

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

**PT 6606            Clinical Education in Physical Therapy IV            Spring 2019**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Credit Hours:**            6

**Contact Hours:**        480 hours, January 7, 2019 – March 29, 2019

**Schedule:**                Monday-Friday, some weekends depending on the clinic

**Coordinator/  
Instructors:**            Rhonda Manning, PT, DPT, PCS  
Office hours: by appointment  
Office # 307 747-7610  
E-mail: [rajeske@utep.edu](mailto:rajeske@utep.edu)

**Course Description:**

This course is the 4th and final full-time clinical experience for the physical therapy student. Curricular objectives are culminated in a 12-week clinical experience in a setting that will advance the student's skills in a specific area of practice. Professionalism, autonomous practice, and evidence-based practice are emphasized in all practice settings. Students must integrate all aspects of patient and practice management skills within the individual's practice setting. (12 weeks, full-time)

**Course Objectives:**

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

1. Acquire advanced clinical skills appropriate to the clinical setting as assessed by the *PT MACS*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.
  - a. Address and complete skill # 1-10 and 17 as crucial elements of PT Practice.
  - b. Complete all entry level skills and 3 specialty skills.
2. Design an outcome assessment plan that will assist the clinic to (7D31):
  - a. Assess the clinic's outcomes to make effective changes in the delivery of care. OR
  - b. Assess regulatory agency health care policies and their potential impact on the clinic's environment and practice policies (7D41). OR
  - c. Retrieve and analyze pertinent data from the clinic's EMR (7D40). OR
  - d. Assess and document safety risks of patients and providers in order for the clinic to implement strategies to improve safety. (7D37)
3. Integrate polypharmacy safety issues into the physical therapy rehabilitation of a complex patient.

**Required Texts:**

Dillon L, Gleeson P, Burgess N, et al. *Physical Therapist Manual for the Assessment of Clinical Skill*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Texas Consortium for Physical Therapy Education, Inc. 2015

Texts that will be used will be dependent on the final clinical experience site, but likely will be texts previously used in the academic curriculum. There may be texts required by the clinical site that were not used in the curriculum and this will vary depending on the clinical curriculum at the site.

**Methods of Instruction:** 12 week full time clinical final clinical experience at various practice settings of student's choice.

**Methods of Evaluation:**

The following letter grade scale is used for the UTEP Physical Therapy Program:

Letter Grade Scale	Numerical Grade Scale
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	75-79
F	Below 75
Clinical Skills and Prof Beh	55%
Polypharmacy Assignment	15%
Outcomes Assignment	25%
Attendance	5%

Lack of Service Hours will result in a percentage overall course deduction depending on number of hours lacking. See below:

Per the DPT class of 2018 Handbook:

“UTEP DPT students are expected to demonstrate the physical therapy profession’s core professional values and professional pillars (including professional duty, social responsibility, and lifelong learning). As part of this, each student is required to complete a **minimum of 24 hours of service and professional development during their 8 semesters in the program** – or an average of 3 hours per semester. See below for examples of eligible and ineligible activities. Every student must complete these hours and related documentation with his/her academic advisor PRIOR to starting his/her final 12-week final clinical experience. Failure to complete these hours will have a negative impact of the course grade for PT 6606.

- 8 hours must be related to service to the UTEP DPT Program (including its related activities with the College of Health Sciences and the university)
- 8 hours must be related to professional development and/or service to the profession
- 8 hours must be related to service to the local El Paso community Service requirements for the 8 semesters”

This requirement will count as part of the PT 6606 course grade in Spring 2019. The 24 hours of service learning/professional development will count as 9% of the total grade for this course. Each respective section will account for 3%. If a student does not have the full 8 hours in a particular section, then 3% of the total course grade will be deducted. For example if a student has 10 hours of professional development, 8 hours of service to the community but only 6 hours of service to the DPT Program, even though the total hours =24, the student will have a 3% grade deduction for not meeting the DPT Program service hours to the program.

**Course Content:**

Updated January 7, 2019

This final clinical experience is individually designed based on the student's interest of study. The practice settings will vary among students allowing them to intern in a setting that will prepare them for employment upon graduation.

**Course and Program Policy:** See PT Program Handbook for all policies on exams, electronic device use, dress code, attendance, and scholastic dishonesty. Your instructors encourage you to periodically review all handbook policies, but in light of past experiences, **particularly direct you to review the policies on cheating, accumulated knowledge, generic abilities, attendance, and the disclaimer that the syllabus is subject to change.**

Attendance is part of the grading criteria for this rotation.

\*excused days are days that follow the facility policy for time off for their employees.

Although students are not employees, they must follow the facility policies as outlined in the affiliation agreement.

Registration for this course is required in order for the University liability insurance to cover the student. If it is discovered after census day that the student is not registered, the clinical will be terminated and the student will have to make up the clinical at another date delaying graduation by as much as 1 year.

