are manifested in the workplace (incl. for healthcare providers). It opens with a model of culture and the diversity of life-features that constitute culture, then presents central tenets and historical origins of the major religions present in the world today and how religious adherence manifests itself in different societies. It aims to help students understand essential doctrines and practices of the world’s major religions and how the cultural contexts in which these religions have arisen (and are present today) need to be considered as increasing rates of interaction due to the intense globalization are affecting today’s world. This course will specifically help students in health-related fields to be aware of, and considerate toward, the diverse beliefs and religious and cultural differences they

can expect to encounter when providing medical care to patients. It will prompt them to reflect on their self-awareness and understanding, as well as to consider others with respect to the diversity of faiths and cultural practices that are present today in North America.

MATH 101 COLLEGE ALGEBRA (3.0 CR): A review of the basic principles of algebra and their applications, including unit conversions, solving equations, solving systems of equations, evaluating functions, graphing, and word problems. This is followed by an introduction to intermediate and advanced subjects including polynomials, factoring, conic sections, exponential functions, and logarithmic functions.

PHIL 120 INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS (BIOMEDICAL) (3.0 CR): The goal of the course is to help students understand the principles of classical theoretical philosophical ethics with case studies designed to develop ways of understanding themselves and becoming enabled to apply those outlooks to the care they expect to give in a medical context as health professionals.

PHYS 165 PHYSICS (3.0 CR): A single-semester, comprehensive exploration of the fundamental laws, theories, and mathematical concepts as they relate to a college-level survey of physics. Course content includes classical mechanics, electricity and magnetism, and modern physics. Specific topics include, some basics of science, kinematics, dynamics, energy, momentum, waves, electricity, magnetism, quantum mechanics and relativity. While there is no lab component to this course, students will be expected to learn the material on a conceptual level as well as solve mathematic problems using algebra-based physics equations.

PSYC 101 GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (3.0 CR): An introduction to the scientific study of behavior and a systematic presentation of its basic concepts and methods.

PSYC 140 DEVELOPMENTAL (LIFESPAN) PSYCHOLOGY (3.0 CR): PSYC 140 studies human growth and development across the lifespan. From conception to death, physical, cognitive, and socioemotional development is examined. Key developmental theorists and theories are integrated throughout the course as well as developmental milestones across the lifespan. Research methods in developmental psychology are addressed explicitly and are also addressed alongside each major research study and theory discussed. This course includes discussion on current issues such as child obesity, younger menarche, and adults caring for children and parents. Thus, this course addresses classic developmental theories and research as well as provides an overview of current developmental topics across the lifespan.

SOCI 180 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (3.0 CR): The primary purpose of this course is to introduce you to a way of seeing yourself, others, and the world. You will become more discerning of the complexities of social living while simultaneously understanding social life more fully.

RCHS GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

GEN 111 INTRODUCTION TO HEALTHCARE (1.0 CR): This blended theory and clinical course reviews the skills necessary for success in a healthcare program of study to include study skills and techniques, test taking strategies, time management skills, identification of individual student success strategies, skills for student success, APA guidelines and research skills. In addition, this course prepares the healthcare student with basic information regarding various nursing and allied health careers, hospital regulatory bodies, infection control and standard precautions, and all-hazards preparations.

GEN 141 ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY FOR THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL (4.0 CR): This theory course builds on the introductory anatomy theory provided in a college level A&P I course with specific references and case studies for the allied health professional. GEN 141 provides an in-depth review and study of the structure and function of cells and tissue types of the human body to include Human

Genetics, Reproductive, Circulatory, Urinary, Digestive, Endocrine, Integumentary, Muscular, Skeletal, Nervous and Respiratory body systems as well as metabolism and the integration of those systems for clinical relevance. This course is taught in conjunction with GEN 141L.

