Graduate Certificate Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapy Program in Physical Therapy School of Health Sciences Oakland University

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Program Highlights

Evidence based practice and evidence based manual and exercise techniques, translatoric spinal manipulation, functional massage, and advanced orthopedic therapeutic exercise concepts.

Faculty

Nationally and internationally respected clinicians, authors and researchers in the field of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapy.

ACCREDITATION

North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

DESCRIPTION

The Graduate Certificate in Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapy is designed to offer advanced, graduate-level courses in orthopedics to physical therapists interested in developing clinical specialty skills. This educational program provides advanced theoretical and clinical training, emphasizing differential diagnosis and manual therapy procedures.

The certificate program is offered as a part-time course of study accommodating the needs of working professionals. Students enrolled in the program will participate in 18 credits of course-work including orthopedic theory, techniques and clinical internship training. The length of study for this part-time program is two years, with courses being offered primarily on a week-end and evening basis. The clinical training entails clinical training at an approved clinical site. All of the required courses that comprise this certificate can be applied to the Master of Science or Doctor of Science in Physical Therapy degree.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for admission to this program, individuals must hold an entry-level physical therapy degree (i.e., Bachelor of Science or Master of Physical Therapy) from an APTA accredited program, or it's equivalent, and is licensed as a physical therapist in the state of Michigan. Two years of clinical experience is highly recommended. Class size is limited due to the nature and sequencing of the manual therapy technique courses. A new group of students is accepted every fall.

ADMISSION TERMS AND DEADLINES

Students are admitted in the fall semester only. Applications will be accepted until August 1 for the following fall semester.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The application materials and steps to be taken are:

- 1. Application for Admission to Graduate study and non-refundable application fee.
- 2. Professional vitae or resume and one page narrative goal statement outlining academic and professional goals.
- Official transcripts of all previous undergraduate and graduate level academic work and proof of degree.
- 4. Two Recommendation for Graduate Admission forms or two letters of reference.
- 5. Official scores for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and GRE from applicants who are graduates of programs taught in a language other than English.
- International Students must meet the application requirements described by Graduate Admissions.
- 7. Proof of licensure or eligibility for licensure in the State of Michigan. Students who do not have a license upon admission will be conditionally admitted until they provide proof of licensure. Proof licensure is required to register for courses that require clinical hours.

FEES

Special course fees are assessed for the manual therapy theory and technique classes (PT 510, 511, 520, 530) required for the certificate.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CERTIFICATE

To fulfill the certificate requirements the student must complete, with at least a 2.5 grade in each course and an overall GPA of 3.0, a program consisting of PT 502, 510, 511, 520, 530, 601, 602, 605, 611, 677 and 680.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PT 502 Understanding Evidence Based Practice (2 credits)

An overview of evidence-based practice and its application to examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, and intervention in physical and occupational therapy. The course will also include a review of frameworks for clinical decisions making, qualitative and quantitative research designs, and methods of assessing professional literature related to approaches used by healthcare professionals.

PT 510 Advanced Orthopedics I (2 credits)

This course is designed to introduce basic orthopedic science, orthopedic practice principles, and treatment techniques required in the day to day management of patients with movement impairments, functional limitations, and disabilities due to musculoskeletal pathologies effecting the extremities. Clinically related orthopedic sciences including anatomy, biomechanics, pathology and radiology will serve as the foundation for technique application and overall patient management. Practice principles will include evidence based practice, clinical decision making skills, clinical hypothesis building, treatment planning and progression. The technique portion includes physical examination and interventions for the extremities including advanced active and passive motion examination, translatoric movement evaluation, and select differential evaluation techniques. Soft tissue, articular, and therapeutic exercise interventions for the extremities will be emphasized.

Includes:

E1-Examination and Intervention for the Upper Extremity

E2-Examination and Intervention for the Lower Extremity

PT 511 Advanced Orthopedics II (2 credits)

Building upon the basic science, practice principles and treatment techniques introduced in PT 510 this course will address the day to day management of patients with movement impairments, functional limitations, and disabilities due to musculoskeletal pathologies effecting the spinal column. In PT 511 patient management principles and technique application will be based upon clinically related orthopedic sciences including anatomy, biomechanics, pathology and radiology. Practice principles will include evidence based practice, clinical decision making skills, clinical hypothesis building, treatment planning and progression. The technique portion of PT 511 will include advanced active and passive motion testing, neurologic examination, and select differential evaluation techniques. Soft tissue, articular, and therapeutic exercise interventions for the spine will be emphasized. Includes:

S1-Examination and Intervention for the Cervical and Thoracic Spines

S2-Examination and Intervention for the Lumbar Spine and Sacroiliac Joint

PT 520 Advanced Orthopedics III (2 credits)

Building upon the material presented in PT 510 and 511 this course is designed to advance orthopedic examination and intervention skills through the use of manual therapy principles and techniques. The principles portion builds upon PT 510 and 511 with discussions on the incorporation of manual and manipulative techniques for the purpose of optimizing the management of patients with complex orthopedic presentations. The technique portion continues to reinforce and expand upon physical examination and intervention techniques taught in PT 510 and 511 with the addition of advanced soft tissue and articular mobilization and translatoric manipulative techniques for the extremity joints and spinal column.

Includes:

E3 - Advanced Examination and Intervention for the Extremities

S3 - Introduction to Translatoric Manipulation of the Spinal Column

PT 530 Advanced Orthopedics IV (2 credits)

This laboratory and lecture course focuses on advanced clinical decision making, patient prognostication, application of physical tests and measures and interventions for patient's with complex spinal orthopedic conditions. Student must meet the prerequisites (PT 510, PT 511 and PT 520) and be admitted to one of Oakland's post-graduate Physical Therapy programs or have permission of department.

Includes:

S4 - Intermediate Translatoric Manipulation of the Spinal Column

S5 - Advanced Translatoric Manipulation of the Spinal Column

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS CONTINUED

PT 601 Clinical Orthopedic Internship I (1 credit)

This course is designed to provide supervised clinical practice in an orthopedic physical therapy setting. Students will apply principles and techniques taught in PT 510 & 511 to the management of live patients. Additional instruction in aspects of orthopedic physical therapy intervention will include coordination, communication, documentation, and patient/client-related instruction.

PT 602 Clinical Orthopedic Internship II (1 credit)

This course is designed to provide supervised clinical practice in an orthopedic manual physical therapy setting. Students will apply principles and techniques taught in PT 520 to the management of live patients. Additional instruction in aspects of orthopedic physical therapy intervention will be included.

PT605 Clinical Internship III (1 credit)

This course is designed to provide supervised clinical practice in an orthopedic manual physical therapy setting. Students will actively apply principles and techniques taught in PT 530 to the management of live patients. Additional instruction in aspects of orthopedic manual physical therapy intervention will be included. Student must meet the prerequisites (PT 510, PT 511, PT 520, PT 601 and PT 602) and be admitted to one of Oakland's post-graduate Physical Therapy programs or have permission of department.

PT 611 Applied Movement Sciences (2 credits) (3 credits for MS students)

This course focuses on common symptomatic movement related disorders associated with various orthopedic spinal and peripheral joint pathologies. Students will perform and prescribe movement/exercise interventions for patients with impairments associated with select musculoskeletal pathologies. Tissue healing, musculoskeletal biomechanics, motor skill development, and tissue response to exercise will be discussed.

PT 677 Advanced Differential Diagnoses (2 credits)

This course is designed to facilitate the student in synthesizing examination skills in physical therapy with differential diagnosis skills; to develop screening strategies for patients presenting in a direct access environment; to refine the student's knowledge of referral systems and other professionals from whom the PT receives referrals; and to develop prognostic skills using algorithms and clinical decision trees.

PT680 OMPT Practicum (1 credit)

This course is the culmination course in the OMPT program and consists of a full time clinical experience and presentation of patient's findings in a variety of formats. Students must meet the prerequisites (PT 510, PT 511, PT 520, PT 601, PT 602 and PT 605) and be admitted to one of Oakland's post-graduate Physical Therapy programs or have permission of department.

ENROLLMENT

A new class of OMPT students is admitted every fall semester. The deadline for university admittance is August 1. Enrollees must demonstrate completion of an entry-level physical therapy program at the baccalaureate level, licensure in physical therapy in the United States or eligibility for licensure in Michigan. Foreign educated therapists must have equivalent to a BS degree as evaluated by a credentialing service and meet all Oakland University Graduate admissions criteria including TOEFL & GRE scores.

COMPUTER ACCESS

Due to the nature of this program students must have basic computer skills to benefit from online learning experiences. Students must have use of a computer with internet access. If you do not own a computer Oakland University provides access to computer resources through a number of computer labs on campus. Students may also inquire at their local library regarding computer availability.

OMPT curriculum questions, please contact:

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