



Doctor of Physical Therapy

The mission of the Alvernia University Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program is to pursue academic excellence in preparing the next generation of autonomous physical therapist clinicians. By challenging students to think critically, act professionally and serve altruistically, the program endeavors to develop graduates who are lifelong learners, reflective professionals, engaged citizens and ethical leaders with moral courage. Graduates will be prepared to assume a leadership role in the ever-changing healthcare environment as Doctors of Physical Therapy who are committed to clinical competence and the application and perpetuation of evidence-based knowledge.

As a Doctor of Physical Therapy graduate, you'll be prepared to engage in evidence-based clinical care, understand your rights and responsibilities as a member of a doctoring profession and possess the required knowledge and skill to change the lives of those whom you serve. Consistent with the vision of the American Physical Therapy Association and Alvernia University, the DPT Program endeavors to develop graduates who are "ethical leaders with moral courage" and prepared to assume a leadership role in addressing the health-related concerns that society faces.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following prerequisite courses must be completed with a final grade of "C" or better:

- Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II - 4 credits each with lab
- Biology - 3-4 credits
- Chemistry I and II - 4 credits each with lab
- Physics I and II - 4 credits each with lab
- Social Sciences - 6-9 credits (Psychology, Sociology/Anthropology, Humanities)
- Statistics - 3 credits
- English Composition/Writing - 3 credits

Additional admission requirements include:

- An official transcript from each four-year accredited university attended revealing a:
 - Cumulative GPA of 3.0 (4+3) or 3.25 (3+3) or better
 - Science GPA of 3.0 (4+3 and 3+3) or better
- A minimum of 100 hours of observation, which includes experiences in both outpatient and inpatient physical therapy settings (4+3 and 3+3)
- Three letters of reference from a: licensed PT, professor, other non-family member (4+3); licensed PT, Alvernia professor, other non-family member (3+3)
- GRE taken within the past 5 years with a minimum score of 150 on Verbal and Quantitative and 3.5 on Analytical (4+3 only) (Alvernia Code 1619) (www.ets.org)
- Two written essay questions (4+3 and 3+3)
- International applicants for whom English is a second language must submit official TOEFL results (www.ets.org). Transcripts from a university outside of the United States must be evaluated by an independent service (www.wes.org).

THE PROGRAM

The Alvernia University Doctor of Physical Therapy program achieved the status of candidacy from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education in November 2014.*

This clinical post-graduate doctoral degree program is available in a 4+3 year curricular format, meaning prospective students with an earned bachelor's degree from a four-year accredited institution can earn their degree in three years.

An accelerated 3+3 format is also available for admitted Alvernia undergraduates studying Biochemistry, Biology, Healthcare Science or Psychology. A limited number of seats are available that will be offered to students on a competitive basis. This option will enable students to complete their undergraduate training and doctoral degree within six years.

Doctor of Physical Therapy

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE SEQUENCE

Fall - Semester 1	Credits	Spring - Semester 2	Credits
DPT 500: Gross Anatomy & Histology DPT 501: Development Through the Lifespan DPT 504: Foundations of Physical Therapy DPT 508: Physical Therapy Procedures I DPT 522: Clinical Practice I TOTAL	5 4 3 4 1 17	DPT 502: Kinesiology DPT 509: Foundations of Clinical Exam and Eval DPT 516: Musculoskeletal PT Practice I DPT 520: Neuromuscular PT Practice I DPT 523: Clinical Practice II TOTAL	4 4 4 4 1 17
Summer - Semester 3	Credits	Fall - Semester 4	Credits
DPT 524: Clinical Practice III (May-June) DPT 505: Education and Communication in PT TOTAL	6 3 9	DPT 604: Health Care Policy & Issues in PT DPT 612: Foundations of Clinical Research I DPT 616: Musculoskeletal PT Practice II DPT 620: Neuromuscular PT Practice II DPT 628: Cardiopulmonary PT Practice I DPT 622: Clinical Practice IV TOTAL	3 3 4 4 3 1 18
Spring - Semester 5	Credits	Summer - Semester 6	Credits
DPT 608: Physical Therapy Procedures II DPT 617: Musculoskeletal PT Practice III DPT 621: Neuromuscular PT Practice III DPT 629: Cardiopulmonary PT Practice II DPT 623: Clinical Practice V TOTAL	4 4 4 4 1 17	DPT 624: Clinical Practice VI (July-August) TOTAL	6 6
Fall - Semester 7	Credits	Spring - Semester 8	Credits
DPT 704: Administration and Management in PT DPT 708: Management of Medical/Surgical Conditions, Diagnostics and Pharmacotherapeutics DPT 712: Foundations of Clinical Research II DPT 713: Clinical Research Seminar I DPT 732: Integumentary PT Practice DPT 801-809: Electives TOTAL	2 4 2 3 3 3 17	DPT 724: Clinical Practice VII (January-March) DPT 714: Clinical Research Seminar II TOTAL	8 3 11
Summer - Semester 9	Credits	Electives (must choose 1, may audit a 2nd)	Credits
DPT 725: Clinical Practice VIII (April-June) DPT 810: Comprehensive Examination TOTAL TOTAL CREDITS/CONTACT HOURS	8 1 9 121	DPT 801: Integumentary Physical Therapy Practice DPT 802: Pediatric Physical Therapy Practice DPT 803: Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy DPT 804: Advanced Neuromuscular Rehabilitation DPT 805: Acute Care Physical Therapy Practice DPT 806: Sports Physical Therapy DPT 807: Advanced Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy Practice	

CONTACT INFORMATION

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
 graduate@alvernia.edu
 1.888.ALVERNIA, ext. 6

DR. CHRISTOPHER H. WISE, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, MTC, ATC
 christopher.wise@alvernia.edu | 610.230.5708
 DPT Program Director & Associate Professor of Physical Therapy

* Effective November 12, 2014, the Physical Therapy Program at Alvernia University has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314; phone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org). Candidate for Accreditation is a pre-accreditation status of affiliation with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education that indicates that the program is progressing toward accreditation and may matriculate students in technical/professional courses. Candidate for Accreditation is not an accreditation status nor does it assure eventual accreditation.