

**The University of Texas at El Paso  
College of Health Sciences  
Doctor of Physical Therapy Program**

**PT 6203**

**Differential Diagnosis**

**Spring 2021**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Credit Hours:**

**Contact Hours:**     **Total: 30 hrs**  
                              *Lecture: 30 hrs; Lab: 0 hrs; Clinic: 0 hrs*

**Schedule:**            **REMOTE**  
                              *Tuesday     3:30 pm - 5:30 pm*

*COVID-19 Notice: This course has transitioned to a virtual (online) content delivery and assessment. Blue italicized text indicates syllabus additions to align with this transition.*

**Coordinator/Instructor(s):**

Faculty: *Michelle Gutierrez, PT, Dsc*

Office location: *Campbell Room 308*

Phone #: *915-747-8148*

Cell Phone for emergency: *575-650-9121*

E-mail: [mgutierrez28@utep.edu](mailto:mgutierrez28@utep.edu)

Office hours: *By appointment. Schedule meetings at:*

<https://calendly.com/drgutierrez/30-minute-meeting>

*Virtual Hours are via Zoom platform with wait room enabled.*

*I will send you a zoom link when I receive the notice that you have requested the meeting.*

*I HIGHLY recommend adding the appointment to your calendar.*

*If the times don't work for your schedule email some suggestions of meeting times.*

Teaching Assistant: *N/A*

**Course Description:** An evaluation of the musculoskeletal, neuromuscular, cardiopulmonary, and integumentary conditions encountered by physical therapists, with emphasis on physical therapist diagnosis are presented. Recognition of signs and symptoms associated with various conditions beyond the scope of physical therapist intervention is developed, enabling the practitioner to make appropriate referrals.

**Course Prerequisites for DPT Students:** The UTEP DPT Program curriculum is a lock-step curriculum. Therefore, students must pass all courses in the prior semester of the DPT Program in order to enroll in courses in the subsequent semester. Faculty may consider exceptions for PT 6116 PT Capstone Project I and PT 6117 PT Capstone Project II.

**Course Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Recognize the signs and symptoms of a medical condition beyond the scope of practice for physical therapists. (7D16, 7D17, 7D20, 7D22, 7D24, 7D30, 7D33, 7D35, 7D36) [Knowledge]
2. Recognize signs and symptoms requiring immediate medical attention, physician/other practitioner referral for the following systems: (7C (all systems), 7D10, 7D16, 7D17, 7D20, 7D22, 7D24, 7D30, 7D33, 7D35, 7D36) [Knowledge]
  - a) Hematologic
  - b) Cardiovascular
  - c) Pulmonary
  - d) Endocrine
  - e) Musculoskeletal
  - f) Nervous
  - g) Hepatic & Biliary
  - h) Gastrointestinal
  - i) Reproductive
  - j) Urologic
  - k) Integumentary
  - l) Immunologic
3. Recognize and describe the medical “red flags” associated with selected medical conditions. (7C (all systems), 7D10, 7D16, 7D17, 7D20, 7D24, 7D30, 7D33, 7D35) [Comprehension]
4. Recognize the referred pain patterns originating from the visceral organs. (7D10, 7D16, 7D17, 7D20, 7D24, 7D30, 7D33, 7D35) [Knowledge]
5. Obtain and analyze evidence to evaluate and assimilate screening techniques when evaluating clients. (7D10, 7D16, 7D17, 7D20, 7D24, 7D30, 7D33, 7D35) [Analysis]
6. Perform and interpret client testing for chosen medical conditions. (7D10, 7D16, 7D17, 7D20, 7D24, 7D30, 7D33, 7D35) [Analysis]

**Methods of Instruction:** Teaching methods and learning activities will include lecture, learning exercises, small group discussion and problem-solving exercises, role playing, independent reading, homework assignments and independent case studies. Students are expected to take full advantage of office hours and any supplemental study sessions as an opportunity for individual feedback regarding understanding of course material from instructors and peers.

**Methods of Evaluation:** Student competence and attainment of course objectives are assessed using a variety of methods. These methods and their contribution to the final grade are listed in the table below.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Grade Composition</u>
Quizzes (written)	5%
Assignments	20%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Exam 3 (written)	15%
Final Exam (written)	30%
Total	100%

**Grading Scale:** The following letter grade scale is used for the UTEP Doctor of Physical Therapy Program:

<u>Letter Grade Scale</u>	<u>Numerical Grade Scale</u>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	75-79
F	Below 75

**Required Textbooks and Other Learning Resources:**

1) Goodman CC, Snyder TE. Differential Diagnosis for Physical Therapists: Screening for Referral, 5th Edition. St. Louis: Saunders Elsevier, 2013. ISBN: 13: 978-1-4377-2543-8

