

State Technical College of Missouri

Course Syllabus

PTA 135 Clinical Practice I

2 Credit Hours

152.00 clock hours of Internship

per semester

Course Description

This is a four week (40 hours per week) clinical experience that provides the student with his/her first opportunity for hands-on patient care. The student will apply basic skills learned in the classroom to the clinical setting making the connection between theory and practice. The student will work under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapy professional in an assigned/approved facility. This clinical experience provides opportunities for development of appropriate professional behaviors related to the role of the physical therapist assistant (PTA).

Course Requisites

Prerequisite

PTA 117 with a grade of C or better,
PTA 127 with a grade of C or better,
PTA 121 with a grade of C or better,
PTA 125 with a grade of C or better
and
PTA 128 with a grade of C or better

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate appropriate professional behaviors in all situations.
2. Utilize written, verbal, and nonverbal communication effectively with patients, caregivers, and medical team members, and modify approach to ensure understanding.
3. Employ active listening skills to maintain effective two-way communications.
4. Follow departmental policies and procedures in the clinical setting.
5. Exhibit respect for individual, cultural, and economic differences.
6. Relate theory and principles to procedures that are observed/performed.
7. Administer data collection procedures and assigned treatment interventions safely and effectively to a variety of patients.
8. Identify response to treatment (including pain) and modify interventions within plan of care to obtain desired outcomes.
9. Observe and describe patient performance of exercise and/or functional activity in response to therapeutic activities taught.
10. Make permissible modifications to the intervention, within the PT plan of care, to improve the patient/client response.
11. Examine medical records and retrieve relevant information.
12. Compose written documentation in a clear, concise, and timely manner.
13. Demonstrate efficient use of time and resources to accomplish all assigned tasks.
14. Demonstrate appropriate techniques for preparation and clean-up of equipment and treatment areas.
15. Apply critical thinking and problem solving skills including asking appropriate questions in the clinical environment.
16. Exhibit behaviors consistent with developing level of the generic abilities in all areas.
17. Complete all required documentation/assignments and submit to ACCE in a timely manner.

Class Section Information

Section Number(s):	80
Meeting Day(s):	TBD
Meeting Time(s):	Assigned by Clinical Site
Location(s):	TBA – assigned affiliating clinical site
Start and End Date:	January 08, 2019 - February 01, 2019

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Kathy Vitela
Office Hours:	Monday through Thursday, 8:00-5:00 pm Friday contact by email or phone
Office Location:	Rm 111, STC Health Sciences Building
Primary Phone:	573-897-5336 (Office)

Other Phone: 573-418-0941 (Cell)
Office E-mail: kathy.vitela@statetechmo.edu
Expected Response Time: 24 hours

Required Books, Tools, and Other Materials

Roy, Serge, and Wolf, Steven, and Scalsitti, David; The Rehabilitation Specialist Handbook; 4th edition, 2013, F.A. Davis
STC Nametag, CPR card, proof of medical insurance coverage, updated immunizations; background check, drug screen. A goniometer and tape measure may be required at some sites.

Optional/Recommended Books and Other Materials

Professional attire or STC Polo shirt is to be worn during all clinical sessions unless otherwise indicated (see dress code policy for clinical affiliations in PTA Student Handbook). Comfortable, non-restrictive clothing is necessary for the activities of the practice of physical therapy. The student will assume responsibility for transportation, meals and incidentals necessary for this affiliation.

AJA@™ STC Grading System

The Job Readiness Work Ethic Score and Attendance Percentage portions of the AJA@™STC system do not apply to this class. Only an Academic Grade will be issued and recorded on your transcript.

Academic Grade

The following academic grading scale is used for this class:

A = 91.5% to 100.0%
B = 82.5% to 91.4%
C = 74.5% to 82.4%
D = 64.5% to 74.4%
F = 64.4% and below

Students are assessed by their respective clinical instructor(s) using the Clinical Practice I performance evaluation. This evaluation contains information related to clinical skills as well as areas of professional behaviors included in the generic abilities (see student handbook). This report will be presented to the academic coordinator of clinical education (ACCE) for interpretation and assignment of grade.

The final grade includes information from the performance evaluation, ACCE mid-term conversation with CI/student, submission of any written assignments/exams, and completion of all required documentation/paperwork. A passing grade is equivalent to at least 75% and a failing grade is anything < 75%.

