COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number  | Course Title | Credits
---|---|---
PTA 235 | PTA Clinical Education II | 4

Hours: lecture/Lab/Other
40 hours per week for 5 weeks = 200 clinical hours

Pre-requisite
PTA 224, PTA 217

Implementation
Fall

Catalog description:

Supervised full-time clinical experience allows students to apply and practice skills learned in other classes and learn to become an integral part of a physical therapy department.

Recommended texts/other materials:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Edition</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bottomley</td>
<td>Quick Response Dictionary for Physical Therapy</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>SLACK</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taber's</td>
<td>Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary</td>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>FA Davis</td>
<td>2013</td>
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</tbody>
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Revision date: Fall 2023  
Course coordinator: Holly Kaiser, 609-570-3478, KaiserH@mccc.edu

Information resources:

This course makes use of the recommended texts for the course and clinical knowledge and experience of supervising clinical faculty.

Course Competencies/Goals:

At a minimum, each learner will achieve the following goals by the end of the second clinical affiliation (Clinical Affiliation II):

1. By the end of the second clinical affiliation, the learner will treat a complex (or lower functioning) patient one-on-one from start to finish with distant supervision in an appropriate time frame, which includes the following:
   a. performing a chart review to identify relevant data pertinent to the treatment session
   b. bringing the patient into the clinic, gathering subjective information, and completing the entire treatment session in a safe, effective and competent manner.
   c. writing an accurate SOAP note in a timely manner (which is to be handed in by the end of the treatment day, at the latest)
   d. identifying the appropriate billing codes that correspond with the interventions provided (the student/learner does not necessarily need to identify the # of units per code, but should be able to identify which CPT codes are appropriate)
   e. providing a clinically meaningful verbal report to the supervising CI or PT regarding the patient.

2. By the end of the second clinical affiliation, the learner will treat multiple non-complex patients from start to finish at the same time, with distant supervision in an appropriate timeframe, which includes...
the following:
  a. performing chart reviews to identify relevant data pertinent to the treatment session for the patients
  b. bringing the patients into the clinic, gathering subjective information, and completing the entire treatment sessions in a safe, effective and competent manner.
  c. managing his/her time effectively to minimize having patients wait and maximize the session for all patients
  c. writing an accurate SOAP note in a timely manner (which is to be handed in by the end of the treatment day, at the latest) for each patient
  d. identifying the appropriate billing codes that correspond with the interventions provided (the student/learner does not necessarily need to identify the # of units per code, but should be able to identify which CPT codes are appropriate)
  e. providing a clinically meaningful verbal report to the supervising CI or PT regarding the patients

MCCC Course Outline; Approved by the Curriculum Committee 12/6/07
Course-specific General Education Knowledge Goals and Core Skills.

General Education Knowledge Goals
Goal 1. Communication. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.
Goal 2. Mathematics. Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems.
Goal 3. Science. Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.
Goal 4. Technology. Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.
Goal 5. Social Science. Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.
Goal 8. Diversity. Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.

MCCC Core Skills
Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.
Goal B. Critical Thinking and Problem-solving. Students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills in analyzing information.
Goal C. Ethical Decision-Making. Students will recognize, analyze and assess ethical issues and situations.
Goal D. Information Literacy. Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.
Goal E. Computer Literacy. Students will use computers to access, analyze or present information, solve problems, and communicate with others.
Goal F. Collaboration and Cooperation. Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group situations.
Goal G. Intra-Cultural and Inter-Cultural Responsibility. Students will demonstrate an awareness of the responsibilities of intelligent citizenship in a diverse and pluralistic society, and will demonstrate cultural, global, and environmental awareness.

Units of Study in Detail

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Learning Objectives</th>
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Course Outline:

Week 1 Orientation and integration to the clinical setting:
The learner is expected to observe the physical therapy department and personnel utilization until the learner and the clinical instructor (CI) determine that the learner is sufficiently acclimated to this setting. The CI will be interacting with the learner and working with him or her to set up observations as needed. The learner needs to initiate interaction with patients, and seek out the components of departmental organization and documentation style. During this week the learner should gain an understanding of the role and responsibilities of all staff in the PT department. An introduction to who handles patient scheduling and how effectiveness is maximized via appropriate scheduling should also occur during the first week.
Weeks 2-5 Integration into the clinical setting:
Once the learner has been oriented to the department, the Clinical Instructor can begin to have the learner work on the course goal objectives listed below. The learner can be expected to perform the following activities within the department: MMT, ROM, vital signs, measurement for assistive devices, gait training, transfers, massage, wound care dressing, hydrotherapy, physical agents, bed mobility, therapeutic exercise, and treatment documentation. This is not an all-inclusive list and providing opportunities for student/learners to reach their highest potential is encouraged. Additional experience with techniques is encouraged, as deemed appropriate by the CI and the learner.

Learning Objectives have been identified in each of the following domains of learning:
The learner will be able to...

