

PHYSICAL THERAPY

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

www.sru.edu/dpt



DELIVERY METHOD

On-Campus

START DATE

Fall term only

COMPLETION TIME

Three years

NUMBER OF CREDITS

119 credits



SlipperyRock
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu/graduate

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program at Slippery Rock University was the third physical therapy program in the United States to transition from a master's level program to a doctoral level. SRU's DPT program is a clinical doctorate degree designed to prepare graduates for practice in physical therapy. The program is eight semesters, including 37 weeks dedicated to clinical hands-on patient experiences.

In the United States, physical therapy licensure is required to practice. The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy reports that SRU PT graduates consistently meet or exceed national pass rate averages on the licensure board exam.

The Graduate School of Physical Therapy at Slippery Rock University integrates basic science with clinical practice. There are nine full-time and several part-time faculty members. Eight of the full-time faculty members hold post-professional doctoral degrees, and six are engaged in clinical practice.

The variety of available clinical sites and length of time spent in clinical rotations are other strengths of the program. Clinical Experience I is two weeks in the summer preceding the start of the second year. Clinical Experience II is five weeks in between the fall and spring semesters of the second year. Clinical Internship I is 15 weeks in the fall of the third year and Clinical Internship II is for 15 weeks in the spring of the third year.

Students also have an opportunity to pursue special interests related to physical therapy in Professional Exploration I and II. These courses are designed to provide additional learning opportunities in a clinical specialty area, research, teaching, administration or service.

The SRU Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Slippery Rock University is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 N. Fairfax, Alexandria, VA 22314; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: www.capteonline.org.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

There are two options for pursuing a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree at SRU:

- Traditional 3 graduate years
- 3 undergraduate years + 3 graduate years (SRU undergraduates only)

DEGREE & COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Degree granted - DPT, Doctor of Physical Therapy. A course requirement of 119-credit hours, eight total semesters. Four semesters will include off-campus clinical rotations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To apply, all applicants should complete the Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service (PTCAS) application found at <https://ptcas.liasoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>

Applications will be accepted from July 1 until November 1 or until the cohort is filled.

1. A minimum of a baccalaureate degree or completion of the first three years of the Pre-Physical Therapy SRU 3+3 and the following prerequisites:
 - a. Two courses of Anatomy & Physiology with labs
 - b. Two courses of Chemistry with labs
 - c. Two courses of Physics with labs
 - d. Two courses of Psychology
 - e. One course in Statistics

*All prerequisite courses must be completed with a C or better. Due to COVID-19, we will accept "pass" for Spring and Summer 2020 courses. However, we will rank them as a "B" when analyzing grades.
2. Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts from all institutions previously attended.
3. Official scores from the general test of the Graduate Record Exam scores (GRE scores are reportable for five years). **SRU PTCAS code is 4802**. If the applicant already holds a Master or other graduate degree, we do not require GRE scores. The GRE is strongly recommended, but not required for the 2021-22 application cycle.
4. Documentation of 50 hours or more of physical therapy experience with a licensed physical therapist at a minimum of two different facilities.
5. Three recommendations: two must be from licensed physical therapists and the third is a professional reference. Reference letters from physical therapy assistants (PTAs), athletic trainers, etc. will not be accepted. Each applicant **MUST** submit one professional reference letter from someone of their choice; however, letters from family members or friends **WILL NOT** be accepted. Professional recommendations may include professors, employers, and volunteer supervisors other than physical therapists. Update for 2021-22 application cycle: We strongly encourage letters from 2 PTs but will accept applications with only 1 PT reference. Alternative letter must be from an employer, supervisor, or similar professional reference.
6. Completed essay questions.
7. An undergraduate grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICANTS

International applicants, please visit www.sru.edu/graduate for requirements.

