

Pre-physical Therapy

Departments
and Programs
in the College
of Science

Biochemistry &
Biophysics

Biology

Botany & Plant
Pathology

Chemistry

Environmental
Sciences

Geosciences

Mathematics

Microbiology

Molecular &
Cellular Biology*

Physics

Pre-professional
Programs in the
Health Sciences

Professional
Science Masters*

Science &
Mathematics
Education*

Statistics*

Zoology

*graduate program only

... a pre-professional option within a General Science bachelor's degree. Physical therapists (PTs) provide services that help regain function, improve mobility, relieve pain, and prevent the onset of permanent physical disabilities of patients suffering from injuries or disease through the use of a variety of techniques. PTs work cooperatively with other members of the health care team in a wide variety of settings with patients from all age groups. Their patients include individuals recovering from a stroke, accident victims and individuals with disabling conditions such as low-back pain, arthritis, heart disease, fractures, head injuries, and cerebral palsy.

Career Opportunities

The U.S. Department of Labor expects the employment of physical therapists to grow much faster than average for all occupations through 2014. Job opportunities should be particularly good in acute hospital, rehabilitation, and orthopedic settings. The aging population, premature infants, trauma victims, and cardiac patients all benefit from technological advances in medicine that require therapeutic services. Widespread interest in health promotion also should increase demand for physical therapy services. A growing number of employers are using physical therapists to evaluate worksites, develop exercise programs, and teach safe work habits to employees in the hope of reducing injuries in the workplace.

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. *Occupational Handbook 2006-07*

Preparing for Pre-physical Therapy Study

The pre-physical therapy program at OSU is designed to help students fulfill admission requirements for most physical therapy schools across the United States.

Individual applicants are selected on a competitive basis. Students must meet both pre-professional requirements and general education requirements at the school to which admission is desired.

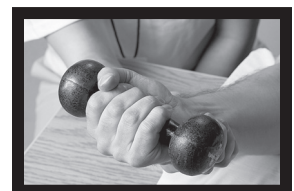
Therefore, students should check the prerequisite courses at each school carefully and work closely with admission officers to see that all requirements are fulfilled.

Completion of the four-year pre-physical therapy program in the College of Science at OSU leads

to a Bachelor of Science degree.

Satisfactory completion of the OSU curriculum facilitates but does not guarantee admission to a school of physical therapy since applicants are accepted on a competitive basis- usually after their junior or senior year.

Students from some western states that do not have state-supported physical therapy programs may obtain support for the final two professional years of training through the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Professional Student Exchange Program. More information may be obtained from <http://www.wiche.edu>. The deadline for applying to WICHE is October 15 of the year preceding entrance to physical therapy school.



General Science/ Pre-physical Therapy

Course of Study

The first-year student in pre-physical therapy will take courses in general chemistry, general psychology, mathematics, and pre-therapy orientation. The sophomore year will include organic chemistry and general courses in biological science, computer science, and statistics. During the junior and senior years, students will take subjects that are more directly related to their future professional training. They will include human anatomy and physiology, abnormal psychology, human development, and kinesiology. Graduation requirements must include 48 credits for the baccalaureate core (BC), consisting of writing/speech (9 cr.), mathematics (3 cr.), fitness (3 cr.), physical and biological sciences (12 cr.), western culture/cultural diversity/literature & arts/social processes/difference, power, and discrimination (15 cr.), and contemporary global issues/science, technology and society (6 cr.).

Sample Curriculum

An official graduation checklist may be obtained from an advisor.

Freshman Year			Sophomore Year		
		credits			credits
General Chemistry	CH 121, 122, 123 or CH 221, 222, 223	15	Organic Chemistry	CH 331, 332, 337	12
Math Sciences	MTH 112	4	General Biology	BI 211, 212, 213	12
Computers: Applic. & Implica.	CS 101	4	Statistics	ST 201	3
General Sociology	SOC 204 or 206	3	Cell & Molecular Biology	BI 314	4
General Psychology	PSY 201, 202	6	BC: Writing II	WR 222	3
Pre-therapy	EXSS 132	2	BC: Other courses & electives		13
BC: Writing I	WR 121	3			
BC: Fitness		3			
BC: Other courses & electives		5			

Junior Year			Senior Year		
		credits			credits
Human Anatomy and Physiology	Z 331, 332, 333, 341, 342, 343	15	Movement, Skill Learning & Control	EXSS 411	3
General Physics	PH 201, 202, 203	15	Abnormal Psychology	PSY 381	3
Human Lifespan Development	PSY 350	3	Microbiology	MB 302	3
Anatomical Kinesiology	EXSS 322	4	Genetics	BI 311	4
Biomechanics of Sports & Exercise	EXSS 323	4	AIDS & Sexually Transmitted Diseases	H 312	3
BC: Writing III	WR 323	3	Introduction to Human Diseases	H 320	3
BC: Other courses & electives		1	Physiology of Exercise	EXSS 324	3
			History of Science approved WIC course		3
			BC: Other courses & electives		18

What to know about Oregon State University

Head Advisor
College of Science
128 Kidder Hall
541-737-4811

OSU Admissions
104 Kerr Administration
541-737-4411
800-291-4192

OSU Financial Aid
Student Employment
Loans & Scholarships
College Work Study
218 Kerr Administration
541-737-2241

OSU Registrar
102 Kerr Administration
541-737-4331

OSU Housing
102 Buxton Hall
541-737-4771

OSU Website
<http://oregonstate.edu>

For more information, please contact:

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<http://catalog.oregonstate.edu/Option-Detail.aspx?id=283>

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