bellarmine university physical therapy

bellarmine university physical therapy is a distinguished program designed to prepare students for successful careers in the field of physical therapy. This program combines rigorous academic coursework with practical clinical experiences to equip future physical therapists with the necessary skills and knowledge. Bellarmine University emphasizes evidence-based practice, innovative teaching methods, and comprehensive training to ensure graduates meet the highest professional standards. Students benefit from access to modern facilities, experienced faculty, and a curriculum aligned with current healthcare demands. This article explores the program's key features, admissions requirements, curriculum structure, clinical opportunities, and career prospects. The following sections provide a detailed overview of what prospective students and healthcare professionals can expect from Bellarmine University's physical therapy program.

- Program Overview and Accreditation
- Admissions Requirements and Application Process
- Curriculum and Academic Structure
- Clinical Education and Hands-on Experience
- Faculty Expertise and Research Opportunities
- Career Outcomes and Professional Development

Program Overview and Accreditation

Bellarmine University physical therapy program offers a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree that prepares students to become licensed physical therapists. The program is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), ensuring that it meets rigorous national standards for education quality and clinical training. This accreditation is vital for graduates seeking licensure and professional recognition in the United States. The program integrates foundational sciences, clinical sciences, and professional practice to develop well-rounded practitioners capable of delivering high-quality patient care.

Mission and Educational Philosophy

The mission of Bellarmine University physical therapy program focuses on educating knowledgeable, compassionate, and competent physical therapists who

serve diverse populations. The curriculum promotes lifelong learning, ethical practice, and cultural sensitivity. Emphasis is placed on combining scientific inquiry with clinical application to foster critical thinking and evidence-based treatment strategies. Students are encouraged to engage in interprofessional collaboration and community outreach as part of their professional development.

Admissions Requirements and Application Process

Admission to the Bellarmine University physical therapy program is competitive and requires a strong academic background, relevant healthcare experience, and a commitment to the physical therapy profession. Prospective students must meet specific prerequisites, submit standardized test scores, and demonstrate interpersonal skills suited for patient care. The admissions process evaluates academic achievement, letters of recommendation, personal statements, and interviews to select qualified candidates.

Prerequisite Coursework

Applicants must complete prerequisite courses that provide a foundation in biology, chemistry, physics, anatomy, physiology, and psychology. These courses prepare students for the advanced study required in the DPT curriculum. Maintaining a competitive GPA in these subjects is essential for successful admission.

Application Components

- Completed application through the Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS)
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended
- GRE scores (if required)
- Letters of recommendation from academic or professional references
- Personal statement detailing motivation and career goals
- Documentation of healthcare or volunteer experience in physical therapy settings
- Interview with faculty and admissions committee

Curriculum and Academic Structure

The Bellarmine University physical therapy curriculum is designed to span approximately three years of full-time study, culminating in the DPT degree. The program balances theoretical knowledge with practical skills, covering human anatomy, biomechanics, pathology, pharmacology, and therapeutic interventions. Students also engage in courses focusing on patient communication, ethics, and healthcare systems.

Core Coursework

Students progress through a sequence of courses that build upon each other to enhance clinical reasoning and technical proficiency. Key areas of study include:

- Human Anatomy and Physiology
- Kinesiology and Movement Science
- Clinical Neuroscience
- Orthopedic and Neurological Physical Therapy
- Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation
- Evidence-Based Practice and Research Methods
- Professionalism and Ethics in Healthcare

Capstone and Research Projects

The curriculum incorporates opportunities for students to engage in research and capstone projects that emphasize critical analysis and application of clinical evidence. These projects often involve collaboration with faculty and contribute to the advancement of physical therapy knowledge.

Clinical Education and Hands-on Experience

Hands-on clinical education is a cornerstone of Bellarmine University physical therapy training. Students complete multiple clinical rotations in diverse healthcare settings under the supervision of licensed physical therapists. These experiences allow students to apply classroom knowledge to real-world patient care and develop essential professional competencies.

