Physical Therapist Assistant | Associate in Applied Science
Field of Study Code: PHYTA.AAS

Catalog Description:
The Physical Therapist Assistant degree prepares students to provide skilled direct patient care under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist. Students will acquire the skills necessary to help alleviate pain, improve strength and mobility, and facilitate patients' attainment of maximum function. Physical therapist assistants are employed in a variety of settings including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, long-term care facilities, sports medicine clinics and home health care agencies. Upon successful completion of the program, students are eligible to take the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) licensure exam. Upon passing the PTA licensure exam, the graduate can practice as a Physical Therapist Assistant. The Physical Therapist Assistant program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). The Physical Therapist Assistant degree requires a minimum of 67.5 credits in program requirements and general education in the courses listed below.

Suggested Course Sequence
(Full-Time Enrollment)
Please note: A student’s readiness to perform college-level coursework is based on the student’s placement test and/or ACT scores. Below 1000 level coursework may be required prior to the student taking courses in the suggested sequences.

* Please refer to the Program Admission packet for the most updated information at: [http://cod.edu/admission/degree_certificate_programs/pdf_health/pta.pdf](http://cod.edu/admission/degree_certificate_programs/pdf_health/pta.pdf)

General Education Courses Required to Graduate
(Select courses to satisfy AAS general education requirements)
- Mathematics (3 to 5)
- Humanities & Fine Arts (3)
- Social & Behavioral Science (3)
- Engli 1101 (3)
- Speec 1100, 120 or 1150 (3)
- Anat 1551 and 1552 (8) or Anat 1571 and 1572 (8)
- Hlths 1110 (3)

Professional Course Sequence
(Once admitted to the Program)

Fall Year One (11 credits)
- Phya 1100 (2)
- Phya 1109 (3)
- Phya 1114 (1)
- Phya 1205 (3)

Spring Year One (10 credits)
- Phya 1207 (2)
- Phya 1211 (4)
- Phya 1301 (4)

Summer Year One (3 credits)
- Phya 2104 (3)

Fall Year Two (11 credits)
- Phya 2103 (4)
- Phya 2112 (4)
- Phya 2110 (2)
Each candidate for an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree shall satisfactorily complete a minimum of 18 credits in General Education. (In addition to the courses listed below.)

For the Physical Therapist Assistant degree, some General Education courses are already listed under program requirements. Therefore, students only need 9 to 11 credits besides those listed under program requirements.

Under the specified General Education headings below, the following courses are required:

**Communication:** 6 credits  
Written: (3 credits) English 1101 or 1105 (*English 1101 in program requirements fulfills this requirement*)  
Oral: (3 credits) Speech 1100, 1120 or 1150 (*Speech 1100, 1120 or 1150 in program requirements fulfill this requirement*)

**Physical and Life Sciences:** 3 to 5 credits  
At least one course with a laboratory component  
(*Anatomy and Physiology 1551/1552 or 1571/1572 in program requirements fulfill this requirement*)

**Mathematics:** 3 to 5 credits  
Select a minimum of 3 credits (1000 level or above).  
Select Mathematics 1102, 1104 or 1120 only where required in the degree program. Only one from the following three courses may count toward overall degree requirement credit: Mathematics 1635, Psychology 2280 or Sociology 2205. Only one of the following courses may count toward overall degree credit: Mathematics 1428 or Mathematics 1431.

**Humanities and Fine Arts:** 3 credits

**Social and Behavioral Sciences:** 3 credits

Complete at least 2 credits from the list of courses in the Global/Multicultural Studies or Contemporary Life Skills Category. (*Health Sciences 1110 in program requirements fulfills this requirement.*)

| TOTAL CREDITS FOR AAS DEGREE | 67.5 to 69.5 |

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**Spring Year Two (6.5 credits)**  
- Phyta 2214 (1)  
- Phyta 2223 (2.5)  
- Phyta 2224 (3)

**For more information:**  
If you are considering this program as an area of study, please contact the Health & Biological Sciences Division office at 630-942-8331.

**Program web site:**  
http://www.cod.edu/programs/physical_therapist
Career Information PHYTA.AAS

**Job Title(s):** Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)
Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA), Physical Therapy Technician, Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant (LPTA), Licensed Physical Therapy Assistant (LPTA)

For salary and wage information, please visit: [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org)

If you would like information regarding internships, resume development, interviewing and job search skills, please contact the Career Services Center

Phone: 630-942-2230
[www.cod.edu/careerservices](http://www.cod.edu/careerservices) Twitter: @codcareercenter

**Related Occupations:**
Social and Human Service Assistants Athletic Trainers
Registered Nurses Occupational Therapy Assistants
Psychiatric Technicians Medical Assistants
Respiratory Therapy Technicians Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses