



**University at Buffalo**  
*The State University of New York*

Department of Rehabilitation Science  
Doctor of Physical Therapy Program  
School of Public Health and Health Professions

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**Course Number:** PT 512  
**Course Title:** Clinical Experience 1  
**Credit Hours:** 4  
**Time:** Minimum 35 hours per week for eight weeks  
**Prerequisite(s):** Successful completion of year one in DPT Program (For DPT majors only)  
**Instructor(s):** Juli A. Wylegala, PT, PhD, (Coordinator)  
Douglas Frye, PT, MSPT  
Volunteer Adjunct Clinical Faculty in various locations

**I. Course Description:**

This course prepares the future physical therapist to interact with patients, patient's families, and other related individuals on all levels. To accomplish this, students will participate in direct patient care in a variety of settings. The experience will be under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. Students will be required to maintain a representative caseload of patients by the conclusion of the clinical experience.

**II. Course Rationale:**

Physical Therapists are health care practitioners responsible for the delivery of primary, secondary, and tertiary care to individuals across the lifespan. Specific to this role of the physical therapist is the focus on habilitation, rehabilitation, and prevention and wellness. Physical therapists must have the ability to practice in an ethical manner, understand patient issues in relation to practice, value and tolerate cultural diversity, modify teaching preferences to enhance patient understanding and learning.

### **III. Course Objectives:**

#### **Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:**

The following objectives are taken from; Physical Therapist Clinical Performance Instrument for Students; American Physical Therapy Association, June 2006.

1. Practice in a safe manner that minimizes risk to patient, self, and others.
2. Demonstrates professional behavior in all situations.
3. Practices in a manner consistent with established legal and professional standards and ethical guidelines.
4. Communicates in ways that are congruent with situational needs.
5. Adapts delivery of physical therapy services with consideration for patients' differences, values, preferences, and needs.
6. Participates in self-assessment to improve clinical and professional performance.
7. Applies current knowledge, theory, clinical judgment, and the patient's values and perspective in patient management.
8. Determines with each patient encounter the patient's need for further examination or consultation by a physical therapist or referral to another health care professional.
9. Performs a physical therapy patient examination using evidenced based tests and measures.
10. Evaluates data from the patient examination (history, systems review, and tests and measures) to make clinical judgments.
11. Determines a diagnosis and prognosis that guides future patient management.
12. Establishes a physical therapy plan of care that is safe, effective, patient-centered, and evidence-based.
13. Performs physical therapy interventions in a competent manner.
14. Educates others (patients, caregivers, staff, students, other health care providers, business

and industry representatives, school systems) using relevant and effective teaching methods.

15. Produces quality documentation in a timely manner to support the delivery of physical therapy services.

16. Collects and analyzes data from selected outcome measures in a manner that supports accurate analysis of individual patient and group outcomes.

17. Participates in the financial management (budgeting, billing and reimbursement, time, space, equipment, marketing, public relations) of the physical therapy service consistent with regulatory, legal, and facility guidelines.

18. Directs and supervises personnel to meet patient's goals and expected outcomes according to legal standards and ethical guidelines.

	PT 512 Learning Objective	Required Element	Instructional Method	Assessment Method
1	Practice in a safe manner that minimizes risk to patient, self, and others.	<b>7D1, 7D4, 7D5, 7D10, 7D11, 7D12, 7D14, 7D16, 7D17, 7D18, 7D19, 7D20, 7D24, 7D25, 7D27, 7D28, 7D29, 7D30, 7D32, 7D33, 7D34, 7D35, 7D36, 7D37, 7D38, 7D39, 7D40, 7D42, 7D43,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
2	Demonstrates professional behavior in all situations.	<b>7D1, 7D4, 7D5, 7D6, 7D7, 7D8, 7D10, 7D11, 7D12, 7D14, 7D16, 7D17, 7D18, 7D19, 7D20, 7D24, 7D25, 7D27, 7D28, 7D29, 7D30, 7D32, 7D33, 7D34, 7D35, 7D36, 7D37, 7D38, 7D39, 7D40, 7D42, 7D43,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
3	Practices in a manner consistent with established legal and professional standards and ethical guidelines.	<b>7D1, 7D2, 7D3, 7D4, 7D5, 7D10, 7D11, 7D12, 7D14, 7D16,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI

