UVM DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM
HANDBOOK

Class of 2022

The University of Vermont
COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION AND MOVEMENT SCIENCE

Effective June 6, 2019
rms@med.uvm.edu
Additional information about the D.P.T. Program and faculty can be found on the College of Nursing and Health Sciences website. The University of Vermont is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges through 2020.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at UVM is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) through June 2027.

Questions regarding accreditation guidelines and/or the process to report a complaint about the program and status may be directed to:

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education
American Physical Therapy Association
1111 N. Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
706-684-2782
Introduction and History of the UVM Physical Therapy Program

Introduction
The Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) Program at the University of Vermont is well recognized for preparing D.P.T. graduates as practitioner scholars who successfully translate evidence into contemporary best practice. The D.P.T. program offers a professional entry doctoral degree and requires full-time study over a period of 2.5 years, including summers. The program integrates the basic and clinical sciences with essential skills in scientific inquiry, leadership, business, ethics and policy to produce graduates prepared to provide patient centered care and participate as primary care team members within an evolving complex health care environment. As a component of graduate study, students participate in faculty mentored scholarship.

Students broaden their professional preparation through 32 weeks of clinical internships interspersed throughout the curriculum. Internships are offered throughout the U.S. in a variety of specialty areas and require student travel to these locations. Assignments are based on students' educational needs and clinical site availability. Students are responsible for all costs associated with clinical internships.

Exceptional faculty role model clinical and research expertise across each of the specialty areas of physical therapist practice while facilitating student development as movement system experts who promote health through exercise at the individual and community level.

History
The UVM physical therapy program began in the early 1970’s under the leadership of Professor Samuel Feitelberg and graduated its first class of students with a baccalaureate degree (B.S.) in 1973. In 1996, Professor Feitelberg retired and Dr. Jean Held assumed leadership of the Department of Physical Therapy as Chair until her retirement in 2007. During this time, UVM graduated the last class of students with a B.S. degree and in 2000, the Department enrolled its first class of students for the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT). As physical therapist scope of practice increased, educational needs expanded; and with national efforts moving toward doctoring level of education for entry professional practice, the University quickly transitioned from the MPT to the Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) degree. The 1st class of D.P.T. students enrolled in 2005 and graduated in May of 2008. Dr. Diane Jette joined the faculty in 2007 and became the first Chair of the newly formed Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Sciences (RMS), comprised of physical therapy, athletic training and exercise and movement science. Dr. Barbara Tschoepe assumed the role of DPT Program Director in the Fall of 2015, and led faculty in the development of a movement systems approach to DPT education, as well as establishing DPT faculty practice collaborations in the greater Burlington community. Since 20014, the UVM D.P.T. program has experienced a great deal of growth with increasing numbers of highly qualified faculty and students. We continue to strive to grow our research mission, while maintaining our known excellence in teaching and in the preparation of evidence-based clinical scholars.

Program Vision, Mission, Values, Goals and Graduate Outcomes

Vision
To be recognized for leadership in our contributions to the creation, advancement and dissemination of translational research while striving toward excellence to educate D.P.T. scholars who collaborate to “transform society by optimizing movement,” for the promotion of individual and population health of our communities and society.
Mission
To prepare graduates to lead and collaborate in the quest of promoting the health of individuals, communities and society through movement and exercise in order to optimize function, activity, and participation across environments. UVM graduates provide ethical, evidence-based, client-centered services in a culturally sensitive manner as they serve society to enhance quality of life. Graduates are decision makers in the primary care team who have a clear understanding of the importance of lifelong learning that will support their client, patient and professional needs. Faculty model and support student learning of these expected educational outcomes.

Values
Accountability, Civility, Collaboration, Compassion, Excellence, Entrepreneurial Spirit, Justice, Inclusion, Inquiry, Integrity, Service and Sustainability

Program Goals
The D.P.T. program goals derived from our mission and values are to:

• Provide an educational environment in which curriculum guiding principles are integrated with ethical and legal professional practice.
• Offer an evidence based curriculum that prepares graduates for contemporary best practice.
• Admit highly qualified students who are willing to actively engage in their learning experience while supporting the mission and educational outcomes of the University, College and D.P.T. program.
• Recruit students who are committed to embrace the Values of this program within their future practice environments.
• Prepare students to engage in outreach and personal life-long learning.
• Attract and support faculty who excel in teaching, research and service
• Encourage faculty to support the academic needs and professional formation of the D.P.T. students
• Prepare graduates to achieve desired educational outcomes of the program.
• Develop graduates with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to succeed in a constantly changing healthcare environment.
• Develop graduates to lead and collaborate in multiple roles that can positively impact clients, patients, the profession and society.
• Inspire graduates to appreciate uniqueness and value of all individuals within diverse cultures and societies.

Graduate Outcomes
Upon completion of the University of Vermont D.P.T. program graduates will be able to:

1. Serve as movement system experts who exemplify contemporary best practice to improve quality of life.
2. Illustrate leadership as primary care providers that model professional core values.
3. Collaborate with patients, families and professional colleagues to optimize health outcomes, maximize patient experience, and facilitate cost efficiency.
5. Advocate to improve health outcomes and increase the overall functioning and well-being of our society.
6. Offer consultation as movement system experts while demonstrating value and adherence to ethical and legal principles.
7. Communicate via means commensurate with needs of the individuals within the context of the task and environment.
8. Educate patients/clients, peers, professional colleagues, and the community in a manner that is culturally sensitive.
9. Commit to be reflective practitioners and lifelong learners.
10. Engage in community and professional activities that demonstrate social responsibility.

Technical Standards/Essential Functions of D.P.T. Students and Physical Therapists

Candidates for the Doctor in Physical Therapy degree from the University of Vermont are required to meet technical standards and be able to perform the essential functions required by accepted standard of care for Physical Therapists as located in the handbook appendix. These standards detail the required essential abilities and reflect the standards of care for physical therapist practice. They were developed to establish performance expectations that assure the delivery of safe and effective care during professional practice. All students of the D.P.T. program are required to meet these technical standards/essential functions with or without reasonable accommodation. Students with disabilities who may need reasonable accommodations to meet the standards at the time of admission or in the course of the D.P.T. program must contact the University’s office of Student Accessibility Services (SAS) for certification and assessment of reasonable accommodations. Communication with the D.P.T. program director and faculty then follows this assessment. Learn more about the SAS Office and disability support services for students at the University of Vermont.

Students must verify that they have read and are able to meet and perform the D.P.T. technical standards/essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations prior to matriculation into the program by signing the signature page of the D.P.T. Student Handbook.

University Services for Students with Disabilities
SAS provides accommodations, consultation, collaboration, and educational support services to students with documented disabilities. Among their programs and services, SAS offers: exam accommodations, meetings with disability specialists to receive advisement and advocacy around disability-related matters, eBooks, deaf and hard of hearing services, notetaking and adaptive technology. The SAS Office is located at A170 Living Learning Center. Contact at 802-656-7753 or access@uvm.edu.

Curriculum

Curricular Framework, Plan and Courses
The curricular organizing principles serve as the framework and the foundation of the UVM D.P.T. program. These principles include critical inquiry, social responsibility, lifespan, movement system, and professional formation. Over the course of 2.5 calendar years, the curriculum movement systems approach across the lifespan begins with a strong foundation in the basic and applied sciences supporting physical therapy management and links theory and application of evidence to clinical practice that is ultimately applied during the 32 weeks of clinical rotations. Curricular concepts are “threaded” through the didactic course work, building and expanding the students’ knowledge.
over the 2.5 years of doctoral study. The D.P.T. expected graduate outcomes are met through a variety of teaching methods and learning experiences. A visual description on the curricular framework details follows.
1. Serve as movement system experts who exemplify contemporary best practice to improve quality of life.
2. Illustrate leadership as primary care providers that model professional core values.
3. Collaborate with patients, families and professional colleagues to optimize health outcomes, maximize patient experience, and facilitate cost efficiency.
4. Apply evidenced-based clinical and practice management that exhibits value-based patient/family centered care.
5. Advocate to improve health outcomes and increase the overall functioning and well-being of our society.
6. Offer consultation as movement system experts while demonstrating value and adherence to ethical and legal principles.
7. Communicate via means commensurate with needs of the individuals within the context of the task and environment.
8. Educate patients/clients, peers, professional colleagues, and the community in a manner that is culturally sensitive.
9. Commit to be reflective practitioners and lifelong learners.
10. Engage in community and professional activities that demonstrate social responsibility.

UVM DPT GRADUATE OUTCOMES
## D.P.T. Class of 2022 Curriculum

### YR 1

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**GRAND TOTAL**: 102

Final 1/19/18 Approved by UVM Graduate Executive Committee 1/30/18; revised 4/19/19
Course Descriptions
D.P.T. courses are described in the UVM Graduate College Catalogue.

Clinical Education Requirements
D.P.T. students are required to complete 32 weeks of clinical rotations throughout the curriculum and demonstrate competence in entry level physical therapist professional practice, patient/client management, and practice management in health care settings representative of those commonly found in physical therapist clinical practice. Students are required to successfully complete two clinical education (CE) internships prior to graduation; including at least one internship outside the state of Vermont. Students must complete one non-ambulatory experience. This includes acute care hospitals, rehabilitation hospitals, subacute rehabilitation experiences in skilled nursing facilities and home health experiences. These sites are not as plentiful as ambulatory experiences. If interested in more than one non-ambulatory experience students should identify their interest with their clinical advisor. All students in the class must have one non-ambulatory experience before students can request a second experience in this setting. Students must complete one ambulatory experience generally in an outpatient setting. Clinical education must factor as a priority during your UVM DPT clinical learning experiences. Students who desire to participate in professional development or travel experiences may do so only with the prior support of the UVM clinical team and your Clinical Instructors/CCCE.

Program Academic Policies
Course and Clinical Education Registration Policy
Rationale for Policy
Students must maintain enrollment in all course and clinical education experiences in order to proceed through the curriculum and progress towards graduate course and clinical work completion.

Policy
Students must register and pay for all D.P.T. lecture, laboratory and CE courses during the registration period, and at least 4 weeks prior to the start of the upcoming semester. Students without confirmed registrations during this timeframe will not be able to participate in respective courses the following semester. Confirmations of registration will be done by D.P.T. faculty/staff.


Attendance Policy
Rationale for Policy
D.P.T. students are required to attend all classes, laboratories and clinical education experiences and internships unless prior approval is obtained. This policy details requirements and process to seek approval to miss classes, laboratories and clinical experiences and internships.

Policy Statement
Faculty and students will attend all regularly scheduled classes except for occasions warranting an excused absence (e.g., religious, professional or medical). Students are expected to arrive on time for classes and laboratories fully prepared to learn (preparative work complete, bringing appropriate learning materials and technology, etc.). All students must participate in activities in which they are expected to contribute to the learning of others (e.g., group projects, class discussion, community-based service learning). Activities involving direct or simulated patient care,
including standardized patients, community guests, clinical experiences and internships, inter-professional education experiences, are mandatory. Students presenting academic work at or participating in national meetings are ordinarily allowed two to three days from course activities with the appropriate permission from the course instructor, the program director and, if applicable, the clinical site.

Students will follow the clinical instructor’s schedule as assigned by the clinical education site.

In the event of extenuating circumstances (e.g., personal or family illness) or personal events (e.g., funerals, wedding), students should contact the course coordinator and program director or designee via email to request an excused absence. Excused absences should be made prior to class, labs or clinical experiences and internships whenever possible. Students are responsible for contacting the course instructor to learn what make-up assignments (e.g., exam, papers, quizzes) must be completed for all the work missed.

If a student is not regularly attending class, a mid-term warning letter may be generated by the faculty and the student will be asked to meet with the course coordinator to discuss reasons for absences, academic progression risks, implications re: letters of recommendations etc. and to develop a remediation plan. The discussion will be documented and placed in the student’s file.