**Resources Available for Student Success:**

**Technology Requirements**

1. *Computing device with video camera is required. The computer device must be able to support Respondus Lock Down Browser used to enhance the integrity of quizzes and exam completed online. Note: Tablets and cell phones are poorly suited to accomplish the majority of doctoral level readings, assignments, activities, and research requirements of the program.*
2. *Reliable internet connection and data access.*

**Confidential Resources:**

- **Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS):** If you have or suspect a disability and need accommodations, you should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148. You can also e-mail the office at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu) or go by their office in Union Building East, room 106 (next to the UTEP post-office). For additional information, visit the CASS website at <http://sa.utep.edu/cass>.
- **The UTEP Student Health Center:** Union East Suite 100; 915.747.5624; [www.utep.edu/chs/shc](http://www.utep.edu/chs/shc)
- **The UTEP Counseling and Psychological Services:** 202 Union West, 915.747.5302; [www.utep.edu/student-affairs/counsel](http://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/counsel)

**Additional Resources:**

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- Division of Student Affairs. 915.747.5076, [www.utep.edu/student-affairs](http://www.utep.edu/student-affairs)
- DPT Library Research Guide: <http://libguides.utep.edu/pt>
- Writing Center: 915.747.5112. <https://uwc.utep.edu>
- Computer Labs: Independent Learning Center (ILC), 1<sup>st</sup> floor Campbell Building
- Military Student Success Center: 915.747.5342, [www.utep.edu/student-affairs/mssc](http://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/mssc)
- Student Wellness Program. 915.747.6738, [www.utep.edu/chs/wellness](http://www.utep.edu/chs/wellness)

**University Policies:** All students are responsible for following UTEP policies and procedures found in the Handbook of Operating Procedures at [www.utep.edu/vpba/hoop](http://www.utep.edu/vpba/hoop)

**Program Policies:** All DPT students are responsible for following all policies and procedures documented in the current DPT Student Handbook. Course policies found in the DPT Student Handbook apply to all courses in the DPT curriculum. The current DPT Student Handbook may be found on the DPT Student Resources site on Blackboard.

**Academic Integrity:** The UTEP DPT Program has a “zero tolerance policy” for scholastic dishonesty. DPT students must demonstrate academic integrity at all times. The current DPT Student Handbook outlines specific definitions, expectations, details, and consequences related to academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty. Additional information related to academic integrity is available through the UTEP Division of Student Affairs at [www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html](http://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html)

### **Course-Specific Policies:**

1. **Attendance Policy - Absences:** Refer to current DPT Student Handbook “Attendance and Classroom Behavior” for the DPT Program policy. Additional course-specific policy are as follows:

- Attendance at all classes/labs is expected. **All faculty have different policies.** Treat this class as you would a job. I am expected to be at class/labs as scheduled and to be on time; I expect the same from you. You are expected to be in class during the time listed. In this class, students are expected to be on time and prepared to begin the course. If you expect to miss a class you should notify the instructor in writing by email at a minimum of 24 hours in advance.
- *NOTE: Being “on time” in the online learning environment means that you have arrived into the virtual classroom & are fully “connected” PRIOR to the start of class.*
- If an emergency or illness prevents a student from attending class (e.g., documented serious illness or emergency), communication directly with the instructor is expected **2 hours prior to the beginning of class** in writing by email. A verbal message through another student will not suffice. For any missed class, it is the responsibility of the student to obtain any materials presented in class and to ensure assignments are turned in on time. HOWEVER, (with very rare exception, which will be considered on a case by case basis) there will be NO accommodations offered for missed class time. Specifically, there is NO

opportunity to make up in-class quizzes or exams, either in advance of or after the scheduled class, or provide individual tutoring for missed content. Additionally, late work caused by your absence will not be accepted. You should make prior arrangements with a classmate to find out what you missed, and/or pick up any hand-outs.

- Missing 30 minutes or more of a class or lab will be considered an absence – during any part of the class/lab.
- Each unexcused absence will result in a 5% deduction from your final course grade.
- *During online lectures, I expect your cameras to be turned on so that we may maximize our engagement with each other; I consider having your camera on to be a component of active participation/attendance. Mute your microphone when you are not contributing to the discussion in the virtual classroom to avoid being unnecessarily disruptive. If you must “leave” briefly (e.g., to go to the toilet), then please use the relevant online symbol to indicate to me that you have “stepped out” or send me a private message in the Chat box.*
  - i. *If your Internet bandwidth is too poor to allow consistent use of video, please contact me to discuss it.*

2. **Attendance Policy - Tardiness & Early Departures:** Refer to current DPT Student Handbook “Attendance and Classroom Behavior” for DPT Program policy. Additional course-specific policy is as follows:

- Attendance at all classes/labs is expected. **All faculty have different policies.** In this class students are expected to be on time and prepared to begin the course; therefore, students who are tardy will be penalized. I use the clock on the computer to determine when class should start. If you expect to arrive late (e.g., doctor’s appointment), you should notify me in writing by email at a minimum of 24 hours in advance.
- Please do not get up and leave during lectures without permission. This is considered disruptive behavior.
- Similarly, if you need to leave class or lab early, notify the instructor in writing at least 2 hours prior to the start of class.
- Each incidence of tardiness may result in 1% deduction from your final semester grade.
- Missing 30 minutes or more of a class or lab will be considered an absence.
- Each unexcused absence will result in a 5% deduction from your final course grade.