		<b>7D17, 7D18, 7D19, 7D20, 7D24, 7D25, 7D27, 7D28, 7D29, 7D30, 7D32, 7D33, 7D34, 7D35, 7D36, 7D37, 7D38, 7D39, 7D40, 7D41, 7D42, 7D43,</b>		
4	Communicates in ways that are congruent with situational needs.	<b>7D5, 7D7, 7D8, 7D10, 7D12, 7D14, 7D21, 7D28, 7D29, 7D30, 7D32, 7D33, 7D34, 7D35, 7D36, 7D37, 7D38, 7D39, 7D40, 7D43,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
5	Adapts delivery of physical therapy services with consideration for patients' differences, values, preferences, and needs.	<b>7D5, 7D7, 7D8, 7D10, 7D11, 7D12, 7D16, 7D19, 7D20, 7D24, 7D25, 7D27, 7D28, 7D29, 7D30, 7D32, 7D34, 7D35, 7D36, 7D37, 7D38, 7D39, 7D40, 7D42,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
6	Participates in self-assessment to improve clinical and professional performance.	<b>7D4, 7D5, 7D10, 7D11, 7D13, 7D15</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
7	Applies current knowledge, theory, clinical judgment, and the patient's values and perspective in patient management.	<b>7D5, 7D7, 7D8, 7D9, 7D10, 7D11, 7D12, 7D16, 7D18, 7D19, 7D20, 7D24, 7D25, 7D27, 7D28, 7D30, 7D34, 7D36, 7D38, 7D40, 7D42,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
8	Determines with each patient encounter the patient's need for further examination or consultation by a physical therapist or referral to another health care professional.	<b>7D5, 7D10, 7D16, 7D28, 7D30, 7D34, 7D35, 7D38, 7D40, 7D42,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
9	Performs a physical therapy patient examination using evidenced based tests and measures.	<b>7D5, 7D17, 7D18, 7D19, 7D20, 7D24, 7D25, 7D27,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI

		<b>7D35, 7D38, 7D40, 7D42,</b>		
10	Evaluates data from the patient examination (history, systems review, and tests and measures) to make clinical judgments.	<b>7D5, 7D10, 7D17, 7D18, 7D19, 7D20, 7D24, 7D25, 7D27, 7D35, 7D38, 7D40,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
11	Determines a diagnosis and prognosis that guides future patient management.	<b>7D5, 7D20, 7D22, 7D23, 7D24, 7D25, 7D27, 7D35, 7D38, 7D40,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
12	Establishes a physical therapy plan of care that is safe, effective, patient-centered, and evidence-based.	<b>7D5, 7D10, 7D11, 7D20, 7D24, 7D25, 7D26, 7D27, 7D28, 7D30, 7D35, 7D36, 7D37, 7D38, 7D39, 7D40, 7D42,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
13	Performs physical therapy interventions in a competent manner.	<b>7D5, 7D10, 7D25, 7D27, 7D28, 7D30, 7D34, 7D35, 7D37, 7D40, 7D42,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
14	Educates others (patients, caregivers, staff, students, other health care providers, business and industry representatives, school systems) using relevant and effective teaching methods.	<b>7D5, 7D7, 7D8, 7D12, 7D14, 7D29, 7D30, 7D34, 7D35, 7D36, 7D38, 7D39, 7D40, 7D42, 7D43,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
15	Produces quality documentation in a timely manner to support the delivery of physical therapy services.	<b>7D1, 7D4, 7D5, 7D24, 7D25, 7D27, 7D29, 7D30, 7D32, 7D33, 7D36, 7D37, 7D38, 7D40, 7D42,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
16	Collects and analyzes data from selected outcome measures in a manner that supports accurate analysis of individual patient and group outcomes.	<b>7D11, 7D31, 7D36, 7D38, 7D40, 7D42,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
17	Participates in the financial management (budgeting, billing and reimbursement, time, space, equipment, marketing, public relations) of the physical therapy service consistent with regulatory, legal, and facility guidelines.	<b>7D4, 7D24, 7D25, 7D27, 7D28, 7D30, 7D35, 7D36, 7D38, 7D40, 7D41, 7D42</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI
18	Directs and supervises personnel to meet patient's goals and expected outcomes according to legal standards	<b>7D1, 7D4, 7D5, 7D7, 7D8, 7D10, 7D11, 7D12, 7D14,</b>	Lecture, Seminar, Demonstration	Web CPI