Religious Holidays

UVM Attendance Policy / Religious Holidays:  
http://catalogue.uvm.edu/undergraduate/academicinfo/rightsandresponsibilities/

Students have the right to practice the religion of their choice. Each semester students should submit in writing to their instructors by the end of the second full week of classes their documented religious holiday schedule for the semester. Faculty must permit students who miss class for the purpose of religious observance to make up the course work.

Each student is held responsible for knowledge and observance of these rules and regulations, including those concerned with academic honesty. Please refer to the Code of Student Rights and Responsibility policy webpage.


Grading Policy
Rationale for Policy

D.P.T. students have demonstrated the requisite knowledge and skills in order to progress in the D.P.T. program and proceed to clinical education, the following grading policies have been developed for academic courses, lab practical examinations, comprehensive exam and clinical education.

Policy Statement

Academic Courses

The Graduate College grading scale policy is detailed in the UVM Graduate Catalogue. Based on this grading scale, grades of C- and higher are considered as passing grades; grades below a C- are considered as failing (F). D.P.T. students who receive grades of B or higher are demonstrating satisfactory academic performance. Grades between C- and B- are considered marginal passing grades. Refer to “Academic Progression and Retention Policy” for specific academic progression details.
Practical Examinations

All practical examinations are graded Pass/Fail, with a passing grade considered a score of 80% or greater on the practical exam grading rubric. Practical examinations not passed on the first attempt can be repeated a second time, in whole or in part at the discretion of faculty. Failure to pass on the second attempt will result in failure of the course. Students who successfully repeat a practical examination will receive a score of pass. Second attempts will consist of a new practical examination scenario/skill, however, faculty reserve the right to require a student to demonstrate mastery over the initial practical examination content/skill/behavior as well. All practical examinations will contain a safety component and violation of safety will result in an automatic failure of the practical exam attempt.

Skills Check

All skills checks are graded Pass/Fail, with a passing grade considered a score of 80% or greater on the skills check rubric. Skills checks not passed on the first attempt can be repeated a second time, in whole or in part at the discretion of the faculty. Failure to pass on the second attempt will result in a 0 score for the skills check. Skills checks are weighted as 10% of a course grade. Students who successfully repeat a skills check will receive a score of pass. Second attempts will consist of a new skill check scenario or skill, however, faculty reserve the right to require a student to demonstrate mastery over the initial skill/behavior as well. All skill checks will contain a safety component and violation of safety will result in an automatic failure of the skill check attempt.

Comprehensive Exam

Students must successfully pass a Comprehensive Examination at the end of their second year. The Comprehensive Examination in the D.P.T. program consists of a research project and a Graduate Outcomes portfolio. The research project is a group written paper of their systematic review and/or research project. The Graduate Outcomes portfolio is worked on throughout the 8 semesters and presented at the end of Semester 8. Consistent with the Graduate College policy, if students fail the Comprehensive Examination, they have one opportunity to re-take and pass the exam. D.P.T. students must successfully pass the research portion of the comprehensive exam prior to beginning Clinical Internship 2.

Clinical Education

Clinical education is graded a Satisfactory (S)/Unsatisfactory (U) basis. The Director and Associate Director of Clinical Education have the final responsibility for assigning the grade. A Clinical Education course may be repeated only once throughout the entire clinical education curriculum. Should students need to repeat a CE course, the repetition may not take place until the next clinical education course is offered. Refer to “Academic Progression and Retention Policy” for specific academic progression details.

Course Assignments

Late submissions of assignments will incur a five percent reduction from the assignment grade for each calendar day late; submissions not accepted after two days.


Examination Security Policy

Rationale for Policy

The UVM D.P.T. program supports and promotes students to adhere to high standards of academic integrity and exam security.
Policy Statement

During written and practical testing backpacks/book bags/purses will be moved away from personal testing space. All electronic devices are to be turned off and watches removed and placed in personal bags. The course coordinator will identify specific testing materials allowed in the examination room. Students are not allowed to ask questions of proctor during the examination.

Students must secure permission from the exam proctor to leave the testing area. Students are expected to maintain confidentiality of the exam content at all times; this stipulation includes practical, standardized patient encounters and laboratory exams.

Applicability of the policy: D.P.T. students. Reviewed: D.P.T. faculty, 9/26/16

Academic Progression and Retention Policy

Rationale for Policy

D.P.T. students must demonstrate the requisite knowledge and skills in order to progress in the D.P.T. program. Students' academic performance is evaluated in each course in the curriculum. Grading policies are detailed in the D.P.T. Grading Policy. Students who demonstrate academic performance difficulties are encouraged to seek help from D.P.T. program faculty and their advisor immediately. D.P.T. faculty will work with students to identify potential supports and services to promote satisfactory academic performance and success in the program.

Policy Statement

Satisfactory Academic Standing

Students who receive grades of B or higher, Satisfactory (S) or Pass (Comprehensive Examination, clinical education) and have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and above demonstrate satisfactory academic performance.

Unsatisfactory Academic Standing and Remediation

Students who receive a passing grade below a B, or an Unsatisfactory (U), or have a GPA below a 3.0 demonstrate unsatisfactory academic performance. Students in these situations will receive written notification from the program director regarding their unsatisfactory performance, academic progression requirements and D.P.T. program retention requirements. The student will be required to meet with their academic advisor, the program director or designee and/or the course coordinator to develop a remedial plan to support the student, using University and program services. Students need to be fully aware of the potential risks for dismissal from the D.P.T. program outlined below should remediation not bring the student into satisfactory academic standing.

Dismissal

Students will be recommended for dismissal if:

- They receive an F in any course; or
- They receive 3 passing grades below a B; or
- Their GPA is less than 3.0 at the end of their didactic course work; or
- They do not pass their Comprehensive Examination on the 2nd attempt; or
- They receive more than one U grade in a clinical education course or
- They commit any act or omission endangering the life, safety, health or well-being of a patient or staff member or
• They violate any confidentiality/right to privacy of a patient or other person during the course of a CE experience and internship or
• They are convicted of a criminal offense or
• They do not receive a recommendation for the degree by the D.P.T. faculty


Graduation Requirements
Rationale for Policy

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program at the University of Vermont is well recognized for preparing D.P.T. graduates as practitioner scholars who successfully translate evidence into contemporary best practice. The D.P.T. program offers a professional entry doctoral degree and requires full-time study over a period of 2.5 years, including summers. The program integrates the basic and clinical sciences with essential skills in scientific inquiry, leadership, business, ethics and policy to produce graduates prepared to provide patient centered care and participate as primary care team members within an evolving complex health care environment. As a component of their study, students participate in faculty mentored scholarship.

Policy Statement

Minimum Degree Requirements
Completion of all required courses with a GPA of 3.00 or better. Satisfactory completion of all clinical education experiences and internships. Completion of requirements for comprehensive examination.

Comprehensive Examination
The examination takes the form of a faculty mentored research project or a systematic literature review project that results in a written paper and a student Portfolio. For the research project, students work either in groups or individually with faculty members to complete their projects. The written research paper must be completed by the end of the 2nd year of matriculation and prior to beginning Clinical Internship 2. The student portfolio must be complete by the end of Semester 8.

Students will be recommended for graduation if:

• Their GPA is 3.0 or greater at the end of their didactic course work
• They receive no more than 2 passing grades below a B
• They pass their Comprehensive Examination
• They successfully complete all clinical education requirements
• They are recommended for the degree by the D.P.T. faculty.

Applicability of the policy: D.P.T. students. Reviewed and approved, D.P.T. faculty 5/17/16; revised and approved by DPT faculty 2/15/19.

National Physical Therapy Exam: Students will select individual state board information for the National Physical Therapy Exam and complete all requirements for licensure based on requirements outlined by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy and individual state board. Requirements may vary by state and it is the student’s responsibility to adhere to both state and federal requirements. NPTE test taking before
graduation must adhere to state requirements and students must submit a passing PEAT score one month in advance of board registration deadlines.

Student Concerns, Appeals, and Due Process
Rationale for Policy
The D.P.T. program values student feedback and input. Students have the right to express concerns and have the right to due process.

Policy Statement
Programmatic and Course Concerns
For individual course concerns, or questioning of grades, students are encouraged to first contact the course coordinator to seek clarification or attempt to resolve the concern. Should a grade appeal be requested, students should follow the course grade appeal policy. Programmatic questions and concerns should be directed to the program director. The program director or designee may request information in writing and will typically meet with the student to seek additional clarification as needed to evaluate information gained and develop an action plan to address question/concerns as indicated.

Course Grade Appeal
If a student receives a grade that he/she believes is not accurate, the student should contact the course coordinator to discuss the grade. The process to appeal a grade is detailed in the UVM grade appeal policy. Students should review the policy at: the UVM Grade appeal policy.

Dismissal Appeal Process
Students have the right to appeal dismissal from the D.P.T. program. Appeals may be brought forward on the following grounds: (1) procedural error; (2) error of fact; (3) perception of bias. Letters of appeal must state clearly and precisely the basis for appeal and provide supporting evidence of infringement of the student's rights. Written appeals must be submitted to the D.P.T. program director. The program director will review available documentation and may seek additional information or advisement from the D.P.T. Student Affairs committee in making a decision about the appeal.

The Graduate College is ultimately responsible for grievances regarding policies and procedures related to graduate education. A grievance properly begins within the student's department by an appeal to the program director. If this does not resolve the grievance, the student can present the grievance in writing to the Associate Dean of CNHS, and thereafter to the Dean of the Graduate College. Grievances must state clearly and precisely the basis for appeal and provide supporting evidence that a student's rights have been jeopardized. The Graduate College Dean may recommend that the grievance be reviewed by the Graduate College Executive Committee. The Graduate College Dean is the final arbiter of Graduate College regulations. Specifically excluded from the appeals process are grievances that contest grades on grounds other than due process, or grading that is arbitrary and capricious. (Graduate College Rights and Responsibilities Policy)

Applicability of the policy: D.P.T. students. Reviewed and approved, D.P.T. faculty, 4/18/16.

Leave of Absence, Withdrawal and Out of Sequence
Rationale for Policy
Students can request a leave of absence for medical, family or personal reasons if in good academic standing. If granted by the program director/designee, upon return from the leave of absence, the student will be out of sequence with their prior class cohort. In addition, a student may decide to personally withdraw from the program.

Policy Statement

Leave of Absence for UVM Graduate Students

A leave of absence may be awarded for a period of up to one year. Students must request a leave of absence from their D.P.T. program director or designee. If the program director/designee approves the request, the program director or designee completes the Leave of Absence form available on the Graduate College website and forwards it to the Dean of the Graduate College for approval. A leave of absence does not take effect until after approval has been received from both the program director and the Dean of the Graduate College. Any student who does not enroll following termination of a leave of absence will be deactivated from the UVM Graduate College.

Medical Withdrawal

Students who seek to withdraw from the University because of a physical or mental health condition must contact the program director or designee and then the Graduate College to discuss their intention to medically withdraw. If medical withdrawal is appropriate, the student will be advised to submit a Medical Withdrawal Request form, which is obtained from the Graduate College. The complete Medical Withdrawal Policy Statement can be found here: https://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/medicalwithdrawal.pdf

Students re-enrolling/re-entering the University after a medical withdrawal for physical or mental health reasons must follow specific guidelines in preparation for return to UVM. Students must notify the program director about their intent to return to classes and the timeline for this notification is outlined on the Center for Health and Wellbeing Website: http://www.uvm.edu/~chwb/psych/?Page=medical_withdrawal.html

Out of sequence

Students who are out of sequence with their original class cohort due to leave of absence may need to take additional courses that were not required when the leave of absence was granted. Students are required to meet with the D.P.T. program director, academic advisor and or designee for development of a plan for return to the program and progression in the D.P.T. curriculum.