Cognitive/Knowledge Learning Domain:
The learner will be able to successfully:

Remember Knowledge
1. answer questions regarding and verbalize adequate knowledge of foundational anatomy and physical therapy coursework
2. answer questions regarding and verbalize adequate knowledge of techniques used to gather objective patient data
3. answer questions regarding and verbalize adequate knowledge of treatment intervention techniques
4. verbally identify methods of maximizing patient safety during treatment

Apply Knowledge
5. verbalize an understanding of the interventions provided by reporting why interventions are chosen, how they are properly performed, when it would be appropriate to use them and when it would not be appropriate to use them
6. verbalize an understanding of how each intervention relates to the patient’s short and long term goals
7. contribute to treatment session and planning by applying knowledge and clinical judgment, while considering patient goals and the environment, within the established plan of care

Communicate
8. approach the CI with observations regarding which interventions should be progressed with a patient, why progression is indicated, and how the progression should take place
9. discuss the process for reporting to the appropriate authorities suspected cases of abuse of vulnerable populations with a practicing PT or PTA
10. discuss the process for reporting to the appropriate authorities suspected cases of fraud and abuse related to utilizing and payment for PT services with a practicing PT or PTA

Psychomotor Learning Domain:
The learner will be able to successfully:

Communicate & Educate
1. communicate to the Clinical Instructor patient safety concerns, patient response to treatment interventions, changes in patient status, and patient progression or regression
2. communicate to the Clinical Instructor an understanding of the plan of care, including the treatment plan and how it will achieve short and long term goals
3. provide patient related instruction to patients, family members, and caregivers to achieve patient outcomes, based on the plan of care established by the Physical Therapist
4. prepare and perform an in-service for colleagues

**Maintain Safety**
5. ensure patient safety by the use of universal precautions, proper body mechanics, proper guarding techniques, maintaining a safe environment, and utilizing proper intervention techniques
6. take appropriate action in an emergency situation (or discuss the steps to take during an emergency situation)
7. recognize when the performance of an intervention is beyond the scope of practice for a PTA learner
8. demonstrate an awareness of one’s own limits by asking for assistance when necessary and asking appropriate questions

**Manage Patients**
9. recognize when an intervention should not be provided due to changes in the patient’s status and report this back to the Clinical Instructor
10. review patient data prior to treatment interventions, demonstrating the ability to identify data which is pertinent to the therapy session and its importance for that patient
11. competently gather subjective information from patients before, during, and after treatment sessions, which may include pain information
12. recognize individual and cultural differences and respond appropriately in all aspects of physical therapy services
13. maintain patient confidentiality, dignity, and modesty in the clinical environment
14. identify situations in which patient assessment is indicated and then competently and safely perform manual muscle tests (MMT), range of motion (ROM) using a goniometer, and vital signs measurements on patients
15. modify ROM & MMT techniques based on varying patient circumstances, while utilizing sound foundational concepts
16. Interpret the results of changes in patients’ objective measures and identify their impact on the treatment plan
17. determine safety and status of patients during all mobility training, including gait, balance, and wheelchair mobility
18. recognize skin integrity status, including sensation, changes to skin, and positioning needs
19. adjust interventions within the plan of care in response to patient clinical indications and report this to the Clinical Instructor
20. Participate in inter-professional care, if available
21. Observe an initial PT examination performed by a Physical Therapist, and participate in the development of an initial treatment session for that patient
22. Contribute to discharge planning with the assistance of a supervising PT

**Administer Interventions**
23. perform physical therapy interventions in a competent and safe manner including passive range of motion, therapeutic exercise, therapeutic activities, neuromuscular re-education, gait training, stair training, transfers, bed mobility, and biophysical agents as appropriate for the clinical site
24. instruct a patient in a therapeutic exercise program that is new to the patient

**Manage Practice**
25. document all relevant information in the format used in the facility, in a method that is accurate, concise, legible, grammatically correct and timely
26. identify accurate billing codes (CPT codes) in a timely manner
27. establish realistic weekly goals in an effort to improve clinical skills
28. arrive prepared to the midterm and final assessment meetings with a fully completed Self-Performance Evaluation Instrument
29. Demonstrate preparedness to work under the direction/supervision of a PT by communicating effectively and practicing within the scope of practice of a PTA
30. contribute to efforts to increase patient and healthcare provider safety
31. delegate appropriate tasks to support staff as a demonstration of time and resource management

**Participate in the Health Care Environment**
32. utilize patient-sensitive language in verbal and written communication
33. participate in facility performance improvement activities if available, including quality assurance

**Affective Learning Domain:**
The learner will be able to successfully:

**Responsibility & Professionalism**
1. demonstrate initiative by arriving early each day and arriving prepared
2. interact and communicate appropriately verbally and non-verbally with the patient, the physical therapist (PT), health care delivery personnel and others in an effective, appropriate and respectful manner
3. develop a strategy for maintaining an open line of communication with the supervising PT to discuss patient and practice concerns
4. demonstrate time management skills
5. use “downtime” appropriately and professionally
6. accept feedback without becoming angry or defensive and use it to strengthen future performance as a PTA in the clinical setting.

**Ethics & Values**
7. exhibit conduct that reflects practice standards that are legal, ethical, and safe by adhering to institutional, state and federal regulations, adhering to the APTA Standards of Ethical Conduct, and the APTA’s Values Based Behaviors for the PTA
**Evaluation of learning**

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<td>60</td>
<td>Clinical Affiliation(s)</td>
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**Academic Integrity Statement:** There is a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism. Any work that violates the MCCC Academic Integrity policy will receive a grade of “0” and the learner will be reported to the College’s Academic Integrity Committee consistent with College policies. See [http://mlink.mccc.edu/omb/OMB210.pdf](http://mlink.mccc.edu/omb/OMB210.pdf)