

OVERVIEW

The Master of Science in Physical Therapy program is designed for physical therapists who are strongly motivated to improve their competence as clinicians, educators, administrators and researchers.

OBJECTIVES

General

To improve the practice of Physical Therapy by strengthening the competence of PT professionals.

Specific

1. to improve the clinical reasoning and professional practice skills of physical therapists, particularly in musculoskeletal and neurologic PT.
2. To develop skills in the planning of instruction, effective teaching and assessing of student performance both in the academic and clinical settings.
3. to enhance the organizational and managerial skills for the clinical and educational settings.
4. to develop critical research competencies, independent learning and research communication skills.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicant must
 - a. be a graduate of BS Physical Therapy from a recognized school.
 - b. be a holder of a current professional license from the Professional Regulations Commission.
 - c. possess at least one-year professional practice experience as a physical therapist, either in the academic or clinical setting.
 - d. pass a written entrance examination administered by the Office of Admissions of the University.
2. The following application requirements must be submitted to the Graduate School:
 - a. completed Graduate School application form.
 - b. Transcript of records from the baccalaureate program.
 - c. certified true copy of the PRC board certificate and board rating.

- d. Letter of endorsement from the Dean of the school he graduated the baccalaureate program form.
- e. two (2) letters of reference
- f. two colored passport size ID pictures

CURRICULUM

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICAL THERAPY

PRE-REQUISITE COURSES: 6 UNITS

St. Thomas on Critical Thinking

As the philosophical foundation for research methodology, it is the study of principles and skills in critical thinking according to St. Thomas Aquinas in the three areas of mental cognition: apprehension, judgment & reasoning; and of common fallacies towards the acquisition of the art of argumentation.

Health Research Methods

This course teaches the students rudiments of qualitative and quantitative research and provides them with a basis from which to put research into practice. This course is coordinated and presented by experienced researchers who understand the complexities of undertaking meaningful research in allied health disciplines, and which provides clinical examples of research. Students will gain practical experience in applying research design principles and biostatistics methods.

CORE SUBJECTS – 13 UNITS

Evidence Based Research

This course provides students with the opportunity to become critical and educated consumers of research. Students learn to critically evaluate the quality of published and unpublished literature using structured methods. They are taught how to use library database and internet to search for literature and this provides them with the confidence to evaluate the strength of the evidence in clinical topics and how to present this in a logical form.

Educational Strategies in Physical Therapy – 2 units

This course will provide the students a comprehensive knowledge and background on different strategies that will facilitate learning of physical therapy subjects. This will provide an opportunity for physical therapists to become better educators.

PT Administration – 2 units

This course is the study of management of rehabilitation centers/physical therapy clinics or units in hospitals, community centers, and public health agencies. Emphasis is on methods of application of managerial functions including program planning and evaluation.

Exercise Physiology – 3 units

This course is designed to provide the students with an understanding of normal pathological metabolic response to muscular effort and to improve skills in assessing and prescribing aerobic conditioning. The overall goal of this course is to provide a scientific foundation of ensuing metabolism for designing and implementing safe and effective PT management.

Kinesiology and Biomechanics – 3 units

The major goal is to explore the study of tissue and joint mechanics and motion analysis. Specific content will include the anatomic structures underlying the biomechanics of the musculoskeletal system and mechanics will be considered at the tissue, articulation and entire body levels. Certain major articulations will serve as model, their detailed anatomy will be studied and demonstrated and modern motion analysis system will be used to evaluate their kinematics.

MAJOR SUBJECTS – 15 UNITS (ORTHOPEDIC TRACK)

Orthopedic PT 1 (Evaluation & Treatment of the Peripheral Joints) – 3 units

This course focuses on PT assessment and treatment methods for pathology involving the appendicular skeleton. Topics are presented in lecture and laboratory and

Orthopedic PT 2 (Evaluation & Treatment of the Spine) – 3 units

This course focuses on PT assessment and treatment methods for pathology involving the vertebral column. Topics are presented in lecture and laboratory and students are expected to acquire and perfect clinical skills as well as understand the basic science underlying the clinical methodologies.

