

Pre-Physical Therapy

Degree Awarded

- Associate of Arts

Nature of Program

The associate of arts degree in pre-physical therapy program provides the majority of prerequisite courses required for admission into the Doctorate in Physical Therapy (DPT) program in the School of Medicine at West Virginia University. Applicants are required to have a bachelor's degree before admission into the DPT program. The pre-physical therapy program also offers the majority of courses for the first two years of the bachelor degree in exercise physiology, which is the most common degree for applicants applying to the DPT program.

The pre-physical therapy program provides a foundation in biology, math, physics, physiology, and psychology required for admission into and success in the exercise physiology program and then the DPT program at WVU School of Medicine. Students planning to apply to other physical therapy programs should determine admission requirements and transfer equivalencies for the courses offered at Potomac State College and the institution they plan to attend.

Career Opportunities

Physical therapist determine patients' physical condition and symptoms, develop treatment plans, teach proper exercise techniques (for clinic and home), use equipment and devices to assist patients and perform other duties in private practice, rehabilitation centers, sports facilities and other health care agencies.

General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

General Education Foundations

F1 - Composition & Rhetoric		3-6
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Skills		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

Curriculum Requirements

GEF Elective Requirements (5, 6, or 7)		3
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research (GEF 1)	6
MATH 126	College Algebra (GEF 3)	3
MATH 128 or MATH 129 or MATH 150 or MATH 155	Plane Trigonometry Pre-Calculus Mathematics Applied Calculus Calculus 1	3
STAT 211	Elementary Statistical Inference	3
ATTR 121	Sport Injury Control and Management	3

BIOL 101 & BIOL 103	General Biology and General Biology Laboratory (GEF 2)	4
BIOL 102 & BIOL 104	General Biology and General Biology Laboratory	4
CHEM 115	Fundamentals of Chemistry (GEF 8)	4
CHEM 116	Fundamentals of Chemistry (GEF 8)	4
HN&F 171	Introduction to Human Nutrition	3
PHYS 101	Introductory Physics	4
PHYS 102	Introductory Physics	4
PSYC 101	Introduction to Psychology (GEF 4)	3
PSIO 241	Elementary Physiology	4
PSYC 241	Introduction to Human Development	3
WVUE 191	First Year Seminar	1
Elective		1
Total Hours		60

Suggested Plan of Study

First Year

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)	3 ENGL 102 (GEF 1)	3
BIOL 101 & BIOL 103 (GEF 2)	4 BIOL 102 & BIOL 104	4
PSYC 101	3 MATH 128, 129, 150, or 155	3
MATH 126 (GEF 3)	3 PSYC 241	3
WVUE 191	1 ATTR 121	3
	14	16

Second Year

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
PHYS 101 (GEF 8)	4 PHYS 102	4
PSIO 241	4 CHEM 116	4
CHEM 115	4 HN&F 171	3
STAT 211	3 GEF (5, 6, or 7)	3
	Elective	1
	15	15

Total credit hours: 60

Major Learning Outcomes

PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

Upon completion of the associates in pre-physical therapy program, students will be able to:

1. Describe general biological concepts including cell structure and function, physiology and genetics.
2. Relate and apply mathematical and physics concepts to how the body moves and functions.
3. Use chemical principles and laboratory techniques to describe and analyze the chemical structure.
4. Transfer into a bachelor degree program in exercise physiology.