	and ethical guidelines.	<b>7D24, 7D25, 7D27, 7D29, 7D30, 7D32, 7D33, 7D34, 7D35, 7D36, 7D37, 7D38, 7D39, 7D40, 7D42, 7D43,</b>		

#### **IV. Textbooks and Resources:**

1. Guide to Physical Therapy Practice. American Physical Therapy Association, 1999
2. APTA Web CPI Training at <http://www.apta.org/am/aptaapps/restricted/ptcpi/index.cfm>, Password: ptcpiweb08
3. Physical Therapy Clinical Performance Instrument for Students; American Physical Therapy Association, June 2006.
4. PT CPI Web at <https://cpi2.amsapps.com>.

#### **V. Course Evaluation:**

**Any student with a diagnosed disability (physical, learning, or psychosocial) which will make it difficult for him/her to carry out the course work as outlined, or, requires accommodations such as recruiting note takers, readers, or extended time on exams and/or assignments, should advise faculty during the first week of the course so reasonable accommodations may be made.**

**Cheating: Evidence of cheating on exams (practicals or written) or assignments will not be tolerated and will result in a zero for the exam, "F" for the course, and recommended dismissal from the DPT Program. Students should be aware that assignments turned in for this course may be subject to an electronic plagiarism check. Plagiarism is a form of cheating and so evidence of plagiarism will be dealt with as noted above.**

#### **VI. Course Requirements:**

Current CPR/First Aid certification  
 Current physical examination  
 HIPAA Certification  
 OSHA Blood Bourne Pathogens in service  
 Completed Clinical Instructor Web CPI and self-evaluation Web CPI  
 Assessing Clinical Learning Experience  
 Diagnosis List

The Director of Clinical Education will determine what constitutes satisfactory performance for determining a grade for a clinical experience. The Director of Clinical Education will utilize various sources for determining the clinical grade some of which may include, a telephone conversation, or a visit with the Clinical Instructor and the student, observation of student in the clinical setting, and the PT CPI Web. At the conclusion of a clinical experience, grading decisions made by the DCE, may be based upon:

- clinical setting
- experience with patients or clients in that setting
- relative weighting or importance of each performance criteria
- expectations of clinical experience
- progression of performance from midterm to final evaluations.
- level of experience within the didactic and clinical components.
- whether or not "significant concerns" box was checked and
- the congruence between the CI's narrative comments related to the five performance dimensions and the ratings provided.
- improvements seen over the course of the Clinical Experience.

Successful completion of PT 512 will require progression from "Beginning Performance" toward "Entry-level Performance" in all Performance Criteria by the final evaluation. This progression includes earning a minimum level of "Advanced Intermediate Performance" in all "Red Flag" items (criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7). Sub-standard performance in the area of "Safety" will earn the student a "U" (unsatisfactory) in this experience. Students must earn a level of "Intermediate Performance" or higher in 50% or more of the remaining criteria to be successful in this experience. Students will be encouraged to set goals for the next clinical experience based on any deficiencies noted.

Completion of course requirements will earn the student an "S" (satisfactory) grade in the course.

## **VII. Schedule:**

PT 512 is scheduled for 8 weeks during the summer after the first year of the DPT Program. The clinical experience begins in late May or late June and is completed by Mid July or Mid August.