



METHODIST UNIVERSITY



DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY



MISSION

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Methodist University advances society's health and well-being by cultivating competent, compassionate, movement-system-focused physical therapists who exemplify contemporary evidence-based skills, professionalism, and collaborative teamwork.

VISION

The Methodist University Doctor of Physical Therapy program cultivates adaptable, innovative practitioners dedicated to serving all communities, advancing the profession, and navigating the evolving healthcare landscape with integrity and resilience to meet society's needs.

CORE VALUES

The core values of the Methodist University DPT program represent how all program constituents strive for the highest standards, reaching **P.E.A.K.** performance.

Professionalism

Excellence in Practice

Acting in Collaboration

Kindness in Service-Oriented Work

ACCREDITATION

Regional

Methodist University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate, baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees.

Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Methodist University. Since 2015, Methodist University has been accredited as a Level V Doctoral degree-granting institution to offer the Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree.





CAPTE

Methodist University received accreditation status effective May 2, 2018.

The Methodist University Doctor of Physical Therapy Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 3030 Potomac Avenue, Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22305-3085; telephone: 703.706.3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; web site: capteonline.org. If needing to contact the program/institution directly, call 910.630.7476 or email shall@methodist.edu.

CAPTE accreditation of a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant program satisfies state educational requirements in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Thus, students graduating from CAPTE-accredited physical therapist and physical therapist assistant education programs are eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination and apply for licensure in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



WHAT IS A DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY?

Doctors of Physical Therapy (DPTs) are movement experts recognized as having a robust appreciation of movement science. DPTs take active roles in educating and collaborating with patients, families, and healthcare providers for wellness and prevention, fitness, and rehabilitation to improve the quality of life of an individual. DPTs evaluate and treat individuals of all ages, from newborns to people at the end of life. Many patients have injuries, disabilities, or other health conditions that need treatment. DPTs also care for people who want to become healthier or prevent future problems. DPTs examine each person and then develop an individualized treatment plan to prevent, correct, and alleviate atypical movement to improve the ability to move, reduce or manage pain, restore function, and prevent disability. DPTs can profoundly affect people's lives by helping them achieve their fitness goals, regain or maintain their independence, and lead active lives.

Physical therapists practice in a wide variety of settings including, but not limited to:

- Hospitals & Emergency Rooms
- Long-Term Care Hospitals
- Inpatient & Outpatient Rehabilitation Centers
- Skilled Nursing & Sub-acute Care Facilities
- Assisted Living Facilities
- Patients' Homes
- Private Practices
- Veterans and Federal Health Care
- Fitness and Sports Training Centers
- Office and Industrial Workplaces
- Schools and Universities
- Research Settings

Physical therapists often pursue professional development opportunities, including post-professional degrees.

AFTER DPT GRADUATION

Licensed physical therapists may choose to pursue a [residency or fellowship program](#) to enhance their knowledge and practice.

A clinical residency is designed to advance a physical therapist's preparation as a provider of patient care services in a defined area of clinical practice. It combines opportunities for ongoing clinical supervision and mentoring with a theoretical basis for advanced practice and scientific inquiry.

A clinical fellowship is a planned program of post-professional clinical and didactic education for a physical therapist who demonstrates clinical expertise in an area of clinical practice related to the practice focus of the fellowship. (Fellows are frequently post-residency prepared or they are board-certified clinical specialists.)

Physical therapists also have the opportunity to become board-certified clinical specialists through the [American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties](#). Specialization is the process by which a physical therapist builds on a broad base of professional education and practice to develop a greater depth of knowledge and skills related to a particular area of practice. PTs are not required to be certified in order to practice in a specific area.





PREREQUISITES

Education

A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. No specific degree is required. An overall GPA of 3.0 or higher is required.

Courses and GPA Requirements

- ♦ A minimum GPA of 3.0 and a minimum prerequisite course GPA of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale, and have no prerequisite courses with a grade less than a "C."
- ♦ Candidates are expected to have no more than two prerequisite courses remaining to be taken after they apply. However, exceptions may be considered at the discretion of the Admissions Committee. All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to starting the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.
- ♦ Prerequisite courses are as follows:
 - Chemistry, 8 credits: General College Chemistry I and II with labs
 - Physics, 8 credits: General College Physics I and II with labs
 - Biology, 8 credits: General Biology I and II with labs (Botany, Ecology, and Zoology courses are not acceptable) or General Biology I and upper-level Biology with labs. Suggested courses include Microbiology, Embryology, and Cellular Physiology. Exercise Physiology may be accepted, at the discretion of the admissions committee, in lieu of the upper-level Biology course.
 - Human Anatomy and Physiology, 8 credits: Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II or individual courses of Human Anatomy and Human Physiology with a lab in each
 - Statistics, 3 credits: Introductory Statistics
 - Psychology, 6 credits: Two semesters of Psychology including General Psychology and one additional Psychology course. Suggested courses include Developmental Psychology, Child Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, or Psychology of Disability.
- ♦ Biology, Anatomy, Physiology, and Chemistry prerequisite courses must have been completed within 10 years prior to application. Work experience or graduate-level education in a related field (e.g., athletic training, exercise physiology, etc.) may be accepted, at the discretion of the Admissions Committee, in lieu of the 10-year prerequisite course time limitation.
- ♦ **Advanced placement credits are not accepted for prerequisite courses.**

Testing

For non-native speakers of English, a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) will also be required.