GEN 141L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY FOR THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LAB (1.0 CR): This blended laboratory course builds on the introductory anatomy theory provided in a college level A&P I course with specific references and case studies for the allied health professional. GEN 141L provides an in-depth review and study of the structure and function of cells and tissue types of the human body to include Human Genetics, Reproductive, Circulatory, Urinary, Digestive, Endocrine, Integumentary, Muscular, Skeletal, Nervous and Respiratory body systems as well as metabolism and the integration of those systems for clinical relevance. This Lab will utilize a web-based interactive dissection lab with interactive slides to simulate dissection of human cadaver. This course is taught in conjunction with GEN 141.

GEN 311 PRINCIPLES OF BACCALAUREATE LEARNING (3.0 CR): This distance theory course provides an introduction to the Learning Management System (LMS). Aspects of learning in the online environment will be discussed to support student success. Students will be introduced to locating appropriate academic literature and will begin writing using American Psychological Association (APA) format within the context of the healthcare profession.

GEN 321 ACADEMIC WRITING FOR THE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL (3.0 CR): This distance theory course provides an introduction to principles of effective written communication with a focus on invention, drafting, revising, editing, and self-assessment of written scholarly work. Writing in APA format will be the focus to ensure proper formatting, proper citing, and referencing.

GEN 445 LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT IN HEALTHCARE (3.0 CR): This distance theory course will provide an overview of leadership skills and prepares students for managerial challenges encountered by leaders and health care practitioners in health service organizations. Emphasis is on leadership theory, conflict management, strategic planning, ethics, and financial management.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

PTA 111 INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL THERAPY (2.0 CR): This theory course is designed to provide an overview of the foundations of physical therapy and the practitioner's role in the healthcare delivery system. Principle practices and policies of healthcare organizations are examined in addition to the professional responsibilities of the physical therapist assistant. The study of the field of physical therapy and the healthcare environment includes historical review, role orientation, professional organizational structure, patient and practitioner safety, and the study of ethical standards as well as basic concepts of patient care, including consideration for the physical and psychological needs of the patient and family. The role of the physical therapist assistant in patient education is identified and the implications of human and cultural diversity among co-workers and patients are explored.

PTA 141 PATIENT CARE SKILLS FOR THE PTA (2.0 CR): This theory course provides theoretical knowledge of topics utilized in the practice of physical therapy related to functional mobility training through the use of medical devices. Topics covered will include positioning, draping, transfer training, body mechanics, gait training, wheelchair locomotion, safe handling techniques, patient education. Vital signs, infection control, and environmental modifications will be reviewed as applicable to the patient care setting. This course is designed to provide the basic concepts of patient care including consideration for the physical and psychological needs of the patient and family. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 141L.

PTA 141L PATIENT CARE SKILLS FOR THE PTA – LAB (1.5 CR): This laboratory course will develop functional mobility training skills to reinforce the practical knowledge learned in PTA 141. Topics covered will include positioning, draping, transfer training, body mechanics, gait training, wheelchair locomotion, safe handling techniques, infection control practices, and patient education.

PTA 191 SEMINAR (2.0 CR): This distance theory course is an introduction to leadership skills, understanding of group dynamics, the importance of community service, interaction with other health education students, and the practice of reading and interpreting professional literature. Research methodology for journal and literature review will be incorporated into the course. Development of skills for literature research and data evaluation to enhance the student's ability to research treatment techniques they may encounter in the clinical setting. Knowledge of APA writing guidelines required. Students will investigate and participate in an approved community service activity in the geographic region.

PTA 132 DOCUMENTATION (2.0 CR): This blended theory course emphasizes the SOAP (Subjective – Objective – Assessment – Plan) note format for therapy documentation and use of the electronic medical record and/or written documentation in various settings. Proper documentation skills for PTA's, documentation review and chart review to carry out the PT's plan of care will be emphasized. This course will also consist of supervised experiences in a clinical setting that will provide observational opportunities for application of documentation skills. Emphasis will be placed on the development of communication and interpersonal skills, as well as the documentation of physical therapy skills and procedures being utilized in patient care.

PTA 152 KINESIOLOGY (3.0 CR): This theory course studies individual muscle and muscle functions, biomechanical principles of joint motion, gait analysis, goniometry, sensory assessment, balance assessment and postural assessment all related to muscle function and biomechanical principles of joint motion in normal and impaired mobility. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 152L.