Clinical Rotation Sites

Bellarmine University partners with a wide network of hospitals, outpatient clinics, rehabilitation centers, and community health organizations. Clinical sites provide exposure to a variety of patient populations, including pediatrics, orthopedics, neurology, geriatrics, and sports medicine. Students gain experience in assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning, and therapeutic interventions.

Preceptorship and Mentorship

During clinical rotations, students receive guidance and feedback from experienced clinicians who serve as preceptors. This mentorship fosters skill refinement, professional growth, and confidence in clinical decision-making. The program emphasizes reflective practice and ongoing evaluation to ensure students meet competency benchmarks.

Faculty Expertise and Research Opportunities

The physical therapy faculty at Bellarmine University comprises experienced educators, clinicians, and researchers dedicated to student success and advancing the profession. Faculty members bring diverse expertise in areas such as musculoskeletal therapy, neurological rehabilitation, pediatric physical therapy, and health promotion.

Research and Scholarship

Faculty actively engage in research that informs clinical practice and health policy. Students have opportunities to participate in research projects, gaining skills in data collection, analysis, and dissemination of findings. Research areas include injury prevention, rehabilitation outcomes, and innovative therapeutic techniques.

Continuing Education and Professional Development

The program supports ongoing learning through workshops, seminars, and partnerships with professional organizations. Faculty facilitate access to conferences and certifications, encouraging students and alumni to remain current with emerging trends and evidence in physical therapy.

Career Outcomes and Professional Development

Graduates of Bellarmine University physical therapy program are well-prepared for licensure and successful careers in various healthcare settings. The

program's strong reputation and comprehensive training contribute to high employment rates and professional advancement.

Licensure Preparation

The curriculum includes dedicated preparation for the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE), which is required for state licensure. Review sessions, practice exams, and individualized support help students achieve certification and begin practice promptly after graduation.

Employment Opportunities

Graduates find employment across diverse environments, such as hospitals, outpatient clinics, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, sports organizations, and home health agencies. The program's emphasis on clinical competence and professional ethics makes alumni competitive candidates in the job market.

Professional Growth

Bellarmine University encourages graduates to pursue advanced certifications, residencies, and fellowships to specialize in areas like orthopedics, pediatrics, or neurology. The program fosters a commitment to lifelong learning and leadership within the physical therapy community.

Frequently Asked Questions

What physical therapy programs does Bellarmine University offer?

Bellarmine University offers a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program designed to prepare students for careers as licensed physical therapists.

Is Bellarmine University's physical therapy program accredited?

Yes, Bellarmine University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

What are the admission requirements for Bellarmine University's physical therapy program?

Admission requirements typically include a bachelor's degree, prerequisite

coursework in sciences, a minimum GPA, GRE scores, letters of recommendation, and relevant healthcare experience.

Does Bellarmine University provide clinical internship opportunities for physical therapy students?

Yes, Bellarmine University arranges clinical internships and hands-on experiences through partnerships with various healthcare facilities to ensure students gain practical skills.

What is the duration of the physical therapy program at Bellarmine University?

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Bellarmine University generally takes about three years to complete.

Are there online options available for Bellarmine University's physical therapy program?

As of now, Bellarmine University's physical therapy program is primarily campus-based, focusing on in-person clinical and laboratory experiences.

What career support services does Bellarmine University offer physical therapy students?

Bellarmine University provides career counseling, job placement assistance, resume workshops, and networking opportunities specifically tailored for physical therapy students.

What is the NCLEX pass rate or licensing exam success rate for Bellarmine University's physical therapy graduates?

Bellarmine University maintains a high pass rate for the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE), reflecting the quality of its DPT program.

How does Bellarmine University incorporate research into its physical therapy program?

The program encourages student involvement in research projects related to physical therapy, promoting evidence-based practice and critical thinking skills.