- ♦ TOEFL-iBT minimum composite score of 89 with minimum subsets; 24 Writing, 26 Speaking, 21 Reading and Comprehension, and 18 Listening.
- ♦ Comparable scores would be 220 on the computer-based exam, 560 on the paper-based exam, a TSE of 50 and/or a TWE of 4.5.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The MU DPT Program participates in the [Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service](#) (PTCAS).

All candidates must submit the following to PTCAS:

- Official transcripts from all institutions of higher education attended, even if the applicant did not receive a degree.
- TOEFL, if applicable.
- Personal essay
- Three letters of recommendation from:
 - ◇ Faculty member in the applicant's major and
 - ◇ Licensed physical therapist (not related to the applicant) and
 - ◇ Another faculty member or licensed physical therapist (not related to the applicant)

The MUDPT Program does not require applicants to take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).



APPLICANT REVIEW PROCESS

Consistent with the University admission policy, admission to the Methodist University DPT Program is without regard or discrimination on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, or status with regard to public assistance or disability. Becoming a physical therapist requires the completion of an education program that is intellectually and physically challenging. Therefore, candidates must be able to perform the [essential functions of a physical therapist](#) with reasonable independence. Reasonable accommodations do not except students from performing fundamental tasks inherent to the profession of a physical therapist.

Before submitting to the Admissions Committee, the DPT Program Admissions Director will verify all courses and grades entered by the applicant. In addition, the Admissions Director will confirm that the applicant has completed all prerequisite coursework and make note of any outstanding courses. Once the application has been verified, the information will be forwarded to the DPT Program Admissions Committee for the initial phase of the admissions process.

Phase I

The initial phase of the admissions process is designed to ensure that students enrolled in the DPT Program possess the academic credentials to successfully complete the program of study. Several criteria are used during this phase of the admissions process to score the applicants. The Admissions Committee will use the following criteria:

- Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)
- GPA of prerequisite coursework
- Personal essay
- Additional factors that may affect the applicant's score during Phase I of the admissions process include:
 - ◇ Assessment of the applicant's volunteer experience, clinical employment, or other clinical activities before applying. While clinical experience is not required, it is a desired qualification for admission into the DPT Program.
 - ◇ Graduate-level GPA. Students with graduate-level experience earn additional points based on their cumulative GPA of all graduate-level courses.

The outcome of Phase I of the admissions process will determine if the applicant is offered the opportunity to participate in Phase II.





Phase II

Phase II of the application process involves interviewing with DPT faculty. Following completion of Phase I & II, the faculty and Admissions Committee shall identify whether the applicant has met the criteria for acceptance to the DPT Program.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

- ◆ Completion of all didactic and clinical education courses with a minimum GPA of 3.0
- ◆ Complete all courses within the maximum timeframe of 150 percent of the length of the program in years (i.e., 4.5 years)
- ◆ Good standing in character, conduct, and ability as described in the Professional Behavior and Essential Functions Policy
- ◆ Meeting all financial obligations to the University.
- ◆ Completion of all program requirements (example: professional meeting attendance, etc.)
- ◆ Recommended by the faculty for graduation



CURRICULUM

Fall | Year I, Term I

Course	Title	Credits
DPT 5010	Medical Physiology and Diseases for PT	4
DPT 5100	Foundations for PT Practice	1
DPT 5120	Psychosocial Aspects of Physical Therapy	3
DPT 5140	Teaching and Learning	2
DPT 5200	Human Anatomy I	4
DPT 5300	Introduction to Research	2
DPT 5500	Physical Therapy Tests and Measures	3
Total Semester Credit Hours		19

Spring | Year I, Term II

Course	Title	Credits
DPT 5180	Documentation for Physical Therapists	1
DPT 5220	Human Anatomy II	4
DPT 5400	Biomechanics	3
DPT 5520	Foundations of Acute Care and Patient Care Skills	3
DPT 5540	Biophysical Agents	3
DPT 5600	Functional Neuroanatomy	3
DPT 5900	Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy I	2
Total Semester Credit Hours		19

Summer | Year I, Term III

Course	Title	Credits
DPT 5560	Exercise Principles and Prescription	3
DPT 5710	Exercise Physiology and Wellness	4
DPT 5810	Gait and Movement Analysis	2
DPT 5850	Pharmacology for Physical Therapy	2
Total Semester Credit Hours		11

Fall | Year II, Term I

Course	Title	Credits
DPT 6010	Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy II	4
DPT 6110	Adult Neurological Physical Therapy I	3
DPT 6300	Research Design I	1
DPT 6410	Diagnostic Imaging and Medical Screening for Upper Extremity	2
DPT 6510	Geriatrics and Aging	2
DPT 6600	Integumentary Rehabilitation	2
DPT 6900	Clinical Education Experience I	1
Total Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring | Year II, Term II