Withdrawal

The D.P.T. program follows the Graduate College withdrawal policy. Students must notify the program director and Graduate College Dean in writing, of their intent to withdraw from a degree program. If students don’t register for course work for a period of more than one calendar year, and don’t notify the D.P.T. program director or the Graduate College Dean in writing, the student will be considered permanently withdrawn from the D.P.T. program. It will be necessary to apply for reactivation and pay a reactivation fee and pass a curricular competency if the student wishes to resume in the D.P.T. program. Approval from both the D.P.T. program director or designee and the Dean of the Graduate College is required for reactivation.


Change in Health Status

Rationale for Policy
Students may experience injuries, illnesses or change in health status that limit capacity to fully participate in the Technical Standards/Essential Function requirements of the program. The D.P.T. faculty are committed to supporting student success in resumption of academic coursework whenever feasible.

Policy Statement

Students must notify the D.P.T. program director of any health status changes that limits their ability to participate fully in the D.P.T. program. The program director and faculty with the support of the SAS office will work with students to develop a plan to facilitate continued academic progression if possible. If the injury, illness or health condition results in activity and participation limitations, students are required to obtain medical clearance prior to resumption of full participation in academic or clinical course work.

Applicability of the policy: D.P.T. students. Reviewed and approved, D.P.T. faculty, 4/18/16.

Course/Faculty Evaluation Policy
Rationale for Policy

Student evaluations of D.P.T. courses, Core Faculty and Associate Faculty are important for several reasons. In addition to assessing teaching effectiveness, course evaluations are used by core faculty in the curriculum evaluation process. Student course and faculty evaluations are also included in the faculty review, reappointment and promotion process.

Policy Statement

As a matter of professional responsibility, all students are expected to complete course and faculty evaluations at the end of the semester. Evaluations will be anonymous and confidential.


Transportation Requirement Policy
Rationale for Policy

D.P.T. Students must demonstrate adequate transportation to clinical sites to participate in clinical education experiences and internships.

Policy Statement

Travel to clinical sites is a requirement of the D.P.T. curriculum. All students must have a valid driver’s license and access to transportation to assigned clinical sites. Transportation is not a determinant of the clinical site placement process. Clinical education experiences and internships begin in the spring of the first year (3rd semester) of the D.P.T. program.


Clinical Education Policies

Additional Expenses for Clinical Education Policy
Rationale for Policy

D.P.T. students must be aware that they are responsible for any and all costs associated with clinical education.

Policy
Students are responsible for all costs of transportation, housing, meals, uniforms, additional medical/criminal background clearance, drug tests and other expenses associated with each clinical education experience. It is advisable to plan for these expenses early in the program. In the unfortunate situation should a clinical site cancel, any incurred expenses started in preparation for this site experience will also be the responsibility of students. NOTE: SEE D.P.T. transportation policy as it applies to clinical education placement and experiences. All students must have or arrange for any placement requiring transportation throughout the curriculum. Students are also responsible for the costs of any medical care accessed while participating in clinical education.


Behavior Expectations while in Clinical Experiences Policy
Rationale for Policy
D.P.T. students must abide by professional and clinical site behavioral and professional expectations.

Policy
All students must abide by the policies and procedures of the clinical education site regarding dress code, student participation hours, assigned workdays, holidays, patient care guidelines, documentation, attendance, and attendance at rounds, team meetings, staff meetings, in-service training, etc. Students are expected to demonstrate professional behaviors commensurate with the D.P.T. student and the APTA professional association at all times while on clinical experiences. This includes but is not limited to APTA Core Values, Professional Behaviors (generic abilities), Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice and other behaviors consistent with clinical site expectations.


Cancellation of Clinical Site Policy
Rationale for Policy
Clinical education sites are solicited a year or more in advance at the voluntary agreement of a facility that has an executed clinical agreement. Clinical sites may on occasion, cancel a site at the last minute due to unanticipated circumstances.

Policy
Clinical sites may cancel or change an internship assignment for any reasons including staffing issues, patient census issues etc. These cancellations can occur at any time prior to the start of a clinical experience or internship and are not within the control of UVM. Should students have a cancellation of an assigned clinical education internship, the Director of Clinical Education (DCE) communicates this to them as soon as possible and works with students and clinical sites to determine an alternative placement. The availability and timing of this placement is not guaranteed. Students are responsible for all costs associated with clinical internships including cancellations.


Challenges with Clinical Education Site and/or Clinical Instructor Policy
Rationale for Policy
D.P.T. Students have a process for seeking support or assistance with clinical sites and instructors while on their clinical internships.

Policy Statement
Students who perceive problems with clinical instructors or sites should first try to resolve the conflict with the individuals involved. For problems that are unrelated to patient care, the student should speak directly with the person(s) involved in the conflict. If unsuccessful in resolving the problem, students should seek guidance from the CI and CCCE. If further assistance is needed, students should consult their clinical advisor. Consultation is available via phone, email or in some circumstances on site visits. In any problem situation, the clinical advisor is always available for consultation/advice. Weekly planning forms are used to structure clinical experiences. Student incident forms are available to document isolated student incidents or deficits. An action plan is developed for global and substantial student resolution issues. Dependent on the extent of the confirmed problems/ inability to resolve situations, students may be removed from the experience/internship. Students also must understand that clinical sites may also request that students be removed, should their actions warrant such a decision. Grades/progression consequences may occur as a result. The clinical course coordinator, clinical advisor will participate in all decisions that leads to students being removed from a clinical experience/internship.


Integrated Clinical Experiences throughout D.P.T. Curriculum
Policy Rationale
Experiential learning within clinical settings is essential to assist students simulate and apply clinical practice management skills throughout the D.P.T. learning experiences. Guidelines for these experiences are described.

Policy Statement
D.P.T. students participate in part time clinical correlations in their 3rd, 5th and 6th semesters of the curriculum to supplement learning experiences within the program. Correlations are part of the PT management courses within the curriculum and take on slightly different formats dependent on the semester. Typically students are assigned to local clinical sites in small groups, 3-4 times/semester for 2-4 hr. observation/patient interactions times under the supervision of clinical faculty members. Students attend as assigned. Details specific to each correlation are found within the respective course syllabi. Students are responsible for additional costs/transportations to these sites.


Clinical Education Accommodations Policy
Rationale for Policy
The UVM D.P.T. program faculty are committed to assisting learners with disabilities to have equitable access in our classroom courses and clinical internships while protecting the privacy of all learners as well. The Technical Standards/Essential Functions are made available to all admitted and current students in the UVM D.P.T. Student Handbook. Early acknowledgement and communication with the Program director and course coordinators is essential to a successful partnership in arranging accommodations.

Policy Statement
D.P.T. students may at any time may seek reasonable accommodations for a disability in order to meet D.P.T. Technical Standards/Essential Functions described in the handbook appendix. The student should contact UVM SAS (http://www.uvm.edu/SAS/) to initiate the process of requesting accommodation for the clinical curriculum. The UVM DPT program works diligently to ensure students can be provided an accessible clinical experience however, due to the nature of clinical experiences the program may not be able to accommodate a student if the request is not done in a timely manner. It is asked that students submit accommodation requests by March 1st of their first year and by March 1st of each subsequent year to ensure adequate time for planning and implementing accommodations for clinical
rotations. If a student is receiving academic accommodations, the student is strongly encouraged to obtain and use clinical accommodations during clinical experiences.

Classroom accommodations are determined separately from those in the clinical setting and SAS may require additional documentation to determine eligibly for a clinical accommodation. If a student believes that they will need accommodations in the clinical setting, they are expected to discuss these needs with the DCEs and SAS as soon as the need is recognized. SAS will work with a student by reviewing documentation and determining eligibility and what may constitute reasonable accommodations within the D.P.T. curriculum. For the purpose of determining reasonable accommodations that do not compromise the integrity of the Technical Standards, SAS may at its discretion ask that students respond to questions regarding the limitations that affect abilities to meet the technical standards/essential functions for the clinical curriculum. If SAS determines that a student is eligible SAS will provide the student with an accommodation letter that describes the student’s eligibility for services and the specific accommodation needs. Students are expected to provide the accommodation letter to the course coordinator in advance of clinical assignments, and/or clinical site CCCE to ensure the site’s ability to reasonably meet accommodations. Students are encouraged to take full responsibility to discuss needs with their clinical instructor to identify strategies to meet their clinical objectives and accommodation needs while in the clinical setting.


Clinical Education Advisor Assignments/Roles Policy
Rationale for Policy

Students will be assigned a core faculty member as a clinical advisor during each clinical experience.

Policy Statement

Each clinical education course will have an assigned course coordinator. The course coordinator will be responsible for course assignments, administration and ultimate grade assignment. Students also will be assigned a clinical advisor that is rotated during each internship assignment. Students will maintain communication with the clinical advisor via email, a midterm call and in some circumstances a site visit. The clinical advisor will generally rotate between DCEs for each student. The clinical advisor’s role is to support students’ experiences, facilitate students’ performance through various collaboration efforts, and assess students’ progress.


Clinical Internship Absence Policy
Rationale for Policy

Students are expected to attend all clinical internships at a minimum of 40 hours per week following their clinical instructors regular work schedule. Continuity of student learning and patient care is dependent upon full and consistent student engagement in all clinical internships. Absences for personal illness, and extenuating circumstances will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Policy Statement

Unforeseen Events

Students are required to contact their Clinical Advisor and Clinical Instructor in the event of any unforeseen absence from the clinic.

First Day Absent
The Clinical Advisor will determine, with the assistance from the Clinical Instructor, if the day will be required to be re-scheduled.

Two or Greater Days Absent

Two or more absences from each clinical internship are required to be re-scheduled at the clinical sites convenience.

Planned Absence

Students are required to request all planned Clinical Internship absences from their Clinical Advisor prior to making any plans to not be in clinical. The Clinical Advisor has full authority to approve or deny a request. If the request is approved by the Clinical Advisor, the request will be communicated via the clinical advisor to the clinical site CCCE and CI. Final approval is dependent upon the support of the CCCE and CI. All planned absences must be re-scheduled at the convenience of the clinical site.


Clinical Internship Assignment Process and Timeline Policy

Policy Rationale

D.P.T. clinical assignment process and timelines are described so students are fully aware of and can actively engage in decisions that impact their internship assignments and so that DCEs can spend their faculty efforts on advising students to make appropriate CE requests and supporting students for success in the clinical education requirements of the program.

Policy Statement

The clinical internship assignment process is a collaborative effort between students, the clinical education team made up of DCEs and staff assistants, and the clinical sites. Numerous factors determine clinical site assignments including but not limited to academic performance, faculty and clinical advisor input, a carefully thought through and communicated clinical education plan, and collective needs and clinical availability. All clinical placement assignment factors are taken into consideration, in these decisions. Timelines are defined within the process to enable ample time for review of clinical site offers across CE experiences, time for DCE advising with students to discuss clinical internship plans and time to gain site confirmation after offer to UVM are made. The final decision regarding all student clinical assignments rests with the DCEs.

Contracted sites/clinical practices offer D.P.T. students learning opportunities in their practice setting to collaborate with qualified clinical faculty (licensed PT, one year of experience APTA CI credentialed preferred, and interested in clinical teaching) This is seen as a service to the profession and students practice under the license and direct supervision of the clinical faculty member.

UVM participates in the clinical site requests following nationally accepted request timelines. All requests for clinical experience and internship slots for D.P.T. students are submitted to all UVM contracted sites on March 1st each year. Clinical Sites are asked to confirm UVM slot offers by April 1st each year for the following calendar year.