PTA 152L KINESIOLOGY LAB (3.0 CR): This laboratory course implements and develops skills for assessment of individual muscle strength, gait analysis, goniometry, sensory assessment, balance assessment and postural assessment all related to muscle function and biomechanical principles of joint motion in normal and impaired mobility. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 152.

PTA 162 THERAPEUTIC MODALITIES (4.5 CR): This theory course presents the theory and practical applications of adjunctive therapies using EBP as a basis for modality choice in patient care. The course emphasizes indications, contraindications, and algorithmic decision making in integrating physical agents into a comprehensive approach to physical therapy treatment. Topics covered include: thermal and mechanical agents, traction, hydrotherapy, acoustical, electrical and electromagnetic energies in modality application. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 162L.

PTA 162L THERAPEUTIC MODALITIES LAB (2.0 CR): This laboratory course implements the theory, principles, and techniques of modality application in the practice of physical therapy. Modality choice and application techniques of the agents presented in PTA 162 are explored, with emphasis on the execution and refinement of treatment skills as provided within an integrated treatment strategy. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 162.

PTA 243 CARDIOPULMONARY PT (2.0 CR): This theory course presents theory, principles, and techniques of therapeutic exercise and rehabilitation for cardiopulmonary conditions in adults and children with an emphasis on etiology, pathology, pharmacology, and clinical representation of cardiopulmonary diseases. This course includes other systems involvement related to cardiopulmonary dysfunctions. Methods of assessment and intervention techniques including therapeutic exercise, aerobic exercises, Chest PT, functional rehabilitation, wellness and fitness, and strength and conditioning are correlated with specific cardiopulmonary conditions. This course provides specific concepts of cardiopulmonary patient care and assessment including consideration for the physical and psychological needs of the patient and family. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 243L.

PTA 243L CARDIOPULMONARY PT LAB (1.0 CR): This laboratory course implements the theory, principles, and techniques of therapeutic exercise and rehabilitation for cardiopulmonary conditions in adults and children with an emphasis on execution and refinement of patient care skills with sound clinical judgment. The practice and skill attainment of therapeutic exercise, aerobic exercises, chest PT, functional rehabilitation, wellness and fitness, and strength and conditioning to provide cardiopulmonary patient care and assessment including consideration for the physical, instructional, and psychological needs of the patient and family are emphasized. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 243.

PTA 234 MUSCULOSKELETAL PT (3.0 CR): This theory course presents theory, principles, and techniques of therapeutic exercise and rehabilitation for musculoskeletal conditions in adults and children with an emphasis on etiology, pathology, pharmacology, and clinical representation of musculoskeletal diseases. This course includes other system involvements related to musculoskeletal dysfunctions. Methods of assessment and intervention techniques including therapeutic exercise, functional training, prosthetics, orthotics, and other interventions are correlated with specific musculoskeletal conditions. This course provides specific concepts of musculoskeletal patient care and assessment including consideration for the physical and psychological needs of the patient and family. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 234L.

PTA 234L MUSCULOSKELETAL PT LAB (1.5 CR): This laboratory course includes the simulation, practice, and testing of practical applications and knowledge presented in PTA 234 of various therapeutic exercises and rehabilitation procedures for musculoskeletal conditions in adults and children with an emphasis on execution and refinement of patient care skills with sound clinical judgment. The practice and skill attainment of therapeutic exercise and rehabilitation interventions is correlated with specific musculoskeletal conditions including emphasis on the consideration for the physical, instructional, and psychological needs of the patient and family. Principles of prosthetics and orthotics, functional training, strength and conditioning, and other techniques are practiced. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 234.

PTA 235 COMPREHENSIVE PATIENT CARE (2.0 CR): This blended theory course integrates clinical knowledge, scientific knowledge and skills acquired throughout the curriculum by analyzing patients with medically complex diagnoses with multiple system involvement. This course emphasizes problem solving skills in determining the impact of disease interactions across multiple systems and their associated recovery processes. Major emphasis for this course will be on the development of critical thinking, patient progression across the continuum of care, and the ability to integrate knowledge from previous courses on the comprehensive management of patient care.