3. **Electronic Devices:** Refer to current DPT Student Handbook “Electronic Devices” for DPT Program policy. Additional course-specific policy is as follows:

- Lap tops are allowed for taking notes, accessing lecture/ lab material or books. Email and social media should be turned off during all class time.
- Cell phones and telecommunication devices should be in silent mode, turned off, or left outside of the classroom during lecture or presentations and labs. If any circumstance necessitates the student to have his/her cell phone turned on in the classroom, it **MUST** be discussed with the instructor **PRIOR** to class.

- Any student who is observed to be using these devices during class time without permission will be deemed to be demonstrating unprofessional behavior will be warned one time and if the behavior continues the student will be instructed to leave the classroom for the day and the class session will be considered an unexcused absence. This includes but not limited to using a laptop computer or smart phone/watch for accessing email, messaging, or the internet for purposes not related to class topics during class time.
  - If a student is consistently caught using electronic devices, the student will be contacted to meet with the instructor to discuss the problem.
  - Each subsequent incidence of using electronic devices may result in 1% deduction from the final semester grade.
  - **The taking of pictures or video during classes or labs must be approved.**
4. **Professional Behavior Policy:** See DPT Student Handbook “Attendance and Classroom Behavior”, “Professional Behaviors” and “Unprofessional Behavior:” for general program policy. Additional course-specific is as follows:
- Professional behavior will be expected in ALL class sessions and inside and outside of the classroom.
  - I expect each student to arrive to class and lab prepared and to actively participate while not being disruptive.
  - Students demonstrating unprofessional behavior will be warned one time and if the behavior continues the student will be instructed to leave the classroom for the day and the class session will be considered an unexcused absence.
  - If a student is consistently ill-prepared, not actively participating, and/or being disruptive (including leaving class during lectures), the student will be contacted to meet with the instructor to discuss the problem.
  - Each subsequent incidence of poor preparation, poor participation, and/or disruption may result in 1% deduction from the final semester grade.
  - *NOTE: The online learning environment is generally not optimally conducive to promoting a professional environment. Dogs bark and kids scream, and most of us have “offices” in bedrooms. I understand that flexibility is necessary. However, I expect students to be sitting or standing upright during class – as opposed to lying down. Lying down would not be acceptable in a face-to-face classroom. Additionally, I expect your cameras to be turned on so that we may maximize our engagement with each other; I consider having your camera on to be a component of active participation. Mute your microphone when you are not contributing to the discussion in the virtual classroom to avoid being unnecessarily disruptive.*
  - *See above attendance policy.*
  - All students are expected to wear appropriate attire for all lab sessions. Appropriate attire is discussed in the Policies and Procedures manual. Professional dress is appropriate for presentations and for all guest speakers and when representing UTEP outside of the class room (i.e. clinic visits). Shorts and tank tops or t-shirts are required for all lab sessions (JEANS OR OPEN TOED SHOES ARE NOT APPROPRIATE FOR ANY LAB SESSION). Students who are not appropriately attired will be instructed to leave the classroom for the day and the class session will be considered an unexcused absence.