Offers are made in 3 ways. Many clinical sites offer clinical experience/internship slots to a number of D.P.T. programs on a First come, First serve basis (FCFS), others offer UVM slots that are held until we notify them of our intent to place a D.P.T. student or we release the designated UVM slot. The 3rd option is one where UVM D.P.T. program has clinical contracts with a number of national networks and if we have students interested in a particular site location within the network and it is an acceptable match to clinical education plans/requirements, the clinical education team solicits a request to the site outside the nationally accepted communication timeline. As a result, multiple
processes/considerations are made for actual site assignments over a several month assignment process per rotation per student cohort.

Assignment processes are slightly different dependent on each of the three options noted above. The Clinical Education team makes primary internship site option lists for each CE course available for students’ consideration/requests for each CE Internship on the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical education course dates</th>
<th>Final dates for selection of clinical sites</th>
<th>Student CE assignment notification date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

When the lists are released, students are encouraged to review the details/requirements of each possible site using the clinical review forms (when available) and/or previous student evaluations of the site. The clinical education team publishes guidelines on when this information is available for student review outside class times throughout the review process window. Students must submit their top 8 choices by the stated due date to be considered. Otherwise, the DCEs will assign students to respective internships. These lists are updated on a weekly basis, should additional site offers be secured for UVM D.P.T. students.

For those clinical site offers that come to us on a first come/first serve basis, notification to students and DCE decisions are made on a rolling basis to give our students the best opportunity to secure one of these slots. These can occur any time throughout the year. These FCFS clinical site option updates are posted on the UVM D.P.T. Exxat platform as they arrive. Students will request these slots using the Exxat platform. Once the slot is confirmed for UVM, the DCE-selected students are assigned to the location for the selected CE course and this becomes the students’ final assignment.

Students interested in requesting CE team to inquire about a National Network site can do so anytime throughout the year. The CE team will prioritize site inquiries based on the primary option release dates listed above should multiple national network requests be received.

Lastly, students may request specific sites for UVM to consider pursuing a clinical site contract for clinical education. These requests are accepted on a rolling basis, much like the National Network requests. The DCEs will assess the site’s value and determine if appropriate to pursue. The site must agree to placement of ongoing UVM students and not for only one individual student experience. All clinical site offers will become available to all students. This may or may not result in a secured slot for the individual student based on the contract execution process and site availability.

Finally, a small portion of clinical sites cancel after either initial offers and/or student confirmations. In the event that this occurs, the DCEs will work closely with the effected students to find alternative CE placement sites. See CE cancelation policy for additional details.

All clinical experiences/internship assignments by the DCEs are final.

**Conflict of Interest in Clinical Placement Assignments**

**Rationale for Policy**
D.P.T. students cannot participate in clinical placements that potentially can be viewed as having a conflict of interest to the D.P.T. learning environment expected from the clinical education component of the curriculum.

Policy Statement

Students will not be placed in clinical sites in which they are or have been employed, have family members who are or have been employed, have received scholarship funds or bonuses or have a commitment for employment upon graduation. Students must initiate communication to disclose of such employment arrangements, potential arrangements or relationships with the DCEs prior to initiating CE assignment process. Should a relationship be a questionable conflict of interest, this should be brought forward to the DCEs for final determination and planning.


Consequences of Unsatisfactory Performance in Clinical Education Policy

Rationale for Policy

Successful completion of each clinical education course is required for advancement to the subsequent higher level course.

Policy

Clinical education is graded on a Satisfactory (S)/Unsatisfactory (U) basis. The DCEs will have the final responsibility for assigning the grade. A Clinical Education course may be repeated only once during the entire clinical education curriculum. A remediation opportunity will be designed by the DCE with input from students based on needs, clinical site acceptance and availability. Prior to being placed in a successive clinical experience/internship, students may need to complete academic and/or clinical remediation identified by the clinical site faculty and DCE/clinical advisor in the form of things such as but not limited to didactic preparation, practical testing, and/or professional reflections. Additional credit or course materials costs may be associated with remediation. Should a repeat CE course be needed, the repetition may not take place until the next clinical education course is offered or later based on identified deficiencies and site availability. Refer to “Academic Progression and Retention Policy” for specific academic progression details.


Eligibility of Clinical Education Participation Policy

Rationale for Policy

D.P.T. students must demonstrate clinical readiness to participate in clinical education.

Policy Statement

D.P.T. students’ clinical readiness is reviewed and endorsed by core faculty on an annual basis considering knowledge, skills and behaviors deemed essential for each clinical experience. Students must be in good academic standing to be eligible for CE participation. Students must complete all mandatory requirements within established timelines of the program and use UVM suggested tracker. See mandatories information in the appendix of the student handbook. Failure to meet the deadlines for this may delay communication to clinical sites and possibly jeopardize student’s placement confirmations and participation at the assigned clinical site. All costs associated with clinical site health requirements and CNHS mandatories are the responsibility of students in the D.P.T. program.

Clinical Internship Hours Expectations
Rationale for Policy
D.P.T. students must realize and be willing to fully participate in expectations of clinical experiences/internships to successfully progress through the D.P.T. program. Other commitment outside this full time commitment is highly discouraged.

Policy Statement
Students typically match clinical practice hours of their clinical instructor/s and these may vary dependent on clinical site policies within and across internship timeframes. They may include weekends, holidays, 10+-hour days or a variety of other combinations of schedules. Preparation prior to and after clinical hours is also a common expectation and students are expected to meet both clinical site and academic expectations during all clinical experiences. Quality of preparations, materials and timeliness in submissions are essential professional behaviors considered to successfully meet all clinical internship expectations. Advanced knowledge of site schedule and planning realizing that week to week flexibility is also expected during clinical experiences/internships is highly advisable.


Professional Standards
APTA Membership Requirement
Rationale for Policy
The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) is an individual membership professional organization representing more than 93,000 member physical therapists (PTs), physical therapist assistants (PTAs), and students of physical therapy. APTA seeks to improve the health and quality of life of individuals in society by advancing physical therapist practice, education, and research, and by increasing the awareness and understanding of physical therapy’s role in the nation’s health care system. [http://www.apta.org/AboutUs/](http://www.apta.org/AboutUs/)

Policy Statement
UVM requires D.P.T. students to become APTA student members prior to matriculation into the program and to maintain active student membership throughout the 3 years of the D.P.T. program. APTA materials and resources are used throughout the curriculum and students benefit from participation in many exciting professional development opportunities offered through the professional association. All costs related to membership and resources needed through APTA are the responsibility of the students. Students are also strongly encouraged to participate in Vermont State Chapter APTA activities throughout the program and when possible to participate with faculty in APTA national advocacy efforts, activities and conferences as well.

[Student of Physical Therapy membership information](http://www.apta.org/AboutUs/)

[Membership benefits for students](http://www.apta.org/AboutUs/)

APTA Professional Standards
Rationale for Policy
D.P.T. students are expected to know and abide by professional standards of a doctorally prepared physical therapist. Resources to clarify these expectations are available through APTA and will be discussed throughout multiple courses within the D.P.T. curriculum.
Policy Statement

Professionalism for the Physical Therapist: [http://www.apta.org/Professionalism/](http://www.apta.org/Professionalism/)

Definition of Professionalism: "Physical therapists consistently demonstrate core values by aspiring to and wisely applying principles of altruism, excellence, caring, ethics, respect, communication and accountability, and by working together with other professionals to achieve optimal health and wellness in individuals and communities". (Stern DT. *Measuring Medical Professionalism*. Oxford University Press. New York, NY, 2006:19.)

APTA Core Values:

Accountability, Altruism, Compassion/Caring, Excellence, Integrity, Professional Duty, Social Responsibility: [http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/Judicial_Legal/ProfessionalismCoreValues.pdf](http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/Judicial_Legal/ProfessionalismCoreValues.pdf)

APTA Standards of Practice


Standards of practice: [http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/Practice/StandardsPractice.pdf](http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/Practice/StandardsPractice.pdf)

Professional Ethics, Academic Honesty and Our Common Ground

Rationale for Policy

Graduate students at UVM are required to adhere to the highest standards of professionalism as students, researchers, and teachers.

Policy Statement

D.P.T. students are required to follow all Graduate College policies for professional ethics and Academic Honesty. The University, in order to encourage a positive atmosphere in all phases of academic learning, teaching and research, has created specific guidelines and policies regarding academic honesty. Information may be found on the Center for Student Ethics and Standards website.

- Classroom Code of Conduct: Faculty and students will at all times conduct themselves in a manner that serves to maintain, promote, and enhance the high quality academic environment befitting the University of Vermont. Details of the code of conduct are outlined on the UVM website.
- Our Common Ground: In order to promote positive learning environments for undergraduates and graduates, the University describes "Our Common Ground".
- UVM Policy on Religious Holidays: Students have the right to practice the religion of their choice. Each semester students should submit in writing to their instructors by the end of the second full week classes their documented religious holiday schedule for the semester. Faculty will permit students who miss work for the purpose of religious observance to make up this work.

Student Authorship in Research Projects

Rationale for Policy
As part of curricular requirement, all D.P.T. students will participate in faculty-supervised research projects during their tenure in the program. Students work closely with a faculty to initiate, conduct, and complete a research project. Authorship should be transparent and declared and agreed upon in written form by the faculty, students, and other collaborators external to the D.P.T. program. The following procedures outline authorship expectations.

Procedures:

1. The UVM D.P.T. program follows the authorship recommendation of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Authorship must be based on the following four criteria:
   a. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
   b. Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
   c. Final approval of the version to be published; AND
   d. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.
   * Those who do not meet ALL four criteria should be acknowledged.

2. To foster an open communication between faculty and students, the subject of authorship must be included as part of teaching of faculty to his or her research students. Students and faculty must attest that the teaching has taken place and that everyone agrees, at the initiation of the project and prior to completion of the 1st semester of research course. The agreement must be communicated to the EBP coordinator with copies kept by all parties.

3. For the purpose of presenting the research work internal to UVM (e.g. Student Research Conference, Zeigler Research Forum), DPT students will be first authors (of equal contribution) and faculty as last (senior) author.

4. For the purpose of presenting the research work external to UVM or publishing the research work in a peer-reviewed journal or publication, the faculty research advisor/s will determine the order of authors.

Applicability of the policy: D.P.T. students. Reviewed and approved, D.P.T. faculty 4/18/19

Criminal Background Clearance (CBC)

Rationale for Policy

The completion of a Criminal Background Clearance (CBC) as part of the admission process is consistent with national practice in D.P.T. education programs. Students with criminal background findings may be precluded from participation in clinical education and for eligibility to be approved for licensure as a physical therapist and therefore are not admitted into the D.P.T. program.

Policy Statement

UVM uses the Physical Therapist Centralized Admission Service (PTCAS) to perform a CBC through their preferred vendor (Certiphi) for all prospective students who accept a UVM admission invitation as evidenced by receipt of their enrollment deposit. UVM will notify prospective students on invitation of admission that full admission is dependent on a successful CBC that must be completed prior to matriculation and submitted to the D.P.T. program through the PTCAS/Certiphi Screening Inc. system. The results of the CBC will be disclosed directly to the student who then has the choice of whether to release their results to the UVM-D.P.T. program. Students who do not release CBCs to the program will not be admitted.

Students are required to maintain updated CBCs throughout the D.P.T. program and must submit an updated CBC by May 15th of their second year to insure updated clearance prior to entering their final 30 weeks of clinical
rotations. Students will immediately notify the D.P.T. program director of any criminal charges incurred during the program between such CBCs. In addition, should a clinical site request an additional CBC for some reason to meet their health system requirements, the student will be required to fulfill this request as well. Students will not be able to participate in any portion of the D.P.T. program without confirmation that such updated documentation has been submitted within expected due dates.

All costs related to completion of CBC are the responsibility of the D.P.T. students, CBCs are recognized as a professional obligation to become health care provider providers.


