Doctor of Physical Therapy

- Problem-based learning (PBL) curriculum allows students to learn and integrate material based on clinical patient cases
- Students participate in a total of 36 weeks of clinical experiences
- Clinical affiliations with over 300 facilities in western Pennsylvania area and throughout the United States.
- Prepares graduates with the necessary critical thinking and problem solving skills to practice in all fields, including: cardiovascular, geriatrics, neurology, oncology, orthopedic, pediatrics, pulmonary, sports therapy, and women’s health
- Seven semesters
- Clinical experiences integrated throughout the curriculum.
- Service learning component
- Curriculum stresses evidence-based practice and professionalism
- Faculty are clinically active and professionally involved
- Small class size with faculty accessible to students
- Last year, 100% of our graduates were employed within six months of graduation
APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM
Applicants to Chatham University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program must use the Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS). PTCAS allows applicants to apply to professional programs using a single online application, one set of transcripts, and one set of references. Applications may be submitted at www.ptcas.org.

- Priority Decision application deadline: October 3
- Regular application deadline: December 1

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
- A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university
- Cumulative prerequisite course grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale; grades of less than a “C” are not acceptable in prerequisite courses
- Overall undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale
- GRE score
- Required prerequisite courses
- On-campus writing sample and interview
- Official transcripts verifying cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above upon applicant's acceptance of an offer of admission
- Evidence of volunteer/work experience in physical therapy setting(s)
- Three references: two academic and one physical therapist or one academic and two physical therapists

PREREQUISITES
Although all applicants must satisfactorily complete the following courses in order to be eligible to begin the Chatham University DPT program, completion of all courses is not a requirement for submitting an application.

- General biology with lab (two terms)
- General chemistry with lab (two terms)
- Physics with lab (two terms)
- Anatomy (one term)*
- Physiology (one term)*
- Introduction to Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Statistics (one term)

*If taking anatomy with physiology, both Anatomy & Physiology I and II are necessary to fulfill the anatomy and physiology requirement

Practice as a professional requires proficiency in oral and written communication. Students will be expected to demonstrate these proficiencies at the time of the on-campus writing assignment and interview.

PHYSICAL THERAPY CURRICULUM

Term 1
- Human Gross Anatomy and Lab
- Introduction to Clinical Skills
- Human Physiology
- Principles of Practice I: Introduction to PT Practice

Term 2
- Principles of Neuroscience
- Correlative Neuroscience
- Foundations of Movement Science I
- Fundamentals of Exercise Physiology

Term 3
- Management of Musculoskeletal Systems Dysfunction
- Principles of Practice II: Communication and Ethics

Term 4
- Clinical Experience I for 10 weeks
- Principles of Practice III: Integration of Psychosocial Issues and Social Responsibility
- Management of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Systems Dysfunction
- Foundations of Movement Science II
- Research I

Term 5
- Management of Neuromuscular Systems Dysfunction
- Management of Pediatric Neuromuscular Systems Dysfunction
- Principles of Practice IV: Service Learning

Term 6
- Clinical Experience II for 10 weeks
- Research II
- Management of Multi-System Dysfunction
- Principles of Practice V: Health Care Delivery, Management, and Policy

Term 7
- Clinical Experience III or
- Clinical Experience IV and
- Clinical Experience V (16 weeks)
- Principles of Practice VI: Art and Science of Physical Therapy Practice

CHATHAM UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN SCIENCE AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS
- Master of Science in Biology
- Master of Occupational Therapy
- Master of Physician Assistant Studies
- Doctor of Physical Therapy

Big thinking for a big world