**PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT, A.S.**

**Begin Campus:** DuBois, Fayette, Hazleton, Mont Alto, Shenango  
**End Campus:** DuBois, Fayette, Hazleton, Mont Alto, Shenango

**Program Description**

This major helps prepare individuals to provide physical therapy services under the direction of a physical therapist in an ethical, safe and effective manner. Students develop knowledge and skills in data collection and the appropriate use of equipment and exercise associated with various physical therapy treatment modalities. In order to accomplish these tasks, the major utilizes a combination of basic science and non-science course work coupled with courses specifically designed for the physical therapist assistant student. Students must progress through the program as prescribed by the recommended academic plan for their campus of admission. The program culminates with a full semester of clinical experience.

The size of each entering class is limited so that optimal clinical experiences and practical application situations can be maintained. Clinical affiliations are maintained over a wide geographical area, and students may be required to make special housing and transportation arrangements for the clinical phase. Prior to the beginning of the clinical practicum, PTA students are required to complete clinical requirements that may include, but are not limited to: health examination, immunizations, FBI fingerprint check, child abuse clearance, state background check and drug screening. Students will be responsible for completion and purchase of the necessary checks/clearances through a University approved vendor and providing results to the clinical sites.

In addition to a PTA certification/licensure, many state licensing boards and clinical facilities require a criminal background check, child abuse clearance, and a drug screening. Students with criminal records should contact the physical therapy licensing board in the state they plan to practice prior to applying for admission to the PTA Program to inquire about potential restrictions for licensure.

**What is a Physical Therapist Assistant?**

Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) work as part of a team providing physical therapy services under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist. PTAs implement interventions outlined in the physical therapist's plan of care, collect data related to interventions, and modify selected interventions to progress patients towards their individual goals. These goals are designed to reduce pain, restore function, improve mobility and prevent disability. An Associate in Science Degree in Physical Therapist Assistant requires 5-semesters of study, including three full-time clinical practicums. The PTA Program prepares graduates to take the national examination for certification/licensure as a PTA.

**You Might Like This Program If...**

You might like this major if you are interested in working with people of all ages who have health-related conditions that cause pain, limit their ability to move or perform functional activities in their daily lives. PTAs work under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist to provide meaningful interventions, such as exercise, training for walking and other activities, and the use of physical agents and electrotherapy.

**Entrance to Major**

Students must request a Dean’s review to change to this Associate degree after admission to the University.

**Additional Information**

In addition to a PTA certification/licensure, many state licensing boards and clinical facilities require a criminal background check, child abuse clearance, and a drug screening. PTA students are required to complete clinical requirements that may include FBI fingerprint check, child abuse clearance, state background check and drug screening prior to the beginning of the clinical practicum. Students will be responsible for completion and purchase of the necessary checks/clearances through a University approved vendor and providing results to the clinical sites. Students with criminal records should contact the physical therapy licensing board in the state they plan to practice prior to applying for admission to the PTA Program to inquire about potential restrictions for licensure.

**Degree Requirements**

For the Associate in Science degree in Physical Therapist Assistant, a minimum of 70 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 of the 21 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 3-6 credits of GWS courses; 3 credits of GN courses; 3-6 credits of GS courses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Education**

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/associate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

**Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)**

- **Quantification (GQ):** 3 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 3 credits

**Knowledge Domains**

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

**Foundations or Knowledge Domains**

- A General Education course selected from GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, or GS, and may include Integrative Studies (Inter-domain or Linked) courses: 3 credits
The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

University Degree Requirements

Cultures Requirement
3 credits of United States (US) or International (IL) cultures coursework are required and may satisfy other requirements.