D.P.T. Mandatory Requirements

Rationale for Policy

As D.P.T. students in a clinical doctoral program, there are a number of mandatory requirements that students must complete.

Policy Statement

Details of the D.P.T. mandatory requirements can be found on the CNHS mandatory website.

- Immunizations and titers
  - Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR); Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap); Polio; Hepatitis B, Varicella; two step TB skin test
- American Heart Association CPR certification for health care providers including AEDs
- Proof of Health Insurance
  - UVM Policy for Mandatory Health Insurance
    - [http://www.uvm.edu/~chwb/insurance/?Page=mandatory.html](http://www.uvm.edu/~chwb/insurance/?Page=mandatory.html) UVM D.P.T. students are required to have health insurance. These students must either purchase the health insurance plan we offer (UVM SHIP) or provide verification of comparable other coverage. This must be done online, using the Insurance Decision/Waiver Form. Students must complete this form every year, even if they decide not to enroll in UVM SHIP.
- Student Liability Insurance
  - It is mandatory that all UVM D.P.T. students enroll in a professional liability insurance program. Enrollment in this program begins in the summer semester of the first year with the expiration date after the completion of clinical internships in the final year of the program. Students purchase this insurance through a D.P.T. Program group policy. Clinical Sites receive a copy of the policy and coverage terms prior to a student’s arrival. Students must enroll in clinical education courses and remain on the roster for applicability of the liability policy to the student experience. Student liability insurance is tied to student enrollment in classes.
- Criminal Background Clearance
- HIPAA/OSHA Training
  - Annual online via Evolve e-learning solutions website
- Driver’s license
  - See Transportation Policy
• APTA annual student membership: see Professional Standards
• Email

  o All UVM D.P.T. students receive a UVM email address. This email address is used for all official University, College and D.P.T. program communications. For information regarding email set up, configuration, security and other issues see http://www.uvm.edu/it/email/. Students are responsible for timely checking of this UVM email for pertinent information over the course of the D.P.T. program. Site specific clinical education requirements:

  • A physical health assessment/exam if requested. This can be done either by the University's Student Health Service or a licensed primary health care provider.
  • Any other tests that are required by the clinical site or by UVM. Students are required to contact the clinical site CCCE, several months prior to their start date, to verify the list of site requirements provided by the DCEs/CE Assistant.
  • Medical terminology: see Medical Terminology Policy

Medical Terminology Policy
Rationale for Policy

D.P.T. students must have competency in medical terminology.

Policy Statement

All students entering the D.P.T. program must have evidence of competency in medical terminology. Evidence can be in one of two forms: 1) undergraduate transcript illustrating proof of course work or 2) successful completion of pre-D.P.T. program self-study and competency examination.

If students choose to complete the independent self-study, they must then take and pass a UVM administered test. The class of 2020 will take this test during the DPT student orientation in June 2017.

Should students not achieve the passing score of 77 on the first attempt, they will have up to 2 additional attempts to repeat the exam. The second attempt will take place within a week of the first test. Students must pass the exam in order to proceed with entry into summer semester course work. If the competency exam is not successfully passed, students will not be able to progress through the curriculum.


Computer System Requirements for D.P.T. Students
Rationale for Policy

The D.P.T. program uses many technology-based and interactive learning tools which require computer access. All DPT courses utilize online testing for mid-term and final examinations. Recognizing that students will also use their laptops for multimedia applications and to run various software during their tenure at UVM, the D.P.T. program has minimum computer requirements. Due to the compatibility limitation and difficulty with access to examination and learning technology, the use of netbooks (e.g. Chrome book) and tablets (e.g. Microsoft Surface) is not sufficient for full participation in the D.P.T. program. Netbooks and tablets do not have sufficient computational resources to meet student needs and do not work with specific software used by the D.P.T. program.

Minimum Computer Requirements:
It is required that students have a laptop computer with word processing, presentation and spreadsheet software. Microsoft Office can be downloaded for free through the UVM Information Technology office.

The laptop requirement is a platform compatible with current mid-range offerings: (Mac or Windows) 2.0 GHz processor, 4 GB RAM, 250 GB Hard Drive memory, 256 MB graphics memory, 802.11 a/g/n wireless connectivity, Removable storage (USB storage media and/or DVD+/-RW), At least 13” monitor screen

Applicability of the policy: D.P.T. students. Reviewed and approved, D.P.T. faculty 1/12/16; revised 2/15/19.

Equipment Requirements – D.P.T. Kit

Rationale

Students are required to use various tools/equipment for tests and measures taught in the D.P.T. patient management courses and while on clinical experiences and internships.

Policy

Students are required to purchase a D.P.T. Kit. The kit is purchased through a patient management course laboratory fee and will be distributed by the UVM DPT program during the year one summer semester. The kit includes materials and equipment necessary for all patient management courses and clinical internships. The kit includes the following items: stethoscope, goniometer, gait belt (vinyl), tape measure, stop watch, reflex hammer, monofilaments, blood pressure cuff, mobilization belt, pulse oximeter, kit bag, skin pencil, and inclinometers.

D.P.T. Student Appearance

Guidelines for Appearance in Academic and Health Care Settings

Rationale for Policy

The UVM D.P.T. program believes that professional demeanor and appearance are important and key to promoting trust, comfort, and confidence while providing patient/client care. To provide students with clear guidelines for professional dress and demeanor throughout the D.P.T. program, the D.P.T. faculty has adopted the following policy.

Policy Statement

Classroom/ Laboratory

- Clothing: Clothing that is neat, clean, wrinkle-free, professional in appearance and in good condition (not frayed, ripped, or with holes)
- Closed toe/heel and no heeled shoes; shoes must be in good repair.
- Students are to be clean and well-groomed at all times. Effort should be taken to avoid bad breath, body odors and perfumes or scents.
- Jewelry: Should be minimal, simple and appropriate to professional attire
- Visible body piercing is limited to 1 to 2 earrings per ear.
- Must meet safety standards. Avoid long necklaces and dangling earring or body piercings that are easy for children or others to grasp or that can get caught in any equipment.
- To ensure adequate hand hygiene, one ring per hand
- Hair: Should be clean and neat with styles that are appropriate to professional attire.
- Hair should be pulled back and secured
- Fingernails: Should be clean, short and neatly manicured
- No colored nail polish, artificial nails/gels, nail jewelry, sparkling ornaments
Other guidelines: Eating or drinking (except water) is not permitted in lab. Either is acceptable in lecture, as necessary due to tight classroom/lab scheduling

Chewing gum is prohibited

Dress code expectations for lab practical exams will be specified by the course coordinator.

Interactions with guests/patients/clients in classroom, laboratory, community and clinical settings:

The following guidelines for student appearance and clothing apply when guests come to the classroom or lab, when students go out into the community as part of course, or when students participate in clinical simulation experiences.

- Professional casual attire (e.g., no jeans or t-shirts, shirts with logos or sport/exercise clothing) that covers torso (neck to knees), upper arms and legs.
- Clothing that is neat, clean, wrinkle-free, and in good condition (not frayed, ripped, or with holes) and is commensurate with your professional role and consistent with the setting.
- UVM name tag (lab and community settings)
- Closed toe/heel and no heeled shoes; shoes must be in good repair and have a no-skid sole.
- Students are to be clean and well-groomed at all times. Effort should be taken to avoid bad breath, body odors and perfumes or scents.
- No visible tattoos
- Jewelry: Should be minimal, simple and appropriate to professional attire
- Visible body piercing is limited to 1 to 2 earrings per ear.
- Must meet safety standards. Avoid long necklaces and dangling earrings that are easy for children or others to grasp.
- To ensure adequate hand hygiene, one ring per hand
- Hair: Should be clean and neat with styles that are appropriate to professional attire.
- Hair should be pulled back and secured
- Fingernails: Should be clean, short and neatly manicured
- No colored nail polish, artificial nails/gels, nail jewelry, sparkling ornaments
- Other guidelines: Eating, drinking or chewing gum is prohibited during real or standardized patient contact or with guest speakers

Students will comply with any additional requirements for professional appearance that are site specific for clinical education experiences and internships. Students who require dress (e.g., wearing head coverings such as a Jewish yarmulke or a Muslim headscarf) or grooming (wearing certain hairstyles or facial hair such as Rastafarian dreadlocks or Sikh uncut hair and beard) accommodations for religious reasons should request exceptions to this policy as needed to the D.P.T. program director.


Student Participation in Laboratory Activities
Rationale for Policy

The UVM D.P.T. program engages students in laboratory activities that include physical therapy examination (including physical contact) of other D.P.T. students (congruent with course content), disrobing, draping as well as examination of standardized patients and/or observation of interaction with members of the community and their families. Participation in these lab activities may be associated with the potential for the loss of privacy, psychological distress and/or physical injury. To provide D.P.T. students with clear guidelines for professional behavior, communication and
demeanor to minimize unintended consequences during laboratory activities, the D.P.T. faculty has adopted the following policy.

Policy Statement

D.P.T. students:

- will follow all instructions for safe and proper body mechanics and agree that they will consult with D.P.T. faculty if they are unsure of how to proceed safely;
- will obtain informed consent from standardized patients, members of the community before they engage in a lab activity with these guests;
- will disclose to the course coordinator any prior or current injury/condition that may limit or prohibit the student from participating in a given activity;
- will complete a laboratory activities release form (Appendix G) for each D.P.T. patient management course
- may practice in labs when there are no classes scheduled; however, if equipment (e.g., modalities) is being used, there must be a graduate assistant present.
- must report immediately any unsafe condition or injury that occurs;
- should seek independent medical advice for any injury given that D.P.T. faculty are not treating professionals to students;
- must report any unsafe condition that occurs in the laboratory and classroom. If the faculty takes no action to correct the situation, students should notify the D.P.T. Program Director and Risk Management directly (x63242 or risk.management@uvm.edu); http://www.uvm.edu/~riskmgmt/

Faculty:

- are responsible for providing clinical lab space free from recognized hazards.
- will instruct students in the safe use and storage of equipment and chemical substances, as well as safe and proper body mechanics.
- will instruct students in the safe use of tools and equipment, including appropriate personal protective equipment, and insure that the equipment is properly maintained.
- will instruct students in the safe disposal of waste.
- will inform students of their responsibility to disclose to the faculty any prior or current injury/condition prior to engaging in the activity. Upon disclosure, the faculty will review with the student any need to modify, limit or prohibit participation in a given activity;
- will secure a signed release form from each student for each D.P.T. program patient management class
- will support students who exhibits distress due to personal grief or trauma
- will review any incident or injury of a student during laboratory activities, complete an incident report as indicated and instruct/assist student to seek independent medical advice for any injury. Faculty will not, however, treat any student conditions that are pre-existing and/or that may have occurred as a result of participation in laboratory activities
- all injuries must be reported to Risk Management directly (x63242 or risk.management@uvm.edu).

http://www.uvm.edu/~riskmgmt/

Applicability of the policy: D.P.T. students. Reviewed and approved, D.P.T. faculty 12/14/15.

GUIDELINES FOR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Rationale for Policy
To develop clinical scholars, students are educated in proper manuscript writing guidelines and use these guidelines across the curriculum. Academic papers should be written with the expectation that the final paper is in a format that is ready for submission to a professional journal.

Policy Statement

Unless otherwise instructed, all papers, projects, case studies, and reports should follow the American Medical Association (AMA) 10th edition citation style. It is the students' responsibility to ensure that the citation is complete and accurate. Laboratory exercise sheets and Patient Management documentation are not considered written reports and therefore do not need to conform to these guidelines.

Applicability of the policy: D.P.T. students.

