

PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences - Advising Center
498 Neuberger Hall, (503) 725-3822, askclas@pdx.edu

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY Updated: October 2006

The principal objectives of physical therapy are to restore or improve motor function in patients suffering from loss of muscle strength, physical mobility, or circulation and to aid in the rebuilding of self-confidence of those who will return to a normal active life or who must adapt to disability. The physical therapy program consists of a four year **preparatory phase** and a three year **professional phase**. The preparatory phase, that is, the required courses that must be completed before entering the professional phase, can be taken at PSU and requires good science and mathematics skills and a sensitivity to the needs of others. **PSU does not offer the professional phase**, which culminates in a D.P.T. You must be accepted by a professional school, such as Pacific University, Forest Grove, OR, for this phase.

Pacific University Prerequisite Courses	Equivalent PSU Courses
Science courses should be taken within the last seven years. At least 30 semester hours must be taken at a four-year college or university.	
Biological Sciences – minimum 18 quarter credits (12 semester credits)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Biology Sequence (botany portion may be excluded) • Complete human or vertebrate anatomy • Complete human or vertebrate physiology <p>Note: Sequential courses combining human anatomy and physiological are acceptable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BI 251, 252, 253 (15) – Principles of Biology (note: cannot exclude Bi 252, as it covers both animal biology & botany). CH 221 is the recommended pre- or co-requisite for BI 251. • BI 301, 302, 303 (12) – Human Anatomy & Physiology (a previous course in chemistry and one year of college biological science is the recommended prerequisite) <p>Note: Science courses must be those for pre-professional or science majors & include a lab</p>
Chemistry – minimum 12 quarter credits (8 semester credits)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-year general chemistry course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CH 221, 222, 223 (12) w/ lab CH 227, 228, 229 (3) – General Chemistry (MTH 111 is the recommended prerequisite)
General Physics – minimum 12 quarter credits (8 semester credits)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One year. These courses need not be calculus based. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PH 201, 202, 203 (12) w/ lab PH 214, 215, 216 (3) (MTH 112 is the recommended prerequisite)
Statistics – minimum 3 quarter credits (2 semester credits)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From one of the following departments: psychology, sociology, statistics, or math. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STAT 243 (4) – take the non-business version
Psychology – minimum 9 quarter credits (6 semester credits)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must include a course in general psychology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSY 200 (4) Psychology as a Natural Science AND/OR PSY 204 (4) Psychology as a Social Science • PSY electives to reach minimum 9 credits – PSY 311 or 434 recommended
English – minimum 12 quarter credits (8 semester credits)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower division English or Writing course • Upper division English or Writing course (preferred: writing intensive course with a technical or scientific emphasis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 credits of English or Writing. Recommended: WR 121, 222 or 227 and 323 <p>Note: Pacific may accept University Studies courses to satisfy this requirement – submit course descriptions to Pacific for review.</p>
Humanities – minimum 9 quarter credits (6 semester credits)	
<p>Courses taken from the following areas: fine arts, humanities, history, philosophy, religion, English (in addition to English/Writing prerequisite), music, foreign language. At least 4.5 quarter hours must be from outside of English.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 credits from ART, ARH, HUM, HST, PHL, ENG, MUS, or foreign language.

(OVER)

Social Science – minimum 9 quarter credits (6 semester credits)	
Courses taken from the following areas: (in addition to psychology prerequisite) sociology, psychology, political science, economics, history, and anthropology. At least 4.5 quarter hours (3 semester hours) must be outside of psychology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 credits from SOC, PSY, PS, EC, HST, or ANTH. Remember that at least 4.5 of the credits must be outside of psychology.

Completion of the preparatory courses does not guarantee acceptance into the Physical Therapy program. Admission is limited and competitive. Most professional programs require that an **A, B, or C** be earned in all required preparatory courses, and most students accepted by professional schools have an average overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Additional Pacific University – Physical Therapy Admissions Requirements:

- Completion of a bachelor's degree prior to the start of the PT program (B.A. or B.S).
- Must have a minimum of 100 hours of work, volunteer or observation experience completed at the time of your application. These hours must be completed under the supervision of a current practicing licensed Physical Therapist.
- References: One must be from a current practicing licensed Physical Therapist with whom you have worked.
- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Admissions criteria include:
 - GPA of science/statistics coursework
 - GPA of your last 45 credit hours
 - Observation hours in a variety of settings with a broad diversity of patient populations
 - Extracurricular and community activities and service

Pacific University – Physical Therapy Application Information:

- Applications accepted from August 1st to December 3rd, 2007
- Application Deadline (Postmarked): December 3rd, 2007
- Interviews in February and decisions in March 2008
- Program start date: August 2008

Tips & Recommendations:

- Review the required and recommended prerequisites for the PSU courses that you plan to take to fulfill Pacific's admissions requirements. Information on prerequisites is included in each course description in the PSU Bulletin/Catalog. You may need to take some courses first to succeed in those that you need for application to Pacific's program.
- Contact schools by about January for application and financial aid forms.
- Personally read the information/admission brochure of each of the professional schools to which you plan to apply.
- Periodically, and before the beginning of your last year at PSU, check with the adviser for recent changes, remaining requirements, and application procedures.
- The best way to ensure that Pacific will accept your courses is to complete a prerequisite worksheet (available at <http://www.pacificu.edu/pt/admission/prereqs.cfm>) and submit it to Pacific, along with a copy of your transcripts and course descriptions.

Interested students may visit the American Physical Therapy Association's website; www.apta.org for more information.

Pacific University School of Physical Therapy Admissions Contact Information:

Cory Nelson	E-mail: cnelson@pacificu.edu
PACIFIC UNIVERSITY	Phone: (503)-352-7222 or 1-800-933-9308
222 SE 8 th Ave Ste 212	Web: www.pacificu.edu
Hillsboro, Oregon 97123	