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 60 degree credits must be earned for a associates degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 60 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major
To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100</td>
<td>Introductory Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 161</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology I - Lecture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 162</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology I - Laboratory</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 163</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology II - Lecture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 164</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology II - Laboratory</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15</td>
<td>Rhetoric and Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 120</td>
<td>Human Musculature and Functional Anatomy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 150</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant Procedures I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 160</td>
<td>Therapeutic Exercise I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 250</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant--Procedures II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 260</td>
<td>Therapeutic Exercise--II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 285</td>
<td>Clinical Reasoning for the PTA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 290</td>
<td>Professional Issues in Clinical Practice</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 384</td>
<td>Applied Kinesiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 395E</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant--Practicum I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 395F</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant--Practicum II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 395G</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant--Practicum II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 203</td>
<td>Interpersonal Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202C</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Technical Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 129</td>
<td>Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 229</td>
<td>Infant and Child Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 212</td>
<td>Introduction to Developmental Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 270</td>
<td>Introduction to Abnormal Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT 100</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant--Introduction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or PT 100S</td>
<td>Physical Therapist Assistant-Introduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT 270</td>
<td>Pathophysiology</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 270W</td>
<td>Pathophysiology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 271</td>
<td>Pathophysiology I</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; PT 272</td>
<td>and Pathophysiology II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 271W</td>
<td>Pathophysiology I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; PT 272</td>
<td>and Pathophysiology II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT 280</td>
<td>Rehabilitation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 280W</td>
<td>Rehabilitation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 281</td>
<td>Rehabilitation-1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; PT 282</td>
<td>and Rehabilitation-2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 281</td>
<td>Rehabilitation-1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; PT 282W</td>
<td>and Rehabilitation-2W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Courses that include clinical education experiences may require the student to travel long distances or obtain housing near the assigned clinic. Housing and transportation arrangements are the responsibility of the student.

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

Dubois

Barb Reinard, PT, DPT
Assistant Teaching Professor
PTA Program Coordinator
1 College Place
DuBois, PA 15801
814-375-4773
Fayette
Stacy Sekely
Assistant Teaching Professor
2201 University Drive
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456
724-430-4105
sas85@psu.edu

Hazleton
Rosemarie Petrilla
Teaching Professor of Physical Therapy
7D Physical Education Building
Hazleton, PA 18202
570-450-3042
rxp21@psu.edu

Mont Alto
Renee Borromeo
Teaching Professor, Physical Therapy
University College, Professor in Charge
104H Sci-Tech
Mont Alto, PA 17237
717-749-6020
rlb18@psu.edu

Shenango
Gizelle Dean
Associate Teaching Professor
147 Shenango Avenue
204B Forker Lab
724-983-2867
gad12@psu.edu

Suggested Academic Plan
The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2020-21 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (Note: the archive only contain suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin).

DuBois Campus
The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year
Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits
--- | --- | --- | ---
ENGL 15† | 3 PT 120* | 2 | 
BIOL 161* | 3 PT 384* | 3 | 
BIOL 162* | 1 BIOL 163†† | 3 | 
PSYCH 100 | 3 BIOL 164†† | 1 | 

PT 100S* | 3 General Education Course‡ | 3 |
General Education Course - Arts, Humanities or Quantitative‡ | 3 General Education Course‡ | 3 |

Second Year
Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits | Summer | Credits
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
PT 150* | 2 PT 250* | 3 PT 395E* | 4 | 
PT 160* | 3 PT 395E* | 3 PT 395G* | 4 | 
PT 271W* | 3 PT 260* | 3 | 
PT 272* | 2 PT 282* | 3 | 
PT 290† | 2 PT 285* | 2 | 
PT 281* | 2 PSYCH 212* | 3 | 

Total Credits 70
* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
‡ Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
‡ Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:
US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GN, GA, GH, and GS). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

Fayette Campus
The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year
Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits
--- | --- | --- | ---
BIOL 161 (GN)* | 3 BIOL 163 (GN)* | 3 |
BIOL 162 (GN)* | 1 BIOL 164 (GN)* | 1 |
PT 100† | 3 PSYCH 100 (GS)† | 3 |
PT 120* | 2 PT 384* | 3 |
ENGL 15 (GWS)‡ | 3 General Education Course (GH or GA) | 3 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Therapist Assistant, A.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Quantification (GQ) (MATH 37 suggested)‡

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PSU 8</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Second Year Credits

**Fall**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PT 150*</th>
<th>2 PT 201 (suggested elective course but not required)</th>
<th>1 PT 395F*</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT 160*</td>
<td>3 PT 260*</td>
<td>3 PT 395G*</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 250*</td>
<td>3 PT 272*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 271*</td>
<td>3 PT 282W*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 281*</td>
<td>2 PT 285*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 290*</td>
<td>2 CAS 203, ENGL 202C, HDFS 129, HDFS 229, PSYCH 212, or PSYCH 270†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PT 395E*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Credits 72 |

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

### University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GN, GA, GH, and GS). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

### Academic Advising Notes:

A student’s career/graduate school plans should be considered in developing an individual academic plan. Be sure to consult an adviser in this department when scheduling courses.