Reviewed and approved: 5/23/17

Use of Cell Phones, Mobile Devices and Social Media

Rationale for Policy

Various University and D.P.T. program policies and federal regulations govern the protection of students, faculty, staff, patients/clients and their family in the context of digital and social media. To provide D.P.T. students with clear guidelines for the use of digital and social media, the D.P.T. faculty has adopted the following policy.

Policy Statement

Cell phones: use of cell phones, for making calls or texting, is not allowed in the classroom, laboratory or clinical environment. If used during lunch breaks, please ensure that they are then turned OFF again, and left away from patient care areas when returning to the clinic.

Mobile Devices: D.P.T. students are not permitted to take pictures or recordings of anatomical specimens or any aspect of patient care (real or simulated) on mobile devices. Breach of this policy will result in disciplinary action determined by the D.P.T. Director and faculty. In clinical settings, all regulations pertaining to HIPAA will apply.

Intellectual Property: Consistent with the University's policy on Intellectual Property, teaching and curricular materials (including but not limited to classroom lectures, class notes, exams, handouts, and presentations) are the property of the faculty. Therefore, electronic pictures or recordings and/or transmission of classes or class materials is prohibited without the express written permission of the faculty member.

Other Social Media Technology: Students are prohibited from using any social networking or electronic media platforms to disclose, discuss or post anything about teaching, learning or clinical care activities that involve real or simulated patient/clients. This policy applies to encounters that occur in the classroom, laboratory, community or health care settings. In addition, students are not permitted to disclose, discuss or post anything related to community facilities, staff, or persons involved in these experiences.

Information regarding IT policy and compliance is detailed at: http://www.uvm.edu/it/
UVM Social Media Policy: http://www.uvm.edu/policies/cit/socialmedia.pdf

Unauthorized Distribution of Copyrighted Materials

Rationale

DPT students are expected to act professionally in all aspects of their doctoral education; the APTA Core values defines the critical elements of professionalism including Integrity, or steadfast adherence to high ethical principles. It is imperative that students abide by all rules, regulations and laws, in addition to adhering to the highest standards of the profession. This policy ensures that all DPT students understand copyright laws and are aware of potential consequences of not adhering to copyright laws. Copyright infringement while in the DPT program is grounds for review of dismissal from the program.

Policy

As described in the UVM Compliance with Higher Education Opportunities Act (HEOA) Peer-to-Peer File Sharing Requirements and Combating Unauthorized Distribution of Copyrighted Materials Policies. Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement. Unauthorized distribution or use of copyrighted material, including peer-to-peer file sharing of copyrighted materials, by DPT students is prohibited. These actions may subject a student to civil and criminal liabilities and to University student conduct sanctions. UVM uses a combination of enforced policy, education, and technologies to combat unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material. Violations may result in suspension or termination of access to UVM's network or to services available through that network, and may result in disciplinary action through the Center for Student Ethics and Standards or the DPT program, including suspension/dismissal or separation from the University of Vermont, employment termination, or criminal prosecution.

Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or "statutory" damages affixed at not less than $750 and not more than $30,000 per work infringed. For "willful" infringement, a court may award up to $150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys' fees. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505. Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to $250,000 per offense. For more information, please see the web site and FAQ of the U.S. Copyright Office. UVM Compliance with Higher Education Opportunities Act (HEOA) Peer-to-Peer File Sharing Requirements and Combating Unauthorized Distribution of Copyrighted Materials Policies can be found through this link:

http://www.uvm.edu/it/policies/heoa.php


Permission to Participate in Teaching Activity

Rationale for Policy

The UVM D.P.T. program includes community participants and guest speakers in some of its educational and professional development activities. To secure permission from community guest(s) the D.P.T. faculty has adopted the following policy. Teaching activities refer to lectures, laboratories and seminars.
All community guests:

- who are 18 years and older must sign a Consent to Participate in Teaching Activity Form;
- who have a Guardian will sign an Assent to Participate in Teaching Activity Form. In addition, the Guardian will sign a Consent Form;
- who are between the ages of 11 and 17 years (inclusive) will sign an Assent to Participate in Teaching Activity Form. In addition, the Parent or Guardian will sign a Consent Form;
- who are under the age of 11 years will require Parental/Guardian signature on the Consent Form.

Faculty will secure the appropriate signatures on the appropriate form. See Appendix H for the appropriate forms:

- Assent to Participate in Teaching Activity agreement form
- Consent to Participate in Teaching Activity signature form
- Parent or Guardian Consent to Participation in Teaching Activity signature form

Applicability of the policy: all community guests. Reviewed and approved, D.P.T. faculty 12/14/15

Permission for Photographing and Videotaping
Rationale for Policy

The UVM D.P.T. program includes community participants and guest speakers in some of its educational and professional development activities. To secure permission to photograph, audio record and/or videotape (referred to as ‘footage’) the presenter/guest, the program faculty has adopted the following policy. The policy extends to all educational/extracurricular activities during the academic and clinical components of the D.P.T. curriculum.

All guests/presenters:

- who are 18 years and older will sign a Consent to Participate in Teaching Activity Form
- who have a Guardian will sign an Assent to Participate in Teaching Activity Form. In addition, the Guardian will sign a Consent Form;
- who are between the ages of 11 and 17 years (inclusive) will sign an Assent to Participate in Teaching Activity Form. In addition, the Parent or Guardian will sign a Consent Form
- who are under the age of 11 years will require Parental/Guardian signature on the Consent Form.

Faculty will secure the appropriate signatures on the appropriate form. See Appendix I for the appropriate forms:

- Assent to be Photographed, Audio Recorded and/or Videotaped release form
- Consent to be Photographed, Audio Recorded and/or Videotaped release form
- Parent or Guardian Consent to be Photographed, Audio Recorded and/or Videotaped release form

Applicability of the policy: D.P.T. students. Reviewed and approved, D.P.T. faculty 12/14/15

Funding D.P.T. Students to Attend Conferences
Rationale for Policy

The D.P.T. program promotes student participation in professional conferences as part of their lifelong-learning experience. All D.P.T. students engage in faculty-supervised research projects during their tenure in the program and are encouraged to submit abstracts to disseminate project summaries to approved national conferences. This policy is intended to clarify eligibility for funding from the program to attend conferences.

Procedures:
If an abstract is submitted for presentation (accepted or not), the program may appropriate, match, or contribute funds (considering budget) accordingly, for travel-related expenses including registration, accommodation, and travel. Students are responsible for meal expenses. Specific amounts vary from year to year and are allocated by the Program Director. Funding may be requested by the student within 6 months after their graduation.

Partial funding to help support conference participation will be provided ONLY if ALL of the following conditions are met:

1. The student group has submitted an abstract to the conference of interest.
2. The student has presented at the UVM Student Research Conference.
3. The student has applied for the Graduate College Mini-Travel Grant within the time period prescribed by the Graduate College, prior to the conference. As the Mini-Travel Grant application is awarded on an individual basis, each student (even from the same group) must apply individually. Each student must request a letter from the faculty research advisor (to be submitted with their application) explaining that their work is a group project and that there is equal contribution from all members of the group.

Applicability of the policy: D.P.T. students. Reviewed and approved, D.P.T. faculty 04/11/2019

Student Success, Support and Safety
D.P.T. Program Academic Advising

Rationale for Policy

The UVM D.P.T. program believes that advising of all students is important and is key to promoting academic success and professional formation of D.P.T. students.

Policy Statement

D.P.T. students are assigned an academic advisor upon matriculation into the program. The advisor is the personal link to the Department, College and University and can help the student navigate and understand his/her rights and responsibilities, the requirements of the D.P.T. program, the Graduate College and the University.

Students will schedule a meeting with their advisor at least once a semester during the first and second years of the D.P.T. program; additional meetings may occur as needed. Advisors assist students in optimizing their educational experiences and informing them about institutional support and community resources. Advisors also provide students with guidance on professional formation as well as professional development opportunities. Although the ultimate responsibility for making decisions about educational experiences and professional development rests with the individual students, the academic advisor may assist by helping to identify options, alternatives and potential consequences associated with their decisions. Documentation of advisee meetings are kept in the student’s file.

Additional information on graduate advising can be found in the Graduate College Academic Advising Policy.

If a student wishes to change their advisor, they may make this request with a rationale in writing to the D.P.T. program director. Should the request be supported by the program director, a new advisor will be assigned.


Incident Report

Rationale: Students must report any injury sustained while in class, lab, or during clinical experiences.
Policy: Students must report personal injury or personal property damage sustained while participating in UVM D.P.T. activities by completing the UVM incident report form. Students must immediately notify the UVM D.P.T. Course coordinator if injured in class or laboratory and/or the CI and DCE if injured while on a clinical experience. Students must e-mail a copy of this fully completed report within 72 hours of the incident to the address listed below, to their DPT faculty advisor and DPT Program Director or designee. If students are on a clinical rotation they must notify the UVM DPT DCE, their clinical supervisor, and their clinical advisor. If the clinical site has an incident report form, this must also be completed, along with the UVM incidence report: https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofVermont

Department of Risk Management

284 East Avenue
Burlington, VT 05405
802-656-3242 T 656-8682

Applicability of the policy: DPT students. Reviewed and approved, DPT faculty: 4/26/18

Student Awards
The D.P.T. faculty with student input offers several awards throughout the program. Highlights of internal awards are listed below. In addition, students might be eligible for other external awards either within the College/University or through external sources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>MECHANISM</th>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>CRITERIA FOR SELECTION</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isola Braun Award</td>
<td>Nominated by D.P.T. Students or Faculty in February</td>
<td>3rd Year D.P.T. Student</td>
<td>Student who has demonstrated the greater potential for development of professional competency and leadership.</td>
<td>Awarded at May Honors Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Corbin Award</td>
<td>Nominated by D.P.T. Students or Faculty in February</td>
<td>3rd Year D.P.T. Student</td>
<td>Student who has demonstrated high quality academic and clinical performance throughout the curriculum.</td>
<td>Awarded at May Honors Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel B. Feitelberg Award</td>
<td>Nominated by D.P.T. Students or Faculty in February</td>
<td>First Year D.P.T. Student</td>
<td>Student who has demonstrated outstanding personal leadership and has contributed to community building within and outside the class.</td>
<td>Awarded at Honors Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sangwook Ahn Award</td>
<td>Nominated by D.P.T. Students or Faculty in February</td>
<td>2nd Year D.P.T. Student</td>
<td>Student who exemplifies social responsibility, professional leadership and leadership within the University of Vermont.</td>
<td>Awarded at Honors Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CNHS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>MECHANISM</th>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>CRITERIA FOR SELECTION</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Diversity Award (CNHS)</td>
<td>Nominated by Faculty in February</td>
<td>CNHS Undergraduate or Graduate Student</td>
<td>Recognizes an undergraduate or graduate ALANA student who has made a major contribution(s) to create an environment of social justice, inclusion and equity at the Department and/or College and/or University and/or community levels</td>
<td>Awarded at Honors Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dean’s Award (CNHS)</td>
<td>Nominated by Faculty in February</td>
<td>Graduating Graduate and Undergraduate Students</td>
<td>Recognizes a graduating CNHS graduate and undergraduate student who, in the opinion of their faculty, has demonstrated exemplary professional growth and contributions during their tenure at UVM.</td>
<td>Awarded at May Honors Ceremony</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXTERNAL
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>MECHANISM</th>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>CRITERIA FOR SELECTION</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APTA Mary McMillan Scholarship</td>
<td>Application Deadline: December</td>
<td>D.P.T. student within 12 months of completing all requirements for graduation from the entry-level program</td>
<td>Recipients will be selected on the basis of the following criteria: Superior scholastic performance. Past productivity. Evidence of potential contribution to physical therapy. Service to the APTA</td>
<td>$5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APTA Minority Scholarship Award for Academic Excellence</td>
<td>Application Deadline: December</td>
<td>Minority student in final academic year</td>
<td>To acknowledge and reward demonstrated participation in minority affairs activities &amp; services, the potential for superior achievements in the profession of physical therapy, appropriate display of professionalism as a future physical therapist and academic excellence.</td>
<td>Amount to be determined yearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APTA Dorothy Briggs Memorial Scientific Inquiry Award</td>
<td>Application Deadline: December</td>
<td>APTA member and student</td>
<td>To give recognition to a physical therapist member of the APTA for an outstanding article in Physical Therapy prepared while a student.</td>
<td>Recognition Plaque</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**D.P.T. Student Club**

The D.P.T. student club fosters communication, collegiality and engagement in advocacy for UVM D.P.T. students. The D.P.T. Club and students participate in extracurricular events and fund raising activities as well as representing the D.P.T. program at national conferences. Student representatives are elected by their D.P.T. student peers to represent the cohort.

