

PHT 6916: Clinical Internship I

This is the first of 3 senior full-time, clinical affiliation courses. This course will provide senior physical therapy students with the opportunities to practice clinical decision-making based on evidence and develop entry-level physical therapy skills for patient/client management in a variety of clinical settings on a full-time basis. Students will apply their knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors in community-based physical therapy settings. Through the clinical internship series, students will typically rotate through clinical placements in a variety of health care organizations; schedule modifications may be made to accommodate facility requirements or other needs. The goal of all placements is for student achievement of entry-level competency and professional behaviors in all settings. Students must complete at least one internship in: an acute care/inpatient or subacute setting, a neurorehabilitation setting, and an outpatient setting. The remaining internship may be completed in the venue or setting of student choice such as: outpatient clinics, rehabilitation hospitals or units, specialty practices such as pediatrics, sports, worker's compensation/ergonomics, or women and men's health, as available. During the full time internship, students will focus on patient/client management models by performing patient examinations, evaluations, determining diagnoses, prognoses, and interventions (POC) within the context of the clinical setting utilizing the Guide to Physical Therapist Practice. It is expected that through the clinical internship series, students will demonstrate appropriate management skills of patient/clients across the adult or lifespan across the continuum of care commonly seen in physical therapy practice. Students are expected to demonstrate effective communication and documentation skills; to develop their professionalism consistent with the APTA core values, cultural competence, ethical and legal practice.