**Special Accommodations (ADA):**

“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. For additional information, visit the CASS website at <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/>

**Tentative Topic/Assignment Outline:**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Wk 1</i>	<i>Intro to clinical site</i>	
<i>Wk 2</i>	<i>Establishing own load</i>	
<i>Wk 3</i>	<i>Honing clinical reasoning skills</i>	
<i>Wk 4</i>	<i>Polypharmacy Assignment due</i>	<i>Feb 1 by midnight via blackboard</i>
<i>Wk 5</i>	<i>Part of the team</i>	
<i>Wk 6</i>	<i>Showing Independence</i>	<i>Outcomes proposal ideas due by Feb 15</i>
<i>Wk 6 &amp; 7</i>	<i>Clinical midterm visits</i>	<i>Feb 15 or 19th</i>
<i>Wk 8</i>	<i>Outcomes Assessment</i>	<i>Approval of Outcomes assignment. Final projects due by March 1</i>
<i>Wk 9</i>	<i>Contributing evidence and knowledge base</i>	
<i>Wk 10</i>	<i>Independent with pt and practice management Outcomes Assessment due</i>	<i>March 15 midnight</i>
<i>Wk 11</i>	<i>Independent with pt and practice management</i>	
<i>Wk 12</i>	<i>Final Day</i>	<i>March 29</i>

**Student Evaluation Methods:**

For all assignments submitted through the dropbox, **FOLLOW THESE RULES:**

1. Name your file YOUR LAST NAME and the name of the assignment (eg. **Dillon\_PICO**)
2. Type your name on the WORD document.

**Consequences for not following these rules will result in your assignment not being graded and earning a ZERO for the assignment. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**ATTENDANCE (5 points)**

Attendance is part of the grading criteria for this rotation. The points are as follows:

- No days missed = 5 points
- Missing up to 2 excused\* days=4 points
- Missing 3 excused days= 3 points
- Missing 4 excused days= 2 points
- Missing one or more days that are unexcused=0points and grounds for failing the course

\*excused days are days that follow the facility policy for time off for their employees. Although students are not employees, they must follow the facility policies as outlined in the affiliation agreement.

**CLINICAL SKILLS and PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR (55 points)****GRADING CRITERIA**

A traditional letter grade is earned in this course according to the criteria below for advanced clinical skills and other criteria listed in the course syllabus. Criteria that are \* are essential and ALL must be met in order to earn 55% of the course grade. In order to earn the full 55% towards the course grade, all essential\* criteria must be met. If not all are met, then a 0 will be earned for the essential criteria.

- \*1. Skills 1-10 & 17 are considered crucial elements of professional and safe behavior and a basis for all other PT practices. These skills must be addressed and completed on the final clinical experience with a “√” or a “+”. A rating of "NI" (not independent) or a rating of “U” (unacceptable) at the final rating on any skill will result in failure of the course.
- \*2. The student will follow all policies of the facility, this includes but is not limited to work schedule, dress code and other policies to which the employees must adhere. In some sites, drug testing and background checks other than UTEP’s are required and the student must follow the facility policy.
- \*3. All entry level skills in the *PT MACS, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.* must be completed with a “√” or a “+”. Three Site-Specific Skills must be completed with a “√” or a “+” by the end of the final clinical experience. The farthest right hand column on each skill will be evaluated for completeness. A rating of “U” on any skill attempted will result in failure of the course.
- \*4. The student must exhibit professional, safe and ethical behavior at ALL times during the clinical education experience. Unprofessional, unsafe, or unethical behavior during the final clinical experience will result in failure of the course regardless of the number of skills approved.
- \*5. The student must maintain basic, required health records as a component of professional responsibility. The student has been timely informed and is fully aware that these items:
  - a) proof of current CPR certification,
  - b) annual TB test,
  - c) vaccinations for Hepatitis B, Measles-Mumps-Rubella (current MMR), and Diphtheria-Tetanus (current DpT or DT) (Titers may be required)
  - d) City Wide Orientation on BBL
  - e) liability insurance
  - f) Health insurance
  - g) background check clearance
  - h) drug test clearance
 are required for all clinical experiences. Failure to provide evidence of these when requested by the facility will result in a failing grade for the course, regardless of clinical performance.
- \*6. The student must complete the ENTIRE "APTA PT Student Evaluation" and ensure that the CI has completed his/her portion. The evaluation should be discussed with and signed by the CI. **The demographic data for the CI must be completed and it is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the form is completed in its entirety.** The evaluation is found on the course BBL site AND on DPT Resources. It is also available through e-medley. If this is not possible, then a hard copy is required.
- \*7. The student must practice in a manner that meets the facility's expectations of a student participating in a final clinical experience. The VAS must be completed by the CI. A mark on or to the right of “Meets expectations for this level of experience” must be received to successfully complete the final clinical experience. A mark to the left of "Meets expectations for this level of experience” on the final assessment will result in failure of the course.
- 8. The CI information sheet must be returned by fax or e-mail to the Asst. DCE by the fifth working day.
- 9. Student self-assessments must be recorded in the *PT MACS* on all skills attempted. It is the student's responsibility to evaluate his/her own performance prior to being evaluated by the clinical instructor. **The midterm must be completed by the CI prior to the midterm visit. The final ratings should be completed at the end of the rotation.**
- 10. In addition, all students are required to complete the Spanish communication skill, by the final clinical experience. If there is an opportunity to work on this skill, students must take advantage.
- \*11. All PT MACS paperwork must be complete and returned to the DCE. **Return the original, entire Progress Report and original, entire Student Evaluation with the PT MACS on the first day back to campus, beginning of April.**

