

Physical Therapy

Pre-Professional Advising
(907) 474-6396

Physical therapists are dedicated to the promotion of health and the prevention of disease. Specifically, they provide assessment, evaluation, and rehabilitation of the muscular, skeletal and nervous systems after injury or disease. Physical therapists work in hospital rehabilitation units, in private rehabilitation practices, and in orthopedic and sports medicine clinics. Many also serve as administrators, researchers and educators.

Physical therapy education typically consists of a two-year program leading to a certificate, a bachelor's or a master's degree. The current trend across the nation is toward the master's, which requires completion of a bachelor's degree before admission. As in most health care professions, the first half of physical therapy training consists of classroom instruction and the second half emphasizes clinical practice. After completion of programs accredited by the American Physical Therapy Program, students are eligible to test for licensure in all 50 states.

Acceptance to physical therapy programs is very competitive and is based on overall academic performance (most require a minimum 3.0 GPA), achievement in foundational sciences, and work experience in health care. Graduate programs usually require the Graduate Record Examination and/or the Miller Analogies Test. UAF does not prescribe a specific pre-physical therapy major, but offers a complete series of courses required for admission to most graduate programs. These include physics (PHYS 103X, 104X), anatomy and physiology (BIOL 211X, 212X), and statistics (STAT 300). Careful planning is necessary, as course requirements differ among schools.

Students considering a career in physical therapy should contact the Academic Advising Center. An advisor will help plan a program of study and explore professional schools and licensing requirements.

General University Requirements

All degrees (e.g. B.A., B.S., etc.) require additional courses. Refer to specific degree and program requirements.

COMMUNICATIONS (9)

Complete the following:

ENGL 111X.....	(3)	_____
ENGL 211X OR 213X.....	(3)	_____
COMM 131X OR 141X.....	(3)	_____

LIBRARY & INFORMATION SKILLS (0-1)

Complete the following:

LS 100X OR 101X.....	(0-1)	_____
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OR Successful completion of library skills competency test.

PERSPECTIVES ON THE HUMAN CONDITION (18)

Complete either the following six courses:

ANTH 100X OR SOC 100X.....	(3)	_____
ECON/PS 100X.....	(3)	_____
HIST 100X.....	(3)	_____
ART/MUS/THR 200X, HUM 201X OR ANS 202X.....	(3)	_____
ENGL/FL 200X.....	(3)	_____
PHIL 322X, NRM 303X, COMM 300X, PS 300X OR JUST 300X.....	(3)	_____

OR Complete 12 cr from the above list PLUS two semester-length courses in a single non-English or Alaska Native language at the university level OR three semester-length courses (9 cr) in American Sign Language.

MATHEMATICS (3-4)

Complete 3-4 credits from the following:

MATH 107X.....	(3)	_____
OR MATH 131X (except for BBA).....	(3)	_____
OR MATH 161X.....	(3)	_____
MATH 200X.....	(4)	_____
MATH 201X.....	(4)	_____
MATH 202X.....	(4)	_____
MATH 262X.....	(4)	_____
MATH 272X.....	(3)	_____

NOTE: Additional 3 cr of math needed for degree requirements.

NATURAL SCIENCES (8)

Complete 8 credits from the following:

ATM 101X.....	(4)	_____
BIOL 103X OR 104X.....	(4)	_____
BIOL 105X-106X.....	(8)	_____
BIOL 111X-112X.....	(8)	_____
CHEM 100X.....	(4)	_____
CHEM 103X-104X.....	(8)	_____
CHEM 105X-106X.....	(8)	_____
GEOG 205X.....	(4)	_____
GEOS 100X OR 120X OR 125X.....	(4)	_____
GEOS 101X-112X.....	(8)	_____
MSL 111X.....	(4)	_____
PHYS 102X OR 175X.....	(4)	_____
PHYS 103X-104X.....	(8)	_____
PHYS 211X-212X.....	(8)	_____
PHYS 211X-213X.....	(8)	_____
PHYS 212X-213X.....	(8)	_____