Additional Resources

- 1. Foundations of Physical Therapy at Bellarmine University
 This comprehensive guide introduces students to the core principles and
 practices taught at Bellarmine University's Physical Therapy program. It
 covers anatomy, physiology, and the fundamentals of patient care. The book
 also highlights the unique teaching methodologies and clinical experiences
 offered by Bellarmine.
- 2. Clinical Applications in Bellarmine Physical Therapy
 Focusing on real-world application, this book provides case studies and
 clinical scenarios encountered by Bellarmine students during their rotations.
 It emphasizes diagnostic techniques, treatment planning, and rehabilitation
 strategies. The text serves as a practical companion for both students and
 practitioners.
- 3. Exercise Science and Rehabilitation: Bellarmine Perspectives
 This title explores the science behind exercise therapy and rehabilitation as taught at Bellarmine University. It delves into biomechanics, kinesiology, and therapeutic exercise protocols. Special attention is given to evidence-based practices and innovative rehabilitation technologies.
- 4. Patient-Centered Care in Bellarmine's Physical Therapy Curriculum Highlighting the importance of compassionate care, this book discusses how Bellarmine University integrates patient-centered approaches into its physical therapy education. Topics include communication skills, cultural competence, and ethical considerations. The text encourages empathy and holistic treatment.
- 5. Advances in Neurological Physical Therapy: Insights from Bellarmine
 This resource covers cutting-edge techniques and research in neurological
 physical therapy featured in Bellarmine's program. It reviews treatment
 methods for conditions such as stroke, Parkinson's disease, and multiple
 sclerosis. The book also showcases faculty research and clinical innovations.
- 6. Orthopedic Rehabilitation: A Bellarmine University Approach
 Focusing on musculoskeletal disorders, this book outlines Bellarmine's
 approach to orthopedic rehabilitation. It includes assessment tools, manual
 therapy techniques, and post-surgical rehabilitation protocols. The text is
 designed to aid students in mastering both theory and practical skills.
- 7. Sports Physical Therapy Training at Bellarmine University
 This title addresses the specialized field of sports physical therapy as taught at Bellarmine. It covers injury prevention, performance enhancement, and return-to-play criteria. The book integrates sports science with therapeutic interventions tailored for athletes.
- 8. Research Methods in Physical Therapy: Bellarmine University Edition
 Dedicated to research literacy, this book guides Bellarmine students through
 the design, implementation, and analysis of physical therapy research
 studies. It emphasizes evidence-based practice and critical appraisal of

scientific literature. The text supports the development of scholarly inquiry.

9. Interprofessional Collaboration in Bellarmine's Physical Therapy Program This book explores the collaborative nature of healthcare education at Bellarmine, focusing on teamwork between physical therapists and other health professionals. It discusses communication strategies, role understanding, and integrated care models. The text prepares students for effective interdisciplinary practice.

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bellarmine university physical therapy: Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Secrets - E-Book Jeffrey D. Placzek, David A. Boyce, 2023-12-26 Unlock the secrets to passing the Orthopaedic Certified Specialist (OCS) exam with this comprehensive Q&A review! Offering a unique question-and-answer format, Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Secrets, 4th Edition helps you build the knowledge and skills needed to pass orthopaedic and sports certification specialty exams. The book introduces basic physical therapy concepts and then covers different healing modalities, clinical specialties, and orthopedic procedures typically prescribed for common injuries such as those to the shoulder, hand, wrist, spine, and knee. From a team of PT experts led by Jeffrey D. Placzek and David A. Boyce, this review also serves as a useful reference for practitioners who wish to provide the latest in evidence-based care. - Coverage of topics found on the orthopedic specialty exam makes this a valuable resource for study and review. - Wide scope of orthopedic coverage includes specialties ranging from anterior knee pain to X-ray imaging, featuring topics such as therapeutic dry needling plus functional movement screening and assessment. - Annotated references provide a useful tool for further reading and research. - Review questions are consistent with the level of difficulty encountered on the orthopedic or sports specialty examinations. - Evidence-based content is based on the latest orthopedic research. - Clinical tips provide guidance for a variety of physical therapy tasks and situations. - Charts, tables, and algorithms summarize information in logical, quick-reference frameworks. - NEW! Updated content reflects contemporary practice standards and provides the current information you need to pass the Orthopaedic Certified Specialist (OCS) examination. - NEW! eBook version is included with print purchase. The eBook allows you to access all of the text, figures and references, with the ability to search, customize your content, make notes and highlights, and have content read aloud. - NEW! Updated references ensure that information is based on the latest scientific literature.