### Hazleton Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

#### First Year Credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits Spring</th>
<th>Credits Summer</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 161*</td>
<td>3 BIOL 163*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 162†</td>
<td>1 BIOL 164†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15 or 30†</td>
<td>3 General Education Course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100†</td>
<td>3 PT 120*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 100††</td>
<td>3 General Education Course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Education Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Credits 70 |

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
†† Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
††† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement
1 This course satisfies the University United States/International Cultures requirement.
2 This course satisfies the University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement. The clinical practicum component of this course is a three week full-time experience in a physical therapy practice setting.
3 This is a six week clinical practicum that is a full-time experience in a physical therapy practice setting.
4 PT 100 will be offered in the spring.

### University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes...
Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GN, GA, GH, and GS). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

**Additional Notes:**

**Program Notes**

Students are required to take a total of 3 credits in ARTS and 3 credits in HUM during the first 2 semesters.

KINES 13 is optional, student must be certified in Professional Rescuer, CPR, and First Aid.

Students are allowed to attend graduation ceremonies, but officially do not receive diploma until August, upon successful completion of their summer practicums.

A student’s career/graduate school plans should be considered in developing an individual academic plan. Be sure to consult an adviser in this department when scheduling courses.

**Mont Alto Campus**

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

### First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT 100S †</td>
<td>3 PT 120 †</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 161 (GN) †</td>
<td>3 PT 384 ‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 162 (GN) †</td>
<td>1 BIOL 163 (GN) †</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15 or 30 (GWS) ¶</td>
<td>3 BIOL 164 (GN) †</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100 (GS) ¶</td>
<td>3 General Education Course (GQ) ¶</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSU 88</td>
<td>1 General Education Course (GH or GA); US/IL recommended</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Education Course (GH or GA); US/IL recommended 16-17 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Second Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits Spring</th>
<th>Credits Summer</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT 150 †</td>
<td>2 PT 250 †</td>
<td>3 PT 395F ‡</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 160 †</td>
<td>3 PT 260 †</td>
<td>3 PT 395G ‡</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 271W †</td>
<td>3 PT 272 †</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 281 †</td>
<td>2 PT 282 †</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 290 †</td>
<td>2 PT 285 †</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| PT 395E ‡ | 3 ENGL 202C, PSYCH 212, CAS 203, HDFS 129, HDFS 229, or PSYCH 270 ‡ | 3       |

Total Credits 70-71

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
‡ Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

1 PT 100 - Students are required to complete eight observation hours at two different clinical facilities in preparation for this course. See https://montalto.psu.edu/academics/degrees/associate-physical-therapist-assistant/observation for more information.
2 PT 271W - This course satisfies the University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.
3 PT 395E - This is a three-week clinical practicum in that is a full-time experience in a physical therapy practice setting.
4 PT 395F - This is a six-week clinical practicum that is a full-time experience in a physical therapy practice setting.
5 PT 395G - This is a six-week clinical practicum that is a full-time experience in a physical therapy practice setting.
6 Either GA or GH must satisfy US/IL requirements.
7 Required of students entering their first year of college only. Not required for students who are transferring credits from other institutions or are re-enrolling at Penn State.