NOTE:

- All prerequisites must have been taken within the last 10 years.
- Online courses for all prerequisites permitted except for Anatomy & Physiology and Chemistry. Due to COVID-19, we will accept online courses, however we encourage students to defer taking the course in a later semester when possible.
- AP/IB courses are permitted except for Anatomy & Physiology. For Chemistry, Physics and Psychology we only accept one as AP/IB while the second prerequisite must be from a college-level course
- Applicants who are offered and accept admission in the program are required to submit a non-refundable deposit within two weeks of acceptance to hold a seat in the upcoming cohort. The \$500.00 deposit is applied directly to the student's tuition for the fall semester

CURRICULUM

Semester I (Fall):

Neuroscience I (PHTH-631)	4
Pathology I (PHTH-654)	4
Gross and Applied Anatomy I (PHTH-656)	6
PT Assessment and Procedures I (PHTH-659)	3
	17 credits

Semester II (Spring):

Healthcare Systems I (PHTH-545)	2
Neuroscience II (PHTH-636)	4
Pathology II (PHTH-655)	4
Gross and Applied Anatomy II (PHTH-658)	6
PT Assessment and Procedures II (PHTH-660)	2
	18 credits

Semester III (Summer):

Clinical Experience I (PHTH-645)	1
Nutrition (PHTH-652)	1
Pharmacotherapy (PHTH-653)	1
Environmental Considerations for Physical Therapists (PHTH-661)	2
Foundations of Therapeutic Exercise (PHTH-729)	2
Diagnostic Imaging for PTs (PHTH-731)	1
Psychosocial Integration (PHTH-744)	2
Concepts of EBP (PHTH-757)	2
Professional Exploration I (PHTH-816)	1
	13 credits

Semester IV (Fall):

PT Modalities (PHTH-650)	2
Musculoskeletal III (PHTH-704)	3
Clinical Experience II (PHTH-710)	3
Neuromuscular I (PHTH-717)	4
Therapeutic Adaptations (PHTH-719)	3
EBP: Appraising Lit (PHTH-758)	3
Professional Exploration II (PHTH-819)	1
	19 credits

Semester V (Spring):

Musculoskeletal II (PHTH-703)	3
Neuromuscular II (PHTH-718)	4
Cardiopulmonary (PHTH-732)	3
Health Care Systems II (PHTH-742)	3
Education, Prev., & Wellness (PHTH-743)	2
EBP: Application (PHTH-759)	2
	17 credits

CURRICULUM (CONT)

Semester VI (Summer):

Musculoskeletal I (PHTH-702)	3
Geriatric PT (PHTH-734)	3
Pediatric PT (PHTH-735)	3
Electives - Selected Topics	
Pilates (PHTH-698-01)	(2)
Acute Care (PHTH-698-02)	(2)
PT in Rehabilitation (PHTH-698-03)	(2)
Applied Orthopedics (PHTH-698-04)	(2)
Biomechanical Applications (PHTH-698-05)	(2)
Pediatrics Elective (PHTH-752)	(2)
Sports PT (PHTH-754)	(2)
Geriatric Elective (PHTH-755)	(2)
Integumentary PT (PHTH-733)	1
Special Topics in PT (PHTH-736)	1
	13 credits

Semester VII (Fall):

PT Business Practices (PHTH-737)	2
Clinical Internship I (PHTH-802)	9
	11 credits

Semester VIII (Spring):

Clinical Internship II (PHTH-804)	9
Professional Inquiry (PHTH-820)	2
	11 credits

Total Credits 119 credits

DPT matriculation/acceptance rates and student outcomes are available upon request.

TUITION & ASSISTANTSHIPS

Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate. Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office at www.sru.edu/FinAid or the Office of Graduate Admissions.

Note: Assistantships are not recommended for first year PT students due to the heavy academic load.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE CERTIFICATION

The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) at SRU is a professional doctorate degree program designed to prepare graduates for clinical practice in physical therapy. Graduates will be eligible to sit for the National Physical Therapist Examination (NPTE), successful completion of which is required for physical therapy practice throughout the United States. Licensure requirements vary by state. We strongly urge you to contact the licensing board in the state where you plan to practice.

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Dr. Kelly Lindenberg
Graduate Coordinator
215 Physical Therapy Building
724.738.4368
kelly.lindenberg@sru.edu

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions
104 North Hall, Welcome Center
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
www.sru.edu/graduate
724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD
graduate.admissions@sru.edu

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.