Physical Therapy (PT) School Preparation at the University of Oregon

Did you know?
- Physical therapists (PTs) examine each patient and develop a unique plan to increase mobility, reduce pain, restore function, and prevent disability.
- Physical therapists can treat patients in a variety of settings, including hospitals, private practices, outpatient clinics, schools, sports and fitness facilities, and nursing homes.
- The cost of PT school varies depending on location, size of the school, and public/private status. Median annual tuition and fees were $14,427 for public in-state programs and $31,716 for private programs in 2013 (APTA).

Physical Therapy Application Preparation
- Completing the prerequisite courses is just one aspect of the process. You must also have a well-rounded application consisting of experience (shadowing, volunteer work, undergraduate research, life experience, etc.), letters of recommendation, GRE (not all programs require this), and a strong admissions essay.
- Once your application is submitted, you may be required to complete a secondary/supplemental application and attend an on-campus interview (program specific).
- PT schools require applicants to have 20-400 observation hours in a physical therapy setting. Researching individual program requirements is an important step!
- Applying to PT school is a year-long process. Students applying in their final year at UO will have a gap year before starting PT school. Students can work, take courses, travel, etc. during the year.

Online Resources
Health Professions Program Website, healthprofessions.uoregon.edu
American Physical Therapy Association, apta.org
Exploring Health Careers, explorehealthcareers.org

Campus Resources
- Student organizations (Pre-PT/OT club)
- Center for Undergraduate Research and Engagement
- TLC study support
- Duck Nest
- Global Education Oregon
- Academic departments
- Holden Center
- TLC GRE preparation
- HPP workshops
- Career Center

Advising
Call 541-346-3211 and ask to schedule an appointment with an HPP advisor.
Or visit us in Oregon Hall, 1st floor, health@uoregon.edu
Sample 4-Year Plan
The chart below illustrates one way physical therapy school prerequisites can fit into a 4-year plan. Keep in mind that a good graduation plan is as unique as the student following it. Math placement, major, transfer credits, application timeline, and other factors will help shape your own decisions, and health professions advisors are here to help along the way!

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<th>First Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classes</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Summer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CH 221 &amp; 227 MATH 112</td>
<td>CH 222 &amp; 228 MATH 251</td>
<td>CH 223 &amp; 229 Psychology</td>
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<td>Experience</td>
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| Second Year |         |         |         |         |
| Classes     | BI 211 HPHY 211 | BI 212 HPHY 212 | BI 213 or BI 214 | Math 243 |
| Experience  |         |         |         |         |

| Third Year  |         |         |         |         |
| Classes     | HPHY 321 HPHY 322 | HPHY 323 HPHY 324 | HPHY 325 Upper-division ENG lit (>1) |         |
| Experience  |         |         |         |         |

| Fourth Year |         |         |         |         |
| Classes     | PHYS 201 & 204 Psychology | PHYS 202 & 205 | PHYS 203 & 206 |         |
| Experience  |         |         |         |         |

Prerequisites vary by school. Research specific schools that interest you to be sure you meet any additional requirements.

These courses are prerequisites for UO’s anatomy & physiology sequence. They are not typically prerequisites for PT school.

BI 214 is a prerequisite for many upper-division courses that may be recommended/required by PT schools (genetics, microbiology, cell biology, etc.).