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Catherine G Page, 2015-02-06 That's why we've provided wisdom you won't find in any other
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success—whether you decide to own a clinic or focus on direct patient care.

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bellarmine university physical therapy: Canine Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy Darryl Millis, David Levine, 2013-11-01 Bridging the gap between human physical therapy and veterinary medicine, Canine Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy, 2nd Edition provides vets, veterinary students, and human physical therapists with traditional and alternative physical therapy methods to effectively evaluate and treat dogs with various debilitating conditions. Coverage includes treatment protocols for many types of cutaneous, neurologic, and musculoskeletal injuries to facilitate a faster and more complete recovery. Overall, this book is an extensive text for anyone interested in pursuing canine rehabilitation and physical therapy Reviewed by: Helen Davies, University of Melbourne on behalf of Australian Veterinary Journal, March 2015 - Invaluable protocols for conservative and postoperative treatment ensure the successful healing of dogs and their return to full mobility. - Printable medical record forms on the companion website, including client information worksheets, referral forms, orthopedic evaluation forms, and more, can be customized for your veterinary practice. - Six completely updated chapters on exercising dogs define the basic principles of aquatic and land-based exercise and how they may be applied to dogs, as well as how physical therapy professionals can adapt common human exercises to dogs. - Numerous chapters on therapeutic modalities, including therapeutic lasers, illustrate how physical therapy professionals can adapt common human modalities to dogs. - Physical examination chapters offer comprehensive information on orthopedics, neurology, and rehabilitation. - New chapters keep you up to date with coverage of joint mobilization, rehabilitation of the athletic patient, biomechanics of rehabilitation, and physical therapy for wound care. - A companion website includes 40 narrated video clips of various modalities and exercises used to correct problems with lameness, hip disorders, and gait analysis, plus downloadable and printable orthopedic, neurologic, and physical rehabilitation forms, in addition to a client information worksheet, referral form and letter, and a daily flowsheet form.

bellarmine university physical therapy: Meeting the Physical Therapy Needs of Children Susan K. Effgen, Alyssa LaForme Fiss, 2020-12-22 Ensure children with disabilities and special healthcare needs achieve their full potential. Noted authorities Susan Effgen, Allyssa LaForme Fiss and a team of scholars and clinical experts explore the role of the physical therapist in meeting the needs of children and their families in a culturally appropriate content using a family-centered,

abilities-based model. From the major body systems to assistive technology and intervention support, you'll develop the clinical knowledge you need to provide a child with the very best care from initial examination to graduation from your services.

bellarmine university physical therapy: Physical Therapy Management of Low Back Pain Julia Chevan, Phyllis A. Clapis, 2013 Physical Therapy Management of Low Back Pain: A Case-Based Approach provides a detailed review of the theory and practice of a variety of approaches to treating low back pain using a case-based approach. The important features of nine major orthopaedic physical therapy approaches are explained and practical application of each approach is demonstrated via a single patient case. This controlled overview enables instructors and students to analyze, compare and contrast the options in physical therapy treatment with detailed information on intervention. Physical Therapy Management of Low Back Pain: A Case-Based Approach will give students a helpful reference point to better prepare for clinical work.