**Permission for Faculty to Provide References and Letters of Recommendation**

**Rationale of Policy**

D.P.T. students and graduates frequently request recommendations or references from D.P.T. faculty for clinical internships, educational programs, residency programs and employment. Guidelines are necessary to protect and support both faculty and students. References and recommendations may take different formats and include written letters, electronic forms, and phone conversations.

**Policy Statement**

To provide a recommendation or reference for D.P.T. students, students must first bring faculty a signed permission form that details to whom a reference can be given. Students will submit a signed “UVM D.P.T. Release to Provide Recommendation or Reference Form” as found in Appendix K to the designated faculty. Completed forms will be stored in the D.P.T. program secure student electronic file.

Faculty recommendations should be based on knowledge and evidence specific to the requesting student’s history and interactions with the faculty member. Recommendations should address the relevance of the student’s or graduate’s qualifications for the position. If a positive recommendation cannot be provided, the student/graduate should be informed of this situation prior to offering any recommendation.


**Student Services and Supports**

**Center for Health and Wellbeing**
The Center for Health & Wellbeing offers a wide range of services to support your mind, body, and soul while you're at UVM. The staff at the center does this by providing high quality, prevention-oriented student health care, mental health services, and a vigorous program of outreach and education. Care is offered at several locations on campus.

Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

CAPS offers a variety of services to the UVM community including short-term individual counseling, urgent needs counseling, group counseling, outreach and education, psychiatry, referrals, and consultation services.

Graduate College Ombudsperson office

The Graduate Student Ombudsperson is responsible for providing independent, confidential, informal and impartial assistance to graduate students on matters affecting their graduate education.

Graduate Student Senate: http://www.uvm.edu/~gss/

Information Technology Support

UVM offers a full range of information technology support regarding IT services, policy and compliance issues.

Library Services

The mission of the University of Vermont Libraries is to further the creation, application, and dissemination of knowledge by providing access to information resources and education in their use. The Dana Medical Library provides reference services to D.P.T. students through a liaison library faculty member who is available to assist students in accessing information. UVM library services are easily accessed both on and off campus. A research guide has been created specifically for D.P.T. students and faculty.

Dean's Graduate Council

Each year students are selected to represent D.P.T. students at the Dean's Graduate Council. These representatives offer recommendations/suggestions to enhance/continually improve the learning experiences of graduate students within the college.

Student Financial Services

D.P.T. students can get information about Financial Services by contacting the counselors at Student Financial Services.

Building and Laboratory Access:

The Rowell and Given buildings are accessed off hours via the student ID Cat Card. Keypad access is available to access the Rowell Laboratories off hours. All D.P.T. students have access to the laboratories for study and practice purposes when not in use by other classes/labs.

Lockers

CNHS provides lockers for students upon request. Students must request a locker from the Office of Student Services early each year. Lockers are distributed across the College on a first come, first serve basis. Students interested in a locker should contact the Office of Student Services on the ground floor of the Rowell building.

Laboratory Organization and Upkeep

Students are expected to adhere to all safety guidelines in the use of the D.P.T. Laboratories. Universal precautions and infection control practices must be used when indicated.

Students are responsible for maintaining cleanliness and organization in the lab, including:
• Wiping down treatment tables that are not covered with an appropriate cleansing solution
• Placing all dirty laundry in the appropriate receptacle in the linen closet
• Returning all equipment to designated areas
• Keeping shoes off mats and sheets
• All food and drink brought into the lab must be discarded in appropriate containers outside the lab.
• Plinths are for student practice only, when attending a lecture or seminar in the lab rooms, students will sit in chairs, not lying or sitting on the plinths.

UVM Campus Health and Safety

Campus Safety and Security: The University encourages all members of the University community to report suspicious or criminal activity to the UVM police services as soon as possible. Crimes may be reported by calling 802-656-3473, 802-656-FIRE, or by submitting an electronic report or by text to 847411 using the keyword UVM at the beginning of your text, all of which may be done anonymously. In the event of a crime in progress or at any time there is a risk of harm to persons or property, call 911. [http://www.uvm.edu/policies/riskmgm/clery.pdf](http://www.uvm.edu/policies/riskmgm/clery.pdf)

UVM Police Services: [http://www.uvm.edu/~police/](http://www.uvm.edu/~police/)

Cat Alert: Cat Alert is UVM's rapid emergency notification system. Cat Alert’s goal is to help keep UVM as informed and safe as possible during emergency situations. [Sign up for Cat Alerts here.](http://www.uvm.edu/policies/riskmgm/clery.pdf)

Supplemental information to the code of rights and responsibilities on fire, safety and health hazards:

- [http://www.uvm.edu/policies/riskmgm/firesafety.pdf](http://www.uvm.edu/policies/riskmgm/firesafety.pdf)


UVM notification of criminal charges, arrests, or indictments: [http://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/studentcode.pdf](http://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/studentcode.pdf)

UVM Drug and Alcohol Policy: [https://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/drugandalco.pdf](https://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/drugandalco.pdf)

UVM Graduate College Policies: [http://catalogue.uvm.edu/graduate/academicenrollment/](http://catalogue.uvm.edu/graduate/academicenrollment/)

UVM Policies: [http://www.uvm.edu/policies/](http://www.uvm.edu/policies/)
Appendices

Appendix A: Signature Confirmation Page

D.P.T. PROGRAM SIGNATURE PAGE

Print Name: ___________________________

D.P.T. CLASS OF 2022 STUDENT HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have reviewed the Class of 2022 Student Handbook, understand its content, and agree to abide by the policies and procedures therein.

Signature: ______________________________________________ Date: ___________________

UVM ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

I have read the information on academic integrity and agree to abide by the principles, policies and procedures.

Signature: _____________________________________________ Date: ______________________

TECHNICAL STANDARDS/ ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read the Technical Standards/ Essential Functions required for the D.P.T. program at UVM and am able to meet and perform these requirements with or without reasonable accommodations.

Signature: _____________________________________________ Date: ______________________
Appendix B: Technical Standards /Essential Functions for D.P.T. Students

Candidates for the Doctor in Physical Therapy degree from the University of Vermont are required to meet the following technical standards and be able to perform the essential functions required by accepted standard of care for Physical Therapists as located in Appendix A. These standards detail the required essential abilities and reflect the standards of care for physical therapist practice. They were developed to establish performance expectations that assure the delivery of safe and effective care during professional practice. All students of the D.P.T. program are required to meet these technical standards/essential functions with or without reasonable accommodation. Students with disabilities who may need reasonable accommodations to meet the standards at the time of admission or in the course of the D.P.T. program must contact the University Student Accessibility Services (SAS) office for accommodations, consultation, collaboration, and educational support services for certification and assessment of reasonable accommodations.

Communication with D.P.T. Director and faculty then follow this assessment. Information about the SAS Office and disability support services for students at the University of Vermont may be found at: http://www.uvm.edu/SAS/.

Students must verify that they have read and are able to meet and perform the D.P.T. Technical Standards/Essential Functions with or without reasonable accommodations prior to matriculation into the program by signing the signature page of the D.P.T. Student Handbook.
### Technical Standards/Essential Functions

#### Sensory and Observation

Students must be able to participate in all activities requiring observation and processing of information classroom as well as simulated and actual clinical settings. The ability to observe is required for such activities as lectures, laboratories, demonstrations, visual presentations, clinical diagnosis and intervention.

Students must have functional vision, hearing and tactile sensations to observe patients accurately and completely and to be able to utilize effectively instruments used for diagnosis and intervention.

Student must have sufficient use of the senses and adequate motor and coordination skills to monitor and ensure patient safety while performing all aspects of physical therapy patient care.

#### Cognitive Functions

Students must participate orally and in writing in intellectual activities requiring critical thinking, integration, judgment, analysis, synthesis, extrapolation, conceptualization of spatial relationships, problem-solving, and planning.

Students must be able to comprehend, interpret, and demonstrate integrated skills in didactic and clinical settings.

Students must be able to make timely decisions and take timely action in anticipation of or in response to patient/client circumstances that reflect actual patient-care conditions including time and resource constraints.

Students are able to display good judgment and assume responsibility for assessment, plan of care, and treatment of patients.

#### Affective Functions

Students must have verbal and non-verbal interpersonal skills that are consistent with productive classroom participation; respectful interactions with faculty, students, and staff; and development of appropriate therapeutic relationships.

Students must possess the emotional health required for full use of their intellectual abilities, adaptation to change, exercise of good judgment, cultural competence and safe completion of all responsibilities.

#### Communication

Communication skills, including speaking, listening, reading, writing, and computer literacy at a level consistent with successful completion of coursework and acceptable performance of clinical duties for patient care and record-keeping.

Students must be able to communicate in English with faculty, and classmates in all settings.

Students must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and families, interpret non-verbal communication.

Students must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently with members of the health care team.

#### Motor/Physical Skills

Students must participate in clinical and laboratory experiences that require exposure of body parts and palpation of body structures by faculty and students of all genders.

Students must have sufficient motor abilities to obtain clinical information through performance of physical therapy examinations on patients in accordance with currently acceptable practice and standards of care.

Students must be able to perform typical physical activities in the classroom/laboratory for up to 10 hours and in the clinical setting up to 8 hours.

Students must be capable of:
- obtaining auditory, visual, and tactile information to receive instructions and to evaluate and treat patients
- continuous use of hands with firm grasp and manual dexterity
coordination of verbal, manual, cognitive, and gross motor activities

movement from place to place and position to position with safe speed, strength, and endurance for handling equipment and classmates or patients

gross motor skills including being able to stand, walk, twist, bend and squat while providing patient care

ability to manipulate objects and persons of various shapes, sizes and weights to effectively perform patient care

Ability to lift 30 pounds while maintaining balance and coordinated movement

Coordination of fine and gross motor skills with cognitive tasks to perform patient care techniques including, but not limited to, gait training, manual therapy, and positioning

Ability to perform necessary motor and cognitive functions with appropriate coordination, speed and agility to ensure patient safety in emergency situations

**Behavior Attributes**

Student must be able to accept constructive feedback, respond with appropriate self-reflection, and modify action/learning based on feedback and reflection

**Professional and Ethical Conduct**

Students must consistently display integrity, honesty, empathy, caring, fairness, respect for others, diligence, dedication, and ability to maintain patient privacy

Abide by local, state, and federal laws, as well as all University of Vermont and College of Nursing and Health Sciences codes of conduct.

Tolerate physically, emotionally, and mentally demanding workloads.

Function effectively under stress, and make use of available resources to help maintain health.

Adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and be able to learn in the face of uncertainty.

Take responsibility for themselves and their behaviors.

