

**State University of New York
Canton, New York
Physical Therapist Assistant Program
PHTA 207 – Clinical III
COURSE OVERVIEW, OBJECTIVES, & ASSIGNMENTS**

Course Description:

This clinical practicum correlates with content taught in courses PHTA 100 through PHTA 206. The student is assigned to a physical therapy clinical site where he/she will work under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist or registered physical therapist assistant. This will provide the student with the opportunity to put the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom and laboratory into practice in a clinical setting. The PTA student will demonstrate clinical problem solving skills based on academic knowledge and previous lab and clinical experiences. This experience will take place during the fourth semester and will last seven full time weeks.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course, the student physical therapist assistant will:

1. Communicate verbally and non-verbally with the patient, the physical therapist, health care delivery personnel, and others in an effective, appropriate and capable manner
2. Recognize individual and cultural differences and respond appropriately in all aspects of physical therapy services
3. Exhibit conduct that reflects practice standards that are legal, ethical and safe
4. Demonstrate awareness of role in an emergency situation according to facility policy and procedures.
5. Communicate an understanding of the plan of care developed by the physical therapist to achieve short and long term goals and intended outcomes
6. Demonstrate competency in implementing selected components of interventions identified in the plan of care established by the physical therapist
7. Demonstrate competency in performing components of data collection skills essential for carrying out the plan of care
8. Adjust interventions within the plan of care established by the physical therapist in response to patient clinical indications and report this to the supervising physical therapist
9. Recognize when the direction to perform an intervention is beyond that which is appropriate for the PTA and initiates clarification with the PT.
10. Recognize when interventions should not be provided due to changes in the patient's status and report this to the supervising physical therapist
11. Report changes in the patient's status to the physical therapist
12. Participate in educating patients and caregivers as directed by the supervising PT.
13. Provide patient related instruction to patients, family members, and caregivers based on the plan of care established by the supervising PT
14. Complete thorough, accurate, logical, concise, timely, and legible documentation that follows guidelines and specific documentation formats required by state practice acts, the practice setting and other regulatory agencies
15. Participate in discharge planning and follow-up as directed by the supervising physical therapist
16. Provide accurate and timely information for billing and reimbursement purposes
17. Demonstrate a commitment to meeting the needs of the patients and consumers
18. Conduct self in a manner consistent with that of a healthcare provider.
19. Demonstrate the ability to self-assess and awareness of the importance of lifelong learning
20. Interact with other members of the health care team in patient care and non-patient care activities.
21. Participate in department/organization quality assurance process
22. Educate others about the role of the physical therapist assistant
23. Instruct other members of the healthcare team, via an inservice presentation, using instructional techniques and materials appropriate for the audience

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

For successful completion of this course, each student must complete seven full-time weeks of clinical experience. There are written assignments which must also be completed by the assigned due dates and submitted online.

Required documentation for this clinical affiliation course is as follows:

- APTA Student Evaluation of Clinical Experience
- Journal/Discussion Board (weekly on Angel)
- CSIF update for assigned clinic (via Angel)
- Weekly Planning Forms
- Inservice Presentation (Angel)
 - Plan and present an inservice to the staff at your facility. Use your poster topic as the basis for your inservice, unless your CI has a topic that he/she prefers that you use. Be sure to discuss your topic with your CI and obtain his/her approval.
 - Prepare and present the inservice to a group within the clinical facility. Plan that your inservice will last for 15-20 minutes. You will hand in an outline of your presentation as well as any handouts that you may have developed for the inservice.
 - The outline should include the following:
 - Topic of the inservice
 - Mode of presentation(i.e. verbal, power point, handouts, etc)
 - Framework of information presented
 - Number/type of attendants.
 - References used in development of the presentation. (Remember that if you use photos, they must be referenced as well)
 - Develop an assessment form that your CI will use to provide you with feedback following your presentation. Turn in this assessment form as well.
 - This assignment is due at the end of the 7th week.
- Patient exercise program (Angel)
 - Provide a description of an exercise program that you have implemented for a patient within the plan of care established by the PT.
 - Choose a patient at the beginning of your affiliation that you should be able to follow over a period of time (a few weeks).
 - Describe this patient's exercise program, including the following information:
 - Description of the patient diagnosis & pertinent treatment goals
 - Description of the exercises implemented. You may include pictures/diagrams of the exercises if you think it would be helpful, but this is not required.
 - Rationale for the exercises you chose
 - Be sure to carefully describe your reasoning for choosing the exercises you did, relate your choice of exercises to the patient goals, and be specific about the goal of the exercise (i.e. which muscle(s) are you targeting, are you strengthening or stretching, etc.)
 - Assessment of the patient goals following implementation of the program
 - This assignment is due at the end of the 4th week.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Students will be evaluated by the Clinical Instructor using the APTA CPI via CPI Web. Students will be given a letter grade for this course. Grades are determined through written and oral evaluations by the clinical instructor and the ACCE. Grades will be assigned after both the clinical instructor and the ACCE have consulted on the student's performance; and all assignments have been completed and turned in. The ACCE is ultimately responsible for assignment of the final grade.