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E-Book Suzanne Tink Martin, Mary Kessler, 2020-05-05 - UPDATED! Best evidence for interventions; clear, concise tables; graphics and pictures; and current literature engage you in the spectrum of neurologic conditions and interventions. - NEW! Autism Spectrum Disorder chapter covers clinical features, diagnosis, and intervention, with a special focus on using play and aquatics, to support the integral role of physical therapy in working with children and families with autism. - NEW! Common threads throughout the Children section focus on motor competence as a driving force in a child's cognitive and language development and highlight how meaningful, fun activities with family and friends encourage children with disabilities to participate. - UPDATED! Neuroanatomy chapter provides a more comprehensive review on nervous system structures and their contributions to patient function and recovery after an injury or neurologic condition. - UPDATED! Adult chapters feature updated information on medical and pharmacological management. - NEW! The Core Set of Outcome Measures for Adults with Neurologic Conditions

assists you in measuring common outcomes in the examination and evaluation of patients. - NEW! Emphasis on the evidence for locomotor training, dual-task training, and high intensity gait training are included in the intervention sections.

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bellarmine university physical therapy: A Comprehensive Guide to Geriatric Rehabilitation E-Book Timothy L. Kauffman, Ronald W. Scott, John O. Barr, Michael L. Moran, 2014-09-05 Now in its third edition, this trusted clinical guide enables both the busy practitioner and student to review or to learn about a range of pathologies, conditions, examinations, diagnostic procedures, and interventions that can be effectively used in the physical rehabilitation of older people. It presents a broad overview of age-related physiological changes as well as specific professional discipline perspectives. Organized into eleven distinct and interrelated units, the first unit begins with key anatomical and physiological considerations seen with aging which have significant impact on the older person. The second and third units go on to review important aging-related conditions and disorders of the musculoskeletal and neuromuscular/neurological systems respectively. Neoplasms commonly encountered in older people are the focus of the fourth unit; while aging-related conditions of the cardiovascular, pulmonary, integumentary and sensory systems are presented in units five through seven. Unit eight highlights a range of specific clinical problems and conditions commonly encountered with older patients. Critically, all of these units emphasize important examination and diagnostic procedures needed for a thorough evaluation and stress interventions that can be of significant benefit to the older patient. The ninth unit presents select physical therapeutic interventions that are especially important in managing rehabilitative care. Key societal issues related to aging are discussed in the tenth unit. Finally, the concluding eleventh unit focuses on the successful rehabilitation team that includes both professional and non-professional caregiver members. - A trusted guide to the conditions and problems faced when evaluating and treating geriatric patients - Extensive coverage over 84 chapters, each written by an expert in the field -Includes imaging, vision and the aging ear - Cross-referenced - providing the complexity and inter-relatedness of co-morbidities common to aging patients - Collaborative international perspective - Chapters on the aging spine; frailty; safe pilates for bone health; health care for older people - Additional renowned editor - Ronald W. Scott - Revised title to reflect the comprehensive scope of content covered (previously entitled Geriatric Rehabilitation Manual)

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across the lifespan that reflects the APTA's patient management model and the WHO's International Classification of Function (ICF). You'll study examination and interventions from the body structure/function impairments and functional activity limitations commonly encountered in patients with neurologic disorders. Then, understanding the disablement process, you'll be able to organize the clinical data that leads to therapeutic interventions for specific underlying impairments and functional activity limitations that can then be applied as appropriate anytime they are detected, regardless of the medical diagnosis.

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bellarmine university physical therapy: Service-Learning in Higher Education Phylis Lan Lin, 2010-10-14 This book emerges from the discourse of the Third International Symposium on Service-Learning held at the University of Indianapolis in Athens, Greece, in November 2009 as part of the biennial collection of papers on service-learning. This fourth collection highlights service-learning (SL) theories and methods in higher education, presents selected case studies of local projects that exemplify the theories and methods in action, and points the way toward future possibilities for international partnerships. Part One demonstrates how practitioners have translated SL theory into model programs of best practices. Part Two examines nationally based SL experiences that enrich indigenous local communities, national communities, and teaching institutions. Part Three explores international SL (ISL) programs with their unique reciprocal national relationships, hybrid methodologies, and site-specific challenges. Part Four covers networking national SL settings to international venues while forecasting SL concepts that span academic disciplines and geographic distances. The selected papers in this collection were contributed by educators in twenty-three universities in four countries.

