SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DIVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

UNM DIVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
GROUP ADVISEMENT PRESENTATION 2020

http://orthopaedics.unm.edu/pt/
HSC-UNMPTProgram@salud.unm.edu
How do I Become a Physical Therapist

- Graduate from an accredited program
  - UNM Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

- Pass the NPTE
  (national physical therapy examination)
UNM Program Length

- Begins in August
- Spans 34 months
- Several 2-4 week breaks
Three Year Curriculum

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Y1</td>
<td><strong>Foundations I</strong></td>
<td><strong>MS Concepts &amp; Mgmt I</strong></td>
<td><strong>Clinical I</strong></td>
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<td>Evidence Based PT I</td>
<td>Evidenced Based PT II</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Anatomy I</td>
<td>Anatomy II</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>MS Intervention I</td>
<td>MS Intervention II</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td><strong>Intg Clin Experience (ICE)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Break</strong></td>
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<td>Y2</td>
<td>Neurological Evaluation &amp; Treatment I</td>
<td><strong>MS Concepts &amp; Mgmt II</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ICE</strong></td>
<td><strong>MS Intervention II</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Clinical II</strong></td>
<td><strong>Clinical IV</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Adv Ortho</strong></td>
<td><strong>Clinical III</strong></td>
<td><strong>Clinical V</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Autonomous Practice</strong></td>
<td><strong>CAPSTONE V</strong></td>
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**Notes:**
- **ICE** stands for Integ Clin Experience.
- **Break** indicates a break week.
- The curriculum is divided into academic years (Y1, Y2, Y3).
#1 Get as much diverse exposure to the profession as you can

Volunteer experience is considered the same as paid work experience.

45 hours **required**
- “the more the better”
- quality vs quantity
- Diversify settings

Helpful to observe in a variety of PT settings

Wanting to help people is a noble cause however there are many types of jobs where you can help people. Being a PT is wonderful but it is not for everyone. Observation hours help you to understand the immense knowledge needed to treat patients and some of the complicated issues that go into being a PT. Knowing you have considered the career in its entirety and can talk about your ideas and goals as a future PT helps our program have confidence you have the grit to make it through the program.

**Primary goal:**
“Is P.T. the profession for me?”
#2 Learn about the mission/vision of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)

- Source of information about the physical therapy profession.
- 1-800-999-APTA
- www.apta.org
#3 Take 36 hours of science prerequisites

Prerequisites:
May be taken at any accredited college or university
- Chemistry (8 hrs.)
- Physics (8 hrs.)
- Anatomy & Physiology (8 hrs.)
- Statistics (3 hrs.)
- Psychology (6 hrs. - Developmental and/or Abnormal Psych recommended)
- Exercise Physiology 300-level or above (3 hrs.) (can substitute with higher level physiology)

- You should have all prerequisites completed by December 2020.
- You are permitted to have one final prerequisite to be taken during the 2020 Spring Semester.
- If you have more than one (1) outstanding prerequisite class yet to take after the December 2020 academic update, your application will be considered incomplete and will not move forward.
Restrictions on prerequisites

- Pass/Fail or CR/NC options are NOT acceptable for any of the pre-requisite courses.
- If you are trying to use Advanced Placement credits for a prerequisite class, please contact us so we can verify that it meets the specific class requirements and is listed appropriately on your transcript.
- Anatomy/physiology prerequisites must be taken within the last 5 years. There is no expiration date on the other prerequisite classes that meet the acceptable course, credit and lab criteria.

Please use the highest course grade possible for your prerequisite selection. You may substitute a higher-level class for the prerequisite as long as you have taken the lower level required class.

- As an example: you took Chemistry 1 + lab (4 cr.) your sophomore year and earned a B. Your junior year you took biochemistry + lab (4 cr.) a higher-level chemistry that had a prerequisite requirement of Chemistry 1 and you earned an A. You may use that higher-level chemistry class with the A, to match our prerequisites.
Prerequisite Requirements

• You must have a grade of C or better in all prerequisite courses
• Must have a prerequisite GPA as defined by PTCAS of at least a 3.0

How competitive are you? Compare to the stats below.

Average PREREQUISITE GPA Class of 2023: 3.68
Policy on Web-Based Prerequisite Courses

For the University of New Mexico (and PTCAS) to accept credits earned from a web-based course, that course must appear on a transcript from an accredited college or university. Therefore, if the online course you have taken or plan to take is offered by UNM or CNM (or any other accredited college or university), and it satisfies our requirement, the course will be accepted.

All course work is verified through PTCAS. If you have questions regarding validity of an institution please contact PTCAS directly.
Online Course - Clinical Exercise Physiology offered by the UNM PT Program

PEP 351 Clinical Exercise in Physical Therapy/ CRN # 66871 / 3 credit hours

This course addresses the principles of the physiology of the human body during exercise with emphasis on the cardiopulmonary and neuromuscular systems. In addition, this course addresses an overview of selected pathological conditions of these systems relevant to the practice of physical therapy.