Clinical Practice I requires a "C" or above. Students must achieve a minimum **average of 3.75** for clinical skill and professional behavior sections of the performance evaluation by the end of the rotation. **In addition, regardless of how the performance evaluation is "graded" by the CI, if there is evidence through written comments or other communications that the student has not met expectations with regard to either clinical skills or professionalism, the student is subject to a letter grade change or failure with determination by the ACCE/academic faculty.** The student's letter grade for the clinical may also be changed at the discretion of the ACCE if it is determined that the student did not meet the minimum performance standards. If the student does not meet expectations, it is at the discretion of the clinical and academic faculty to establish an appropriate plan for remediation of the area or skill in question, which may include a repeat of the entire clinical and other activities as deemed appropriate to achieve course objectives. Attempts will be made to provide the student the opportunity for remediation without compromising academic coursework. If remediation occurs and the student is successful, the highest letter grade the student may receive for the clinical is a "C". Successful remediation must occur before a student is allowed to begin Clinical Practice II.

As long as all criteria are met, the final grade will be calculated as follows: Student Performance Evaluation: 80% of total grade. Clinical paperwork, journals, attendance: 20% of total grade. TOTAL: 100% See Grading Rubric for CP I attached.

Students must be in good standing with all academic coursework to begin any clinical affiliation. As with all other courses, a strong emphasis is placed on the generic abilities and students must meet these expectations as well to successfully complete the course.

Attendance Requirements

Students are expected to attend all required hours of clinical education. It is the responsibility of students who will be absent, tardy, or leaving early to leave a message with the college receptionist by calling 800-743-8324 or the PTA secretary at 573-897-2406. The receptionist will relay the message to the appropriate instructors and staff. In cases of prolonged absence, the student must notify the Office of Counseling Services, who will then notify the student's instructors.

Students are expected to arrive promptly and attend all scheduled clinical days unless prior arrangements are made with both the respective clinical instructor and the academic coordinator of clinical education (ACCE). If unable to attend scheduled hours/days, you must contact both your CI and the ACCE as soon as possible. All absences, whether rescheduled or not, may be recorded. It is the responsibility of the student to reschedule any absences at the discretion of the clinical site and the CI. The ACCE should be notified of any difficulties in making up time, and will assist in making alternate arrangements as needed. The ACCE can be reached by calling (573) 897-2406, or via the STC campus switchboard at 1-800-743-8324. Excessive absences will require additional intervention by ACCE and may result in a failed clinical experience.

Library Assignment

The library assignment will involve students researching answers to patient case questions. Course textbooks and notes, clinical instructor input, and other technological resources will be utilized by the students to enhance knowledge of disease conditions and treatment interventions related to the patient and physical therapy. This assignment will be submitted for grading and will enhance achievement of course objectives. Assignments will be posted by the students and graded on Moodle.

Special Class or Laboratory Procedures

The student will be under the direct supervision of a qualified clinical instructor (PT or PTA), applying learned skills/techniques, participating in observation, discussion, meetings, in-services (where applicable), and other direct and indirect patient care activities as appropriate. The ACCE directs the clinical education program and is available for consultation as needed.

Student Competency Level: At this point the didactic curriculum includes the following:

1. Assessment Skills: MMT, Goniometry, Vital Signs including pulse, respiration, temperature, and blood pressure, Posture assessment/Body mechanics, Environmental barriers, Pain, Patient interviewing, Gait analysis – normal gait and gait deviations
2. Patient Care Interventions: Transfers, Bed mobility, Positioning, ROM, Pre-Gait activities, Gait training with proper fitting of assistive devices, Bandaging and wrapping, Massage, Chest Physical Therapy, Wheelchair mobility/management
3. Therapeutic Exercise: Stretching, Strengthening, Cardiopulmonary, Balance, Proprioception, PNF, Conditioning, Aquatics, Chest PT (postural drainage, percussion, vibration, breathing ex & coughing techniques)
4. Application of Modalities/Physical Agents: Thermal agents (paraffin, moist heat, cryocuff, polar packs, ice massage, contrast baths), cervical and pelvic traction (including home and clinic units), hydrotherapy, compression pump, ultrasound (phonophoresis, traditional, and underwater)
5. Safety/Infection Control: Aseptic technique, isolation precautions, standard precautions, infection control
6. Documentation –primarily SOAP format, abbreviations
7. General Overview of Professional Behaviors: Privacy, Confidentiality, HIPAA (basics), Generic Abilities, Patient Rights, cultural competence, professionalism, value-based behaviors, ethical conduct