**University Requirements and General Education Notes:**

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GN, GA, GH, and GS). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

**Advising Notes:**

All students are required to be currently certified in CPR for participation in PT 395E, PT 395F, and PT 395G. Students may attain the certification through KINES 13, which can be taken any semester.
Shenango Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art Elective (GA)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>BIOL 163†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 161†</td>
<td>3 BIOL 164*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 162†</td>
<td>1 Humanities Elective (GH)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15‡</td>
<td>3 PT 120†</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100†</td>
<td>3 PT 384*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 100†</td>
<td>3 Quantification Elective (GQ)‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 16 15

Second Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT 290†</td>
<td>2 PT 250†</td>
<td>3 PT 395F*</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 150†</td>
<td>2 PT 260†</td>
<td>3 PT 395G*</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 160†</td>
<td>3 PT 280†</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT 270W*</td>
<td>5 PT 285†</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and Behavioral Science Elective (GS)‡</td>
<td>3 PT 395E*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 15 16 8

Total Credits 70

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
‡ Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
# Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GN, GA, GH, and GS). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

Program Notes

Students must complete a 3-credit course in 'United States Cultures (US)' or a 3-credit course in 'International Cultures (IL).'

Career Paths

The Physical Therapist Assistant program prepares its graduates for positions in many traditional and non-traditional career settings and for opportunities to further their educations in a variety of fields.

Careers

Physical Therapist Assistants provide services to patients of all ages and health conditions many settings, including outpatient clinics, hospitals, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, extended care or sub-acute facilities, home, education or research centers, schools, occupational environments, fitness centers and sports training facilities. All states in the US require PTAs to have graduated from a CAPTE-accredited program and have obtained state licensure. Students seeking licensure as a PTA must apply to the licensing authority of the jurisdiction (state) in which the graduate is seeking licensure and then register for the National Physical Therapy Examination for PTAs administered by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PT/PTA CAREERS (http://www.apta.org/Careers/)

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK IN HEALTHCARE (https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physical-therapist-assistants-and-aides.htm)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Many students choose to continue their education at Penn State after completing their AS degree in PTA by completing and completing bachelor’s degrees in a variety of disciplines, including: Rehabilitation and Human Services; Letters, Arts and Sciences; Human Development and Family Studies; Health Policy Administration; Psychology; or other related field of study. Advisers assist interested students in completing bachelor’s degrees and meeting prerequisite qualifications to apply for doctoral degrees in physical therapy (DPT) or other field of graduate study.

Professional Resources

- American Physical Therapy Association (http://www.apta.org)
- Pennsylvania Physical Therapy Association (http://www.ppta.org/)
- Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (http://www.fsbpt.org/)

Accreditation

The Associate of Science degree in Physical Therapist Assistant at Penn State is accredited by the:

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)
1111 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: 703-706-3245
Email: accreditation@apta.org
Website: http://www.capteonline.org (http://www.capteonline.org/)

Graduation from a physical therapist assistant education program accredited by CAPTE is necessary for eligibility to sit for the licensure examination, which is required in all states.

Accreditation by Campus

Penn State DuBois

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Penn State DuBois is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy.
Penn State Fayette
The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, 703-706-3245, accreditation@apta.org.

Penn State Hazleton
The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Penn State Hazleton is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, 703-706-3245, accreditation@apta.org.

Penn State Mont Alto
The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at the Penn State Mont Alto is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, 703-706-3245, accreditation@apta.org. (accreditation@apta.org)

Penn State Shenango
The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Penn State Shenango is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, 703-706-3245, accreditation@apta.org.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION IN PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION (http://www.capteonline.org/home.aspx)

Contact
Dubois
1 College Place
DuBois, PA 15801
814-375-4773
ber125@psu.edu

http://dubois.psu.edu/2pta (http://dubois.psu.edu/2pta/)

Fayette
2201 University Drive
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456
724-430-4105
sas85@psu.edu

http://fayette.psu.edu/pta (http://fayette.psu.edu/pta/)

Hazleton
7 Physical Education Building
Hazleton, PA 18202
570-450-3047
rxp21@psu.edu

http://hazleton.psu.edu/associate-science-physical-therapist-assistant (http://hazleton.psu.edu/associate-science-physical-therapist-assistant/)

Mont Alto
104H Sci-Tech
Mont Alto, PA 17237
717-749-6020
rlb18@psu.edu

https://montalto.psu.edu/academics/associate/physical-therapist-assistant-degree (https://montalto.psu.edu/academics/associate/physical-therapist-assistant-degree/)

Shenango
147 Shenango Avenue
204B Forker Lab
724-983-2867
gad12@psu.edu

http://shenango.psu.edu/pta (http://shenango.psu.edu/pta/)