PTA 244 NEUROMUSCULAR PT (3.0 CR): This theory course presents theory, principles, and techniques of therapeutic exercise and rehabilitation for neurological conditions in adults and children with an emphasis on etiology, pathology, pharmacology, and clinical representation of neuromuscular diseases. This course includes other system involvements related to neuromuscular dysfunctions. Methods of functional, motor, and sensory assessment and intervention techniques including therapeutic exercise, rehabilitation techniques, functional training, orthotics, and interventions correlated with specific neuromuscular conditions. This course provides specific concepts of patient care and assessment including consideration for the physical and psychological needs of the patient and family. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 244L.

PTA 244L NEUROMUSCULAR PT LAB (1.5 CR): This laboratory course includes the simulation, practice, and testing of practical applications and knowledge presented in PTA 244 of various therapeutic exercise and rehabilitation procedures for neurological conditions in adults and children with an emphasis on execution and refinement of patient care skills with sound clinical judgment. Methods of functional, motor, and sensory assessment and intervention techniques are included. The practice and skill attainment of therapeutic exercise and rehabilitation interventions are correlated with specific neuromuscular conditions including emphasis on the consideration for the physical, instructional, and psychological needs of the patient and family. This course is taught in conjunction with PTA 244.

PTA 200 CLINICAL ORIENTATION (0.5 CR): This clinical orientation course provides review of policies and procedures for clinical practice, completion of clinical paperwork, training for patient safety protocols and training using documentation systems for both internal and external clinical sites. Students will familiarize themselves with the layout of various clinical facilities and duties of clinical roles throughout the PT clinic. Clinical Orientation requires successful completion of elements specified on the evaluation criteria to include paperwork submission, and competency achievements.

PTA 201C CLINICAL EDUCATION I (3.5 CR): This clinical course provides integrated, supervised clinical experiences up to the advanced beginner level for the implementation and practice of learned academic knowledge and patient care skills. This clinical rotation will focus on practicing the skills of functional mobility training, select therapeutic interventions, use of assistive devices, and utilization of standard precautions, data collection and documentation learned in Levels 1-4 of the didactic portion of the curriculum with direct guidance from the Clinical Instructor. Students are required to work within a team to implement patient treatment plans, manipulate equipment, develop awareness of safety principles, and to coordinate his/her needs with the needs of classmates, co-workers, and patients.

PTA 202C CLINICAL EDUCATION II (5.0 CR): This clinical course provides terminal, supervised clinical education experiences at Advanced Intermediate level while implementing the skills learned in Levels 1-4 of the didactic portion of the curriculum. This clinical rotation will focus on practicing the skills of functional mobility training, select therapeutic interventions, use of assistive devices, and utilization of standard precautions, data collection and documentation learned in Levels 1-4 of the didactic portion of the curriculum with intermittent guidance from the Clinical Instructor while demonstrating advanced intermediate level performance for the skills outlined by the APTA as the Minimum required skills of Physical Therapist Assistant Graduates at entry-level. In this course, students are to explore and research a topic or area of interest in physical therapy practice related to their clinical education experiences. Students are required to present an in-service/project to the therapy staff at an approved clinical education site based on their research.

PTA 203C CLINICAL EDUCATION III (7.0 CR): This clinical course provides a terminal, supervised clinical education experiences implementing the skills learned in Levels 1-5 of the didactic portion of the curriculum. This clinical rotation will focus on demonstrating entry level performance for the skills outlined by the APTA as the Minimum required skills of Physical Therapist Assistant Graduates at entry-level. In this course, students are to explore and research a topic or area of interest in physical therapy practice related to their clinical education experiences. Students are required to present an in-service/project to the therapy staff at an approved clinical education site based on their research.

PTA 300 PTA CAPSTONE (2.0 CR): This blended theory course represents a synthesis of all didactic, laboratories, and clinical experiences gained throughout the PTA program in preparation for the National Physical Therapy Exam.

Please stop by…we would love to show you our campus!

LIKE US ON facebook