All students have performed skill checks with performance assessment by an instructor for the following:

- Vital Signs (BP & HR)
- Transfers
- Assistive Device Fitting
- Gait Training
- Bandaging
- Goniometry/MMT of Hip, Knee, Ankle, & Foot
- Goniometry/MMT of Shoulder, Elbow, Wrist, & Hand
- Goniometry/MMT of Cervical, Thoracic, & Lumbar Spine
- Hot/Cold Pack
- Contrast Bath
- Ultra Sound
- Traction
- Compression therapy
- PNF Stretching & Strengthening
- Chest PT, Breathing Exercises

At this point, the student has had at least an introduction to the following:

- Wheelchair fitting/prescription
- joint mobilizations & manual therapy techniques
- acute care environments
- reimbursement, legislation, code of ethics
- research
- psychosocial issues related to illness/disease and rehabilitation
- wound management
- aquatics

Students are also required to be CPR certified before CPI

The clinical instructor may teach the student a skill or treatment intervention that has not been presented and practiced in the academic setting. **However, the clinical instructor is responsible for determining if the student is safe in applying the procedure to a patient within this clinical setting, and abiding by the appropriate state and federal laws governing the profession.**

Plan of Instruction

Overview	Topic
Weeks 1-4	<p>The student should, under the appropriate supervision of a qualified clinical instructor and the ultimate supervision of the licensed PT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Practice learned skills and document per site policies 2. Observe treatments/procedures performed by other clinicians 3. Discuss cases, policies and procedures with appropriate team members 4. Utilize facility resources for direct and indirect patient care activities 5. Attend meetings, in services, case conferences, etc. as appropriate <p>Student should be exposed to patients with varying diagnoses, with attention to the relationships between diagnosis, treatment plan, progression, indications, contraindications, etc. Emphasis should be placed on safe and appropriate practice of those skills already presented in the classroom and described previously (gait, transfers, massage, modalities, therapeutic exercise, etc.)</p> <p>Each clinical instructor should use his/her own judgment in determining the level of supervision needed for the student during this clinical experience. It is imperative that the students are free to ask and respond to appropriate questions. If the clinical instructor educates the student on a treatment method that has not been presented and practiced in the academic setting, the CI is responsible for defining the level of competence for the student as well as determining if the student is safe to utilize the new skill on a patient.</p> <p>Faculty/Facility/Student Communication:</p> <p>The ACCE is available by calling (573) 897-2406 during normal business hours if there are any questions or concerns on the part of either the student or the CI. It is expected that both will contact the ACCE to discuss any issues as soon as they arise, so that they may be dealt with promptly and appropriately. ACCE or other academic faculty member will attempt to contact each student and clinical instructor approximately mid-way through each clinical rotation to discuss performance as well as the student's adjustment to the clinical environment. A site visit by PTA faculty may also be conducted.</p> <p><u>Requirements:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full-time attendance - contact ACCE if there is difficulty with obtaining hours due to facility/CI needs or student absences. Students work the schedule established by the CI. 2. Weekly journal (Moodle submission) - answering generic abilities questions 3. Initial Call Form and Week 1 Questionnaire submitted on Moodle by student 4. Student Performance Evaluation- completed and signed by CI 5. Comprehensive Clinical Competency Checklist- completed and signed by CI 6. Student Evaluation of clinical experience, clinical instruction, and academic preparation-signed by CI 7. Student Time Sheet-signed by CI 8. Clinical Instructor profile if applicable - completed by CI 9. Student Objectives - signed by CI <p>**NOTE: The Student Performance Evaluation, time sheet, the Student Objectives, and the Comprehensive Clinical Competency Checklist need to be returned to the school in a sealed envelope. It is preferred that the CI sends it with student as long as the envelope is sealed with CI signature across back of envelope.All other paperwork/forms need to be returned to ACCE in a neat, organized fashion. All documentation is due the first day the students return to campus for class.</p>

The instructor may change or modify the plan of instruction as needed.