**POLYPHARMACY ASSIGNMENT (15 points)**

Select a patient you have seen who is on no more than 2-4 prescription or OTC medications relevant to his/her primary diagnosis and/or PT diagnosis.

SEE BLACKBOARD FOR MORE DETAIL on assignment requirements.

1. Briefly provide a description of the patient maintaining PHI confidentiality. (1 point)
2. Complete the following table citing reference(s): (Copy and paste to a landscape view) (2 points)

Drug Name	Generic Name	Indications	Contraindications	Common Side Effects

3. How do these medications impact the PT Plan of Care? (remember to address any safety issues) (3 points)
4. Are there adverse interactions with any of the patient's current medications? Please describe. If none, describe adverse interactions with other potential medications the patient may take either prescribed or OTC. Useful drug interaction calculators are found on Epocrates or Medscape (1 point)
5. What other medications do you think might be more helpful to the patient other than those prescribed? OR is there a medication that could be removed from the current regimen? (1 point)
6. How many prescribers are there for the medication list? Briefly describe the pros and cons of the number of prescribers for this patient. (1 point)
7. Cite your references in AMA format. (1 point)

1 point per day will be deducted for late submission.

**OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT (25 points)**

In conjunction with the needs of the final clinical experience site, an outcomes assessment project needs to be completed. This assignment is site specific and must be completed with input from the CI or clinic manager. The assignment is to be mutually beneficial, that is, the objectives for the student are met and the clinic needs the service.

There are 4 choices from which to choose:

1. Assess the clinic's outcomes assessment plan (OAP) to make effective changes in the delivery of care. OR
2. Assess regulatory agency health care policies and their potential impact on the clinic's environment and practice policies OR
3. Assess biomedical informatics through retrieval and analysis of pertinent data from the clinic's EMR to determine best practice. OR
4. Assess and document safety risks of patients and providers in order for the clinic to implement strategies to improve safety in the clinic's setting.

The idea proposal is worth 1 point for clarity and timeliness and is due no later than February 15. The earlier the idea is approved by me, the better it will be for you!

## RUBRIC for OAP (24 points)

4	3-2	1
Identifies appropriate background information to support the outcomes project.	Omits 1-2 pieces of information	Omits 3 or more pieces
Formulates facility specific outcomes assessment plan that contains relevant data collection points for the project selected.	Some proposed data are not relevant to the project.	Unable to identify relevant data to develop the OAP
Proposes the assessment piece of the project for the clinic to improve outcomes.	Completes the assessment but does not link findings to improved outcomes.	Unable to complete assessment and interpretation
Outlines plans for implementation of the OAP.	Omits 1-2 key pieces in the plan.	Fails to create a feasible plan.
Follows AMA format with appropriate literature cited.	1-2 errors in AMA format and/or omits relevant literature.	Does not follow AMA format
Meets all deadlines with the clinical instructor and DCE	Missed 1-2 deadlines	Missed 3 or more deadlines.

The final product will be in a manuscript format (length is dependent upon the specific project) in a Points of View format in the *PTJ*. Follow instructions to authors at:

[https://academic.oup.com/ptj/pages/Author\\_Guidelines](https://academic.oup.com/ptj/pages/Author_Guidelines) for Points of View.

*Points of View (POV) are brief thought pieces on timely issues of concern to physical therapy, rehabilitation, and related disciplines and that relate to health care delivery systems, health policy, or patients and members of society who are interested in health and well-being. POVs frequently include calls to action. POVs are by invitation only.*

*Maximum word count =1,600 words; maximum number of tables and figures=2 (total); references should number no more than 25.*

This assignment will be graded in conjunction with the clinical instructor for completeness and usefulness to the clinic site. The final product will be a manuscript format and should contain at a minimum:

1. Introduction stating the purpose of the project.
2. Background information.
3. Proposed methods of assessment
4. Proposed improved outcomes for the clinic.
5. Plan for implementation of change(s) if necessary or for continuation of current practice.
6. Complete reference list in AMA format