Prerequisite: By permission of the instructor, Deborah Cornish, PT, MA dcornish19@unm.edu
#3 Get a Bachelor’s Degree

Any Degree is Acceptable

Applicants must have a **cumulative/overall GPA** as defined by PTCAS of at least a 2.67

**Average CUMULATIVE GPA Class of 2022: 3.58**
#4 Take the GRE

General test
Must be taken within 5 years of application
Minimum Score Requirement:
  Quantitative 20th percentile
  Verbal 25th percentile

Deadline for taking the GRE:
  October 1st, 2020
GRE: www.gre.com

Submit scores to UNM PT Program Institution Code: 7670

Average GRE Scores Class of 2023:
  Verbal Percentile: 60th
  Quantitative Percentile: 46th
GRE Assistance

Prep classes and books are helpful

GRE Intensive Prep Course offered throughout the year at Anderson School of Business
https://mba.mgt.unm.edu/testprep/

Other classes offered online and in person
- https://www.princetonreview.com
- https://www.kaptest.com

HSC Office for Diversity Test Prep Programs- Apply Online!
- https://hsc.unm.edu/programs/diversity/student-programs/test-prep.html
#6 Apply on PTCAS

http://www.ptcas.org

Application portal opens in June/July

Applications due completed except for course work in progress by October 1st
Course Work in Progress

Applications are due October 1\textsuperscript{st}

- all classes being taken in the Fall of 2020 when applications are submitted should be listed in PTCAS as in progress
- All classes you are planning to take in the spring of 2021 should be listed in PTCAS as in progress
  - only 1 of these can be a prerequisite class

- Fall transcripts with pre-requisite courses should be updated on PTCAS in December during the \textit{academic update} when grades are received.

Must complete Bachelor degree by \textbf{May of 2021}

- June of 2021 for trimester curriculum
Total Admission Requirements

- Baccalaureate degree in any field
- Overall/cumulative GPA of > 2.67
- Prerequisite classes with a GPA ≥ 3.0
- GRE: Quant ≥ 20%, Verbal ≥ 25%
- Essays on PTCAS
- 2 Letters of Reference
  (1 must come from a PT)
- In-Person Interview (required)
  - January 23rd 2021
How to Apply
Application Process

Individuals applying to the Physical Therapy Program must apply through the PTCAS

http://www.ptcas.org/home.aspx
(Central Application Service) by October 1st, 2020
PTCAS Materials

1. Complete online application
2. Enter all college courses taken and GRE scores
3. Send an official transcript from each school attended (update December 2020 when transcript is available for courses in progress during time of application) to PTCAS
4. Complete PTCAS essays & documents
5. Upload your reference contact information
6. $140 Application fee (financial assistance may be available through PTCAS)
1. PTCAS Application Home – Create a profile
2. Select programs you want to apply to

Verify you meet requirements for each individual program. We are not all the same!
3. Complete your personal information
4. Complete supporting information
5. Create reference request

Please inform the people you select to write your reference letters that the UNM Division of Physical Therapy cannot contact them for more information about you, they need to be thorough and include everything they want the UNM Division of Physical Therapy to know about you in their reference letter.
6. Click on the Program and complete all documents and questions. Verify your pre-requisites fit the criteria for each program.
7. Enter all colleges attended
8. Enter your coursework from every transcript of every college attended
9. Match pre-requisites from your transcripts. Choose the best fit with the highest grade!
Prerequisite Substitution

May take higher numbered course with the same classification and use it as a pre-requisite selection

If you have retaken a class use the class with the highest grade available to select for your pre-requisite requirement
10. Enter your GRE – make sure you have your official scores sent to our program (7670)
11. If Applicable, complete the NM Residency Application found in PTCAS

If you are a New Mexico Resident please complete the NM Residency form found on our web site

Upload the needed documents (3) on PTCAS

1. The completed form
2. A copy of your driver's license
3. A copy of your vehicle registration or other verification of residency.

***IF YOU ARE NOT A RESIDENT OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, YOU NEED NOT COMPLETE THE RESIDENCY FORM
12. Check Status Often
In-Person Interview

• January 23rd, 2021
• Student panel (3 students from 2nd year)
• Panel of 3 interviewers (faculty & clinicians)
• Knowledge of Physical Therapy issues and problem-solving abilities
• Volunteer experience helpful
• Only the top 75-80 applicants will be offered an interview

Interview format is subject to change at any time.
Final Selection

Offers are made to the top 30 applicants with up to 20 alternates

Strong preference is given to residents of the State of New Mexico
Nondiscrimination Policy

The admission procedure in the Physical Therapy Program at the University of New Mexico does not discriminate against any student on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, race, color, religion, age, national origin or physical handicap.