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summarized in the WHO model format to familiarize you with the standardized terminology used in practice. Most cases include movement systems analysis to introduce the most current clinical reasoning strategies encouraged by the APTA. - Special boxes highlight important information with features such as Clinical Signs, Intervention, and Practice Pattern. - Learning features in each chapter include key terms, a chapter outline, learning objectives, review questions and answers, illustrations, and summary tables. - NEW! eBook version is included with print purchase. The eBook allows you to access all of the text, figures, and references, with the ability to search, customize your content, make notes and highlights, and have content read aloud. - NEW! Six new chapters include The Movement System, Congenital Muscular Torticollis (CMT), Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip (DDH), Clubfeet, Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD), and Orthotics. - NEW! Updated content includes musculoskeletal impairments, developmental impairments, and orthotics as well as contemporary cases with ICF and Movement system analysis discussion for cases. - NEW! Full-color design is added to this edition. - NEW! Updated references ensure that sources for content are completely current.

bellarmine university physical therapy: Handbook of Stressful Transitions Across the Lifespan Thomas W. Miller, 2009-11-28 This volume provides a unique and valuable contribution to our understanding of the impact of stressful life events and mass trauma on the person, the culture and society in the course of the life span. It provides a comprehensive look at our psychological state of affairs at the beginning of the twenty-first century. There are several volumes that address some or most of these areas indivi- ally but this volume is unique in that it has brought together theoreticians, researchers and clinicians who address critical challenges in our lives. But we are now several months into the global financial crisis requiring a transition, not only for the western world but for the third world. How on earth do families in trauma zones – from Sri Lanka to Afghanistan, New Orleans to Gaza – cope with similar declining older relatives, with added traumas and zero medical resources attempt to survive? In news reports, politicians and financiers denying the inevitable and struggling for solutions that cannot be relevant to the new reality that they have yet to discover.

bellarmine university physical therapy: Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy Scot Irwin, Jan Stephen Tecklin, 2004 In this new edition, integrated cardiac and pulmonary coverage provides a cohesive understanding of how the body functions. Each of the eight practice patterns identified in the Cardiovascular/Pulmonary section of the APTA's Guide to Physical Therapis Practice is covered in its own separate chapter. Case studies feature real-life situations that focus on functional disabilities and their treatment, and up-to-date pharmacology coverage promotes the safe and effective use of drugs and builds an understanding of drug reactions and contraindications during a client's physical therapy treatment.

bellarmine university physical therapy: A Comprehensive Guide to Sports Physiology and Injury Management Stuart Porter, Johnny Wilson, 2020-11-13 Divided into two parts, physiology and sports injury management, this is an innovative clinical- and evidence-based guide, which engages with the latest developments in athletic performance both long and short term. It also considers lower level exercise combined with the pertinent physiological processes. It focuses on the rationale behind diagnostic work up, treatment bias and rehabilitation philosophy, challenging convention within the literature to what really makes sense when applied to sports settings. Drawing upon experts in the field from across the world and various sports settings, it implements critical appraisal throughout with an emphasis on providing practical solutions within sports medicine pedagogy. - Dovetails foundational sports physiology with clinical skills and procedures to effectively manage sports injuries across a variety of settings - Takes an interdisciplinary approach and draws upon both clinical- and evidence-based practice - Contributed by leading international experts including academics, researchers and in-the-field clinicians from a range of sports teams including the Royal Ballet and Chelsea FC - Pedagogical features include learning objectives, clinical tip boxes, summaries, case studies and Editor's commentary to/critique of concepts and techniques across chapters

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