



Entry Level Masters of Science in Physical Therapy (MS) and Post-Professional Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)

A student interested in becoming a physical therapist applies to the MS-DPT Program. This is a 3 year program (36 months) including 24 weeks of full time clinical affiliations. The MSPT program is accredited by the APTA Commission on Physical Therapy Education. It received the full 10 year accreditation when the site was visited in 2001. In the MS-DPT Program, the student completes 27 months of study, sits for the National Licensing Examination and then continues in the Post-professional DPT Program (9 months). While studying in the DPT, it is possible for students to work part time. This program is designed to prepare scholarly clinicians, educators, collaborative clinical researchers, administrative managers and community leaders. The program accepts 28-32 students and requires 36 months of study (including summers). The curriculum is built on a strong theoretical foundation in basic, medical and applied sciences. Critical thinking and clinical reasoning are woven into all aspects of the program and creative problem solving skills are developed to work with patients to mitigate disability, optimize function and maintain positive health. The graduates are well prepared to pass the National Licensing Examination and are considered top applicants for positions in physical therapy.

All classes in the DPT program are interactive lecture and laboratory sessions. Through dynamic learning experiences, students integrate the basic foundations of science into different paradigms the treatment of patients with movement dysfunctions. Supplementing the didactic coursework are research experiences, structured clinical clerkships and a mentored residency-type clinical experience.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS to MS-DPT Program

Twenty-eight to thirty-two students are admitted to the MS-DPT program on an annual basis. The application deadline for class entering Summer 2010 is **OCTOBER 1**. To be eligible for admission, the following criteria must be met:

- 1. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:** All applicants must hold a **bachelor's degree** from an accredited institution. Although any undergraduate major is acceptable, for students in the initial stages of undergraduate preparation, a major in kinesiology or the biological sciences tends to be the most direct route into a physical therapy program. Students must meet the Graduate School Requirements of the University of California and the California State University. More specifically, students must have an overall baccalaureate GPA of 3.0 and an overall GPA of 3.0 for the last 60 semester / 90 quarter units to be eligible for admission to the UCSF and SFSU Graduate Divisions.
- 2. CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:** All applicants must be able to demonstrate some understanding of the work and profession of physical therapy gained through a ***minimum*** of 150 hours of paid or volunteer experience in a ***variety*** (e.g. outpatient, inpatient, rehabilitation) of physical therapy settings working **under the direct supervision** of a physical therapist.
- 3. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:** Letters of recommendation are required from three individuals who personally know you and your abilities. **AT LEAST ONE RECOMMENDATION MUST BE FROM A PHYSICAL THERAPIST**. Physicians, current teachers of basic science (anatomy and physiology), other health professionals or employers are suggested for the two other letters of recommendation.
- 4. GRE SCORES:** The following GRE scores are required for admission to the MS program: **For tests taken before October 2002**, a total score of 1500 in the general test (verbal, quantitative and analytical) with a minimum of 450 in verbal. **For tests taken after October 1, 2002**, a total score of 1000 for verbal and quantitative with a minimum of 450 in verbal and a score of 4.5 in the analytical writing section.

5. **REQUIRED PREREQUISITES:** The **prerequisites** listed below must be completed prior to entry. To be considered for admission to the program, **applicants must have completed at least 80%** of the prerequisite courses **prior to submitting applications**.

Basic Sciences	Semester Units*	Quarter Units*
General Inorganic Chemistry, with laboratory (1year)	10	12-15
General Physics, with laboratory (1 year)	8	12-15
Human or Comparative Anatomy with laboratory	3	4
Human Physiology with laboratory	4	5
Cell Biology or Vertebrate Histology or Microbiology	3	4
Behavioral and Applied Sciences	Semester Units	Quarter Units
Abnormal Psychology	3	4
Introduction to Statistics	3	4

6. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED COURSES

The following courses are **highly recommended** in preparation for admission to the professional program. These courses provide the applicant a broader background and enhance understanding of professional studies.

	Semester	Quarter
	Units*	Units*
Neurosciences/Neuroanatomy (1 year recommended)	3-6	4-8
Motor Learning or Motor Control	3	4
Kinesiology	3	4
Exercise Physiology	3-4	4
Organic Chemistry	3	4
Biomedical Ethics	3	4
Developmental Psychology or Motor Development	3	4
Introduction to Computers (or documented experience with word processing, spread sheet and statistical package skills)	3	4

- Units listed are only an indication of the amount of credit usual for these courses. If prerequisite coursework is more than 5 years old, students are encouraged to take additional science or highly recommended courses to demonstrate their **current** scholastic attributes.

Application:

- You are required to complete TWO applications, which are submitted separately, but in parallel.
1. The PTCAS Application: Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS). Visit the PTCAS web site at www.ptcas.org for application instructions and a list of participating PT programs.
 2. The UCSF Supplemental Application: Information that is required by the UCSF Graduate Division Office and the Graduate Program in Physical Therapy to complete the comprehensive process of evaluation. Please visit the web site at <https://graduate.ucsf.edu/application> for application instructions. The deadline for BOTH applications is OCTOBER 1st (midnight).

UCSF/SFSU GRADUATE PROGRAM IN PHYSICAL THERAPY

DOCTORATE IN PHYSICAL THERAPY (DPT)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS to Post Professional DPT Program

All students completing the MS degree in Physical Therapy who maintain a 3.0 GPA and successfully pass the licensing examination will be eligible for the DPT Program. Experienced clinicians who graduated from an accredited program in physical therapy, have a 3.0 GPA in their professional coursework, have a masters degree, demonstrated leadership in the profession, clear goals and objectives for pursuing the doctoral degree and able to read, speak and write clearly using acceptable English as documented by standard methods (Writing Competency Test, or published manuscript) will also be eligible to apply.

Course Number	Course Titles	Quarter Units	Quarter/Semester
PT 207	Physical Diagnosis	4.5 UCSF	Winter
PT 208 / PT 908	Professional Colloquium	3.0 UCSF / SFSU	Spring
PT 209 / PT 910	Evidence Based Practice	9.0 UCSF / SFSU	Fall, Winter/Spring
PT 212	Muscle Nerve Biology	3.0 UCSF	Fall
PT 213	Movement Science	3.0 UCSF	Fall
PT 400	Grand Rounds	3.0 UCSF	Fall, Winter, and Spring
PT 419	Clinical Research Clerkship	9.0 UCSF	Fall, Winter, and Spring
PT 920	Case Studies	7.5 SFSU	Winter, and Spring
PT 930	Mentored Clinical Clerkship	9.0 SFSU	Fall, Winter, or Spring

Total 51 quarter units (34 semester units)

The research clerkship is 1day/week for the academic year. The patient care clerkship is a 3x/week for 10 weeks. Experienced clinicians with strong continuing education and certified specialists may be able to demonstrate competency for the patient care clerkship. The remaining courses are offered in the evenings and weekends to allow students to work.

FEES for Graduate Studies in UCSF/SFSU Graduate Programs in Physical Therapy

The regular University fees are changing and it is important to check final fees with both Universities. For the MS-Program, the student will pay fees at UCSF the first year and fees at SFSU the second year and third summer. The DPT is a self-supported degree program and includes a self-supported fee of \$21,000.

For more specific information visit our website: <http://ptrehab.medschool.ucsf.edu/> or contact Lillie Wong at 415-476-3147. You can also email us at gppt@sfsu.edu.