Course	Title	Credits
DPT 6030	Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy III	4
DPT 6120	Pediatric Physical Therapy	4
DPT 6130	Adult Neurological Physical Therapy II	3
DPT 6320	Research Design II	1
DPT 6420	Diagnostic Imaging and Medical Screening for Lower Extremity	2
DPT 6700	Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy	3
DPT 6920	Clinical Education Experience II	1
Total Semester Credit Hours		18

Summer | Year II, Term III

Course	Title	Credits
DPT 6840	Nutrition for Physical Therapy	2
DPT 6940	Clinical Education Practicum I	5
Total Semester Credit Hours		7

Fall | Year III, Term I

Course	Title	Credits
DPT 7150	Fundamentals of Business Management and Leadership in Physical Therapy	2
DPT 7200	Prosthetics and Orthotics	3
DPT 7240	Physical Therapy for Select Populations	2
DPT 7300	Research Design III	1
DPT 7600	Comprehensive Exam	1
DPT 7700	Clinical Education Practicum II	6
Total Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring | Year III, Term II

Course	Title	Credits
DPT 7720	Clinical Education Practicum III	6
Total Semester Credit Hours		6

Total Credit Hours 110

Elective Courses

Course	Title	Credits
DPT 6950/7950	Clinical Sciences Review Course	1-6

THOMAS R. MCLEAN HEALTH SCIENCES BUILDING

The Thomas R. McLean Health Sciences Building is a 38,800-square-foot facility housing the DPT Program, Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program, and additional programs in Kinesiology and Health Care Administration.

The McLean Health Sciences Building was designed with the intention of providing innovative, collaborative, and inviting learning spaces to meet the needs of all of the health science programs. In addition to the educational and community areas designed to facilitate interprofessional interaction across the health sciences programs, the DPT Program has designated classrooms, laboratories, and office space in the building that is adequate to provide training for students.

FACILITIES

The Motion Analysis Laboratory

This laboratory space is a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data related to motor control and biomechanical analysis of human movement. The laboratory space has been designed to support a broad range of clinical and research projects to support the faculty and students in the DPT Program.

The Human Performance Laboratory

The Human Performance Laboratory (HPL) provides the faculty, students, and local community with the benefits of state-of-the-art research and education testing facilities for the purpose of promoting health, fitness, and improved functional performance.

The Cadaver Laboratory

The cadaver laboratory provides a unique experience for faculty and students to discover various anatomic structures and how they relate to human function. The MU lab allows for all students to participate in cadaver dissection, a feature that sets Methodist University apart.

In addition to these laboratory spaces, the McLean Health Sciences Building houses the following educational and research spaces:

- ♦ Motor Control and Pediatrics Laboratory
- ♦ Activities of Daily Living Laboratory
- ♦ Mobility Courtyard
- ♦ Clinical Skills Lab
- ♦ Classrooms

**Want to Learn More About
Our Facilities?**

SCAN ME



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MU FACILITY VIRTUAL TOUR

Doctor of Physical
Therapy & Doctor of
Occupational Therapy

 **METHODIST
UNIVERSITY**



MU DPT FACULTY

The collective MU DPT faculty are extraordinarily enthusiastic educators intentionally dedicated to students' professional development. The MU DPT full-time faculty represents neurologic, orthopaedic, pediatric, wound care, and women's health physical therapy specializations. The program also has over 20 adjunct faculty members who represent additional specializations and expertise in oncology, orthopedics, geriatrics, manual therapy, neurodevelopmental treatment, athletic training, pharmacy, and Fellows of the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapy. The program maintains a low student-to-faculty ratio to enrich the student learning experience through engaging teaching, mentorship, and faculty accessibility.

WHY MU DPT?

The Methodist University DPT Program (MU DPT) was established in 2015 as MU's first doctoral degree program. The MU DPT program is 33 months long and designed as a progressive educational experience to prepare future physical therapists to be integral members of the healthcare team and promote the health and wellness of society through evidence-based practice. The MU DPT program focuses on developing well-rounded practitioners capable of practicing in any healthcare setting, working with individuals of all ages, and being equipped to be servant leaders.

- State-of-the-art facilities for class activities and research opportunities
- Opportunities to have clinical rotations across the nation and internationally
- Opportunities for students to provide input on clinical education experiences
- Collaboration with other healthcare disciplines in interprofessional education experiences
- Participation in faculty-mentored research projects
- Hands-on experiences with actual patients from the community
- Faculty promote student learning and success by providing individualized attention to each student
- Individual faculty advisor guides students through the program and into their professional career
- Focus on developing physical therapist skills while fostering service to others
- Faculty that maintain clinical practice
- Great location in Fayetteville, N.C.
- 617-acre campus
- Graduate housing opportunities on campus
- Strong relationship with the U.S. military at Fort Bragg





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Methodist University does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, gender, national or ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability for otherwise qualified persons in the administration of its admissions, educational policies, scholarships, loan programs, athletics, employment, or any other university-sponsored or advertised program.

[Engage. Enrich. *Empower.*]