

# Pre-Physical Therapy

## Associate in Science

**Total Required Credits for Degree:** minimum of 64  
*General Education Core Curriculum:* minimum of 37  
*Additional Math/Science:* 10 to 15  
*Additional Coursework:* 12 to 17

**Code:** 8197

**Note:** Consult a faculty adviser or the Counseling and Advising office before planning coursework.

### About the Program

Students interested in pursuing a degree in Physical Therapy (PT) can prepare by taking general education coursework at College of DuPage. With careful course selection, students can earn an Associate in Science (A.S.) degree while fulfilling many prerequisites for application to a PT degree program. All Physical Therapy entry-level programs are post-baccalaureate.

Program web site:

[www.cod.edu/academic/acadprog/tranprog/PrePhyOc.htm](http://www.cod.edu/academic/acadprog/tranprog/PrePhyOc.htm)

### Health Sciences Admissions

The majority of Health Sciences programs require either a separate admissions process (in addition to the standard college application form) and/or the completion of specific prerequisites before acceptance into a program. The Health Sciences Admissions office is located in the Student Resource Center (SRC), Room 2046. For more information, check out the Health Sciences Admissions web site at: [www.cod.edu/hsadmissions/](http://www.cod.edu/hsadmissions/)

### First Semester Possibilities

Students enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits are considered full-time students. The following courses are examples of possible choices for the first semester of study:

Course	Credits
English 1101.....	3
Mathematics.....	3 to 5
Psychology 1100 .....	3

### Program Notes

1. The Associate of Applied Science degree in the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program is not recommended for students whose primary goal is an advanced degree. The PTA program, described on another information sheet, is designed for students who plan to practice as an assistant after graduation. Coursework in PTA is not transferable to graduate-level PT programs. Students interested in graduate-level PT programs are encouraged instead to earn an A.S. degree following the Pre-Physical Therapy curriculum outlined on this information sheet.

2. Before registering for classes, students should obtain a list of specific prerequisites required for admission to the PT program(s) at the schools they would like to attend or transfer to. These are available directly from the transfer institution and, for some in-state schools, from C.O.D.'s Counseling and Advising Services. Work with Counseling and Advising Services to select C.O.D. courses that fulfill these prerequisites.

3. A bachelor's degree in a field of study other than PT is required for admission to an entry-level master's or doctoral PT program.

4. Due to the high volume of qualified applicants, it is wise to apply to more than one school.

5. To keep abreast of changes in admission requirements and expectations at transfer schools, students should contact counselors or faculty at those school(s) and/or attend appropriate program orientation/advising sessions.

6. Experience, paid or volunteer, in a medical environment is an admission requirement for many programs. If you do not have experience already, seek a volunteer or "shadowing" experience in settings where PTs practice.

7. Many students with college degrees in non-science disciplines complete their prerequisite coursework for application to the PT program at C.O.D. These students need not earn an Associate in Science degree while at C.O.D.

### General Education Core Curriculum

Each candidate for an A.S. degree shall satisfactorily complete a minimum of 37 General Education credits. General Education credit may not be earned using a Satisfactory/Fail grade.

Use the *Student Planning Worksheet* or consult a list of General Education categories and courses for this degree to decide what needs to be taken. Links can be found on the Pre-Physical Therapy online program guide ([www.cod.edu](http://www.cod.edu), click on "Academics" and then choose this program from the drop-down menu).

Under the specified General Education headings below, the following courses are required/recommended for the Pre-Physical Therapy Associate in Science degree:

**Communication:** 9 credits

Written: 6 credits

Oral: 3 credits

**Required courses:** English 1101 and 1102 (grade of "C" or higher required); Speech 1100 (grade of "C" or higher required)

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### Physical/Life Sciences: 7 to 10 credits

Select at least one course from Life Sciences and one course from Physical Sciences. At least one course must have a laboratory component.

*Recommended courses:* Anatomy and Physiology 1151, 1152 or 1571, 1572; Biology 1151, 1152; Chemistry 1551 (Math 1431 (or equivalent) is a pre-requisite to Chemistry 1551) and 1552 (inorganic); Chemistry 2551 and 2552 (organic).; Microbiology 1420; Physics 1201, 1202;

### Mathematics: 3 to 5 credits

*Recommended courses:* Mathematics 1431, 1432; 2231, 2232

### Humanities and Fine Arts: 9 credits

Select at least one course from Humanities and at least one course from Fine Arts.

*Please note:* Only one foreign language course may apply for general education credit. Additional foreign language courses will count as elective credit toward your degree.

Earn no more than 6 credits in History in the Humanities and Fine Arts, and Social and Behavioral Sciences categories combined. Additional credits in History from general education or other categories may be earned as elective credit, unless restricted by degree requirements.

*Recommended course:* Philosophy 1112, *Biomedical Ethics*

### Social and Behavioral Sciences: 9 credits

Courses must be selected from at least two disciplines. See note under Humanities/Fine Arts regarding History courses.

*Recommended courses:* Psychology 1100, *General Psychology*; Psychology 2237, *Developmental Psychology: The Life Span*; Psychology 2260, *Abnormal Psychology*; Sociology 1100, *Introduction to Sociology*; Anthropology 1100, *Cultural Anthropology*; or Anthropology 1105, *Practical Anthropology*

### Additional Math/Science Requirements

#### Physical and Life Sciences

Select two courses up to a maximum of 10 credits.

#### Mathematics

Select one course up to a maximum of 5 credits.

### Additional Coursework

Students are strongly advised to consult with a faculty adviser and/or the transfer institution in selecting 12 to 17 General Elective credits. Students can earn a maximum of 10 credits in technical/occupational areas (the transferability of these courses needs to be validated with a transfer institution).

### Additional A.S. Degree Requirements

These credits can count as either General Education Core Curriculum (in the Humanities category or the Social and Behavioral Sciences category) or as General Elective credit, whichever applies.

**Human Relations:** Complete one course.

*Recommended course:* See the *Student Planning Worksheet*.

### Global/Multicultural Studies or Contemporary Life Skills:

Complete one course.

*Recommended courses:* Anthropology 1100, *Cultural Anthropology*; or Anthropology 1105, *Practical Anthropology*; Computer Information Systems 1100, *Using Computers: An Introduction*; OFTI 1100, *Introduction to Computer Keyboarding*; or Health Sciences 1110, *Biomedical Terminology*

### IAI (Illinois Articulation Initiative)

The IAI General Education Core Curriculum is based on a package concept, in which a package of courses is used to meet the receiving institution's lower-division general education requirements. The entire IAI package must be completed to ensure full articulation.

Always seek the advice of an academic adviser at College of DuPage or an admissions counselor at a transfer institution when choosing major courses. For additional information, check the web site at: [www.itransfer.org](http://www.itransfer.org) or the College of DuPage transfer guide web site at: [www.cod.edu/dept/regner/maintest.htm](http://www.cod.edu/dept/regner/maintest.htm).

### Adviser

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