Maintain a professional demeanor especially in clinical settings (e.g. use of name tag, appropriate attire, neat appearance and respectful speech).
Appendix C: APTA Position on Professionalism: Physical Therapy Core Values

In 2000, the House of Delegates adopted Vision 2020 and the Strategic Plan for Transitioning to A Doctoring Profession (RC 37-01). This Plan included six elements: Doctor of Physical Therapy, Evidenced-based Practice, Autonomous Practice, Direct Access, Practitioner of Choice, and Professionalism, and describes how these elements relate to and interface with the vision of a doctoring profession. In assisting the profession in its transition to a doctoring profession, one of the initiatives was to define and describe the concept of professionalism by explicitly articulating what the graduate of a physical therapist program ought to demonstrate with respect to professionalism. As a byproduct of this work, it was believed that practitioner behaviors could be articulated that would describe what the individual practitioner would be doing in their daily practice that would reflect professionalism.

Core Values
http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/Judicial_Legal/ProfessionalismCoreValues.pdf


Standards of Practice: http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/About_Us/Policies/Practice/StandardsPractice.pdf

Appendix D: UVM Code of Academic Integrity
The UVM Code of Academic Integrity can be accessed at the following link:
http://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/acadintegrity.pdf

Appendix E: Our Common Ground
http://www.uvm.edu/~presdent/?Page=miscellaneous/commonground.html

Education is not preparation for life. Education is life itself" - John Dewey, educator, philosopher, UVM Class of 1879

The University of Vermont is an educationally purposeful community seeking to prepare students to live in a diverse and changing world. We who work, live, study, teach, do research, conduct business, or participate in the University of Vermont are members of this community. As members, we believe in the transforming power of education and agree to help create and foster an environment where we can discover and reach our true potential.

We aspire to be a community that values:

RESPECT. We respect each other. We listen to each other, encourage each other and care about each other. We are strengthened by our diverse perspectives.

INTEGRITY. We value fairness, straightforward conduct, adherence to the facts, and sincerity. We acknowledge when things have not turned out the way we had hoped. As stewards of the University of Vermont, we are honest and ethical in all responsibilities entrusted to us.

INNOVATION. We want to be at the forefront of change and believe that the best way to lead is to learn from our successes and mistakes and continue to grow. We are forward-looking and break new ground in addressing important community and societal needs.

OPENNESS. We encourage the open exchange of information and ideas from all quarters of the community. We believe that through collaboration and participation, each of us has an important role in determining the direction and well-being of our community.

JUSTICE. As a just community, we unite against all forms of injustice, including, but not limited to, racism. We reject bigotry, oppression, degradation, and harassment, and we challenge injustice toward any member of our community.
RESPONSIBILITY. We are personally and collectively responsible for our words and deeds. We stand together to uphold our common ground.

Appendix F: CNHS Graduate Clinical Mandatories Information
Clinical mandates requirements and forms are available online: https://www.uvm.edu/cnhs/rms/doctor-physical-therapy-program-mandatories
Appendix G: Student Participation in the Laboratory Activities Release Form

This release form is a companion to the “Student Participation in the Laboratory Activities Policy”.

Due to the nature of this professional program, students are expected to practice and serve as models for PT evaluations and interventions and to participate in other laboratory experiences throughout the program.

Students are required to sign this release by the first day of the beginning of each Patient Management and other laboratory courses and submit to the Course Coordinator.

In PT (course number): Patient Management or PT (course number) students will be participating in (faculty to list out activities and interventions):

I have reviewed, understand and agree to the “Student Participation in the Laboratory Activities” policy (hyper link to this policy). I can fully participate in all the stated activities. I will notify the course coordinator with any changes in my ability to participate.

D.P.T. Course: ____________________________

Student Signature: _____________________________________

Student name printed: ____________________________________

Course Coordinator Signature_____________________________

Date: ________________________________________________

Reviewed and Approved: D.P.T. faculty on 4/11/16
Appendix H: Assent to Participate in Teaching Activity agreement form

I understand the purpose of and the plan for the teaching activity. I understand the activities that I will participate in and/or the type of the questions that I may be asked. I understand this activity is for education only and that information about me will be kept confidential. This means that any information about me will not be shared or discussed outside the classroom. However, I understand that there is always the chance that someone will repeat what I have said or what they have seen. I understand that I may withdraw my consent at any time for any reason.

I understand that my participation in this activity does not involve any physical or emotional risk to me beyond that of everyday life. I understand that it is important for me to tell the course coordinator right away if I believe that I have been hurt because of taking part in this teaching activity. I can tell the course coordinator in person or call him/her at (802 656-____). In addition, I understand that I may contact the Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) program director (656-____), if I have any questions about taking part in this teaching activity.

I also understand that it is not the policy of the University of Vermont or the Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science to provide payment or free medical treatment in the event of injury resulting from this teaching activity.

Signature _______________________

Printed name___________________________________

Date __________________________

Parent or Guardian _______________________

Date__________________________

Course Instructor __________________________

Date____________________________
Appendix I: Consent to Participate in Teaching Activity signature form

I have had explained to my satisfaction the purpose and the format of the teaching activity. I understand the activities that I will participate in and/or the nature of the questions I may be asked during the teaching activity. I understand this activity is strictly educational and that all personal information will be considered confidential. This means that any information about me will not be shared or discussed outside the classroom. However, I understand that there is always the chance that someone will repeat what I have said or what they have seen. I understand that I may withdraw my consent at any time for any reason.

I understand that my participation in this activity does not involve any physical or emotional risk to me beyond that of everyday life. I understand that it is important for me to tell the course instructor promptly if I believe that I have been injured because of taking part in this teaching activity. I can tell the course instructor in person or call him/her. In addition, I understand that I may contact the Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) program director (656-8647) should I have any questions about my rights as a participant in this teaching activity.

I also understand that it is not the policy of the University of Vermont or the Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science to provide payment or free medical treatment in the event of injury resulting from this teaching activity.

Signature _______________________
Printed name___________________________________
Date__________________________

Course Instructor__________________________
Date ________________________________
Appendix J: Parent or Guardian Consent to Participation in Teaching Activity signature form

I have had explained to my satisfaction the purpose and the format of the teaching activity. I understand the activities that ______________ (please print) will participate in and/or the nature of the questions that may be asked during the teaching activity. I understand this activity is strictly educational and that all personal information will be considered confidential. This means that any information about ____________ (please print) will not be shared or discussed outside the classroom. However, I understand that there is always the chance that someone will repeat what has been said or seen. I understand that I may withdraw my consent at any time for any reason.

I understand that _______’s (please print) participation in this activity does not involve any physical or emotional risk beyond that of everyday life. I understand that it is important for me to tell the course instructor promptly if I believe that ___________ (please print) has have been injured because of taking part in this teaching activity. I can tell the course instructor in person or call him/her at (802 656-______). In addition, I understand that I may contact the Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) program director (656-XXX), should I have any questions about ___________ (please print) rights as a participant in this teaching activity.

I also understand that it is not the policy of the University of Vermont or the Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science to provide payment or free medical treatment in the event of injury resulting from this teaching activity.

Signature _______________________
Printed name___________________________________
Date__________________________

Course Instructor __________________________
Date __________________________
Appendix K: Assent to be Photographed, Audio Recorded and/or Videotaped release form

I understand that the pictures, the sound recordings and videos will be used in the future only for teaching. I was able to ask questions and get answers about how these pictures, sound recordings and videos will be used. These pictures, sound recordings and videos will be stored safely in a teacher’s office. I understand that I can change my mind about participating at any time for any reason.

By checking the boxes below, I _________________ (please print) provide my permission for the following and sign below:

- Please check here if you give UVM, or a photographer who works for UVM, permission to take pictures of you while you participate in a teaching activity.
- Please check here if you give UVM, or a (n) audiographer/videographer who works for UVM, permission to take sound recordings and videos of you while you participate in a teaching activity.

Signature_______________________
Printed name___________________________________
Date __________________________

Course Instructor__________________________
Date__________________________
Appendix L: Consent to be Photographed, Audio Recorded and/or Videotaped release form

I understand that the photographic, audio and video recordings (called ‘footage’) will be used for future educational purposes only. I was able to ask questions and get answers about how the footage will be used. A record of the footage will be kept in a secure area in the faculty’s locked office and the security of the footage will be maintained by the course instructor. I understand that I may withdraw my consent at any time for any reason.

By checking the appropriate box below, I _________________ (please print) provide my permission for the following and sign below:

- Please check here if you give UVM, or a photographer working on behalf of UVM, permission to photograph you during your participation in a teaching activity.
- Please check here if you give UVM, or a (n) audiographer/videographer working on behalf of UVM, permission to use footage of you during your participation in a teaching activity.

Signature_______________________
Printed name___________________________________
Date _________________________
Course Instructor __________________________
Date __________________________
Appendix M: Parent or Guardian Consent to be Photographed, Audio Recorded and/or Videotaped release form

I understand that the photographic, audio and video recordings (called ‘footage’) will be used for future educational purposes only. I was able to ask questions and get answers about how the footage will be used. A record of the footage will be kept in a secure area in the faculty’s locked office and the security of the footage will be maintained by the course instructor. I understand that I may withdraw my consent at any time for any reason.

By checking the appropriate box below, I _______________ (please print) provide my permission on behalf of ____________ (please print) for the following and sign below:

- Please check here if you give UVM, or a photographer working on behalf of UVM, permission to photograph ____________ (please print) during the teaching activity.
- Please check here if you give UVM, or a(n) audiographer/videographer working on behalf of UVM, permission to use footage of ____________ (please print) participation in a teaching activity.

Signature of Parent or Guardian ______________________
Printed name___________________________________
Date __________________________
Course Instructor__________________________

Date__________________________
Appendix N: Release to Provide Recommendations Form

I am requesting a recommendation from ______________________ (faculty member) for the following
______________________________ (specify organization or situation). I agree that the recommendation
can be in the form of a verbal communication or written letter dependent on the specific needs/request of the
organization/situation.

I agree to provide all necessary information needed to support this request to the faculty member prior to any
recommendation. Faculty may request such information as my resume, CV, or draft letter to assist in completion of this
recommendation.

Student/Graduate Signature ______________________ Date __________________

Faculty Signature ______________________ Date __________________
Appendix O: Release to Provide Recommendations Form

Faculty, UVM staff and students may take photographs/videos of students engaging in curricular and extracurricular activities. These photographs/videos may be used for UVM, CNHS, or DPT social medial, research, or professional association activities. Occasionally faculty will submit photographs to the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), for marketing and other social media activities.

☐ Check here if you give UVM, or a UVM faculty member permission to share your photograph on social media during your participation in UVM DPT activities.

☐ Check here if you grant the APTA and its employees, agents and assigns, the perpetual, absolute and irrevocable right and permission to use your name and to use, reproduce, edit, exhibit, project, display, copyright, publish and/or resell photographic pictures of you, or in which you may be included in whole or in part, and to circulate the same in all forms and media including, but not limited to having the photo posted on APTA’s Student Assembly Facebook page, APTA’s social media publications, and used in other APTA print and online publications, and on APTA’s websites for educational, trade, all forms of advertising/promotion or any lawful purpose without further compensation to you.

☐ Check here if you agree that by signing the form below, that you agree that APTA is the sole owner of all rights in the negatives, photographs, prints, and all other items bearing your photograph, name or likeness, including full domestic and foreign copyrights therein, and shall have the exclusive right to make use of these materials as it wishes, including, but not limited to, the right of performance, display, reproduction and distribution in all media, and the right to create, perform, display, and reproduce derivative works thereof.

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have no right to approve the editorial, advertising, promotional, trade or printed copy that includes my photograph, name or likeness. I hereby release, discharge and agree to save harmless the APTA, its components, agents and assigns from all liabilities arising out of distortion, optical illusions, or faulty mechanical reproductions of my likeness and any liability or claimed liability in connection with the use of my photograph, name or likeness.

If I am the entrant, I warrant that the submitted photo does not infringe on any copyright owned by another, that the photo was taken by me and that I hold the copyright, that the photo is an original work that has not been published and that the photo was not taken from the Internet.

Signature ___________________________Date _____________________