- Each unexcused absence will result in a 5% reduction of your total class grade.
5. **Late or Missed Assignments and Assessments Policy:** See current DPT Student Handbook “Written Examination Policy”. Additional course-specific policy is as follows:
- All assignments will be completed in class and turned in by the end of class, unless otherwise specified.
  - Missed classes will result in missed assignment.
  - No late assignments will be accepted.
6. **Skills Check Policy:**
- not applicable
7. **Practical Exam Policy:**
- not applicable
8. **Expectations to promote Success**
- Students attaining a grade below 80% on any quiz, exam, or assignment are expected to schedule a meeting with professor. The goal is to ensure comprehension of the material, identify strategies to improve student performance, and determine if alternative teaching methods may enhance learning. Our goal is for your success.
9. **Academic Integrity (continued): In addition to the information presented above, additional course specific details follow.**
- **Junior Cohorts:** NO COURSE content will be shared with junior cohorts.
  - **Testing:** To accurately reflect the individual’s knowledge contained within their grey matter and ensure a fair, unbiased and unassisted testing, I reserve the right to control the test environment. Controls may include (non-exhaustive list) assigned seating, issued blank paper, randomized questions, use of security software (such as Respondus Lock Down Browser with webcam) and ensuring all electronics and other materials that might contain or be able to record information is stowed away from student’s access.
  - **Recording:** Students’ are not authorized to record and/or share any testing activities (quizzes, exams, skills checks, practical exams, or other testing scenarios). Further, graded assignments and activities will not be shared unless assignment directions specifically state the activity will be shared. “Recording” includes but not limited to any method used to retain information for future use to include but not limited to audio or video capture, screen shots, pictures, etc. The recording and/or sharing of graded materials is considered cheating regardless of how obtained, distributed or used (or not used).
  - **Recording:** Student recording of classroom lectures, labs, or other activities is not authorized. If you feel recording of a specific non-graded activity is needed, students must attain instructor approval PRIOR TO recording. Further, authorization by student(s) being recorded must be attained. If approved, recordings are for local, UTEP student educational use only and will not be posted to unsecure, public social media sites. Acceptable site is Microsoft OneDrive (and share the file), email through your UTEP email account.

**Course Content and Schedule:** (Note: Students will be notified of changes via Blackboard or email. Additional details may be available in supporting course documents provided by the course instructor).

**All classes are remote on Zoom and all Quizzes and Exams are on Respondus Lockdown Browser.**

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment (Readings may be added/or changed at the discretion of the instructor)
<a href="#">Week 1</a> Jan 20 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	Introduction to Physical Therapy Screening Interviewing as a Screening Tool <b>Must have Goodman book available each class</b>	Goodman: Chp 1 Goodman: Chp 2
<a href="#">Week 2</a> Jan 27 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	<b>Quiz #1</b> Physical Assessment as a Screening Tool	Goodman: Chp 4
<a href="#">Week 3</a> Feb 3 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	Pain Types and Viscerogenic Pain Patterns <b>Assignment 1 in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 3 Read Walsh Sadowski Article before class
<a href="#">Week 4</a> Feb 10 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	<b>QUIZ #2</b> Screening for Hematologic Disease & Screening for Pulmonary Disease <b>Assignment Pulm in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 5 & 7
<a href="#">Week 5</a> <b>Feb 15</b> <b>(Mon)</b> <b>8:00-9:00</b>	<b>EXAM 1 (ALL COURSE MATERIAL THROUGH Feb 10 (Hematology) Chp 1-5)</b>	
<a href="#">Week 5</a> Feb 17 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	Screening for Cardiovascular Disease <b>Dr. Shanthi Kathirvelu</b> <b>Assignment Cardio in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 6
<a href="#">Week 6</a> Feb 24 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	<b>QUIZ #3</b> Screening for Gastrointestinal Disease <b>Assignment GI in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 8

<a href="#">Week 7</a> Mar 3 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	Screening for Hepatic and Biliary Disease Screening for Urogenital <b>Assignment GU in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 9 & 10
<a href="#">Week 8</a> Mar 8 (Mon) 8:00-9:00	<b>EXAM 2 (ALL COURSE MATERIAL FROM Feb 17 THROUGH March 3 (Chp 6-10))</b>	
Mar 10 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	Screening for Endocrine and Metabolic Disease <b>Case Bob Kart in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 11
<a href="#">March 14-21</a>	<b>Spring Break</b>	
<a href="#">Week 9</a> Mar 24 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	<b>QUIZ # 4</b> Screening for Immunological Disease <b>Case Melanie Oskar in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 12
<a href="#">Week 10</a> Mar 31 (Wed) <b>Asynchronous</b>	<b>CESAR CHAVEZ DAY</b> Screening for Cancer	Goodman: Chp 13
<a href="#">Week 11</a> Apr 5 (Mon) 8:00-9:00	<b>EXAM 3 (ALL COURSE MATERIAL FROM Mar 10 THROUGH March 31 (Chp 11-13))</b>	
Apr 7 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	Screening Head, Neck, & Back <b>Case Mr. Ryan in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 14
<a href="#">Week 12</a> Apr 14 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	Screening of the Sacrum, SI & Pelvis <b>Case Mario Solis in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 15
<a href="#">Week 13</a> Apr 21 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	Screening of the Lower Quadrant <b>Case Ms. Hernandez in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 16

<u>Week 14</u> Apr 28 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	<b>QUIZ #5</b> Screening of the Shoulder and UE <b>Case Patty Robertson in class</b>	Goodman: Chp 18
<u>Week 15</u> May 5 (Wed) 3:30-5:30	Screening Chest, Breast, & Ribs <i>Wrap up and Review</i>	Goodman: Chp 17
<b>May 12</b> <b>9:00-12:00</b>	<b>Final Cumulative Exam (Chp 1-18)</b>	