Orthopedic PT 3 (Surgical Conditions in PT) – 3 units

This course focuses on the musculo skeletal condition of the spine and appendicular skeleton with an in-depth discussion of specific surgical interventions in these areas. Physical therapy evaluation and

management are discussed with emphasis on the proper development of comprehensive therapeutic paradigms. The course is presented in both lecture and laboratory. The students are expected to understand and perfect the clinical skill in assessment and application of underlying clinical methodologies.

Ergonomics – 3 units

This course will provide the knowledge and skills to apply ergonomic principles to the assessment and design of workstations and work tasks to optimize safety and efficiency in the work place.

Clinical Reasoning in Orthopedic PT – 3 units

Clinical reasoning is considered the foundation of clinical practice. This course will facilitate the students' awareness of their reasoning, expert-novice differences, the errors they make and assisting them to improve their logical and creative reasoning abilities. It will provide students with the opportunity to improve reasoning skills along with examination and management techniques and skills, particularly in Orthopedic PT.

MAJOR SUBJECTS – 15 UNITS (NEUROLOGIC TRACK)

Neuroanatomy – 3 units

This course will provide students with knowledge on neuro anatomical systems and correlate this with common neurologic conditions seen in clinical practice. A large emphasis is placed on clinical reasoning based on the knowledge gathered from neuroanatomy.

Theories in Motor Control & Learning – 3 units

This course examines current theories and basic assumptions of motor learning and development. There is emphasis on the guided discovery of applications of motor learning principles to clinical practice. There are four major topics (1) Neuromotor basis of motor control; (2) Sensorineural basis of motor control; (3) Biochemical basis of motor control & (4) Motor control theories. All areas of the course will be directed toward applying theories and research results to PT practice and further research.

Neurologic PT 1 – 3 units

Discusses a conceptual framework for clinical intervention based on current understanding of motor control and learning and illustrates the process of applying this conceptual framework. Also discusses the process of rehabilitation, factors in the rehabilitation environment that affect the recovery of patients, and

current evidence on various strategies that can be used to optimize the rehabilitation environment.

Neurologic PT 2 – 3 units

Discusses the current understanding of different primary impairments (motor, sensory, cognitive and perceptual) and secondary adaptations that result from a neurological lesion, based on recent research findings. Such evidences serves as a basis for decisions regarding treatment. At the end of the course, students are expected to come up with creative treatment strategies that specifically address patient's impairments.

Clinical Reasoning in Neurologic PT – 3 units

Clinical reasoning is considered the foundation of clinical practice. This course will facilitate the students' awareness of their reasoning, expert-novice differences, the errors they make and assisting them to improve their logical and creative reasoning abilities. It will provide students with the opportunity to improve reasoning skills along with examination and management techniques and skills, particularly in neurologic PT.

COGNATE COURSES: 3 UNITS

Any subject in other major fields that has substantial bearing on thesis.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Written Comprehensive Examinations (WCE)
 TW I - 3 units (Thesis Proposal)
 TW II - 3 units (Research Colloquium)
 TW III - 3 units (Thesis Defense)

Total = 46 Units

UST GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AND FACULTY SET-UP

LILIAN J. SISON, Ph.D.
Dean

JOSÉ ANTONIO E. AUREADA, O.P., S.Th.D.
Regent

MICHAEL ANTHONY C. VASCO, Ph.D.
Faculty Secretary

CARLOS P. GARCIA, Ph.D.
Director for Graduate Research

ANNA MARIA GLORIA-WARD, M.A.
Director, Center for Professional Development & Consultancy Services

ROMUALDO M. DEL ROSARIO, Ph.D.
Supervising Scientist, UST Botanical Garden

JOCELYN F. AGCAOILI, PTRP, RPT, MHPed., MSPT
Program Coordinator, MSPT Program

PROFESSORIAL STAFF

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 SUSAN HILLIER, Ph.D.
 MAUREEN McEVOY, Mphyt(Manipa), GradDipPhyt

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Requirements	MS units
Pre-requisites	6
Core Subjects	13
Major Subjects	15
(Orthopedic PT Track or Neurologic PT Track)	
Cognates	3
Thesis Writing I	3
Thesis Writing II	3
Thesis Writing III	3
TOTAL	46

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The University of Santo Tomas follows an Academic Year Calendar of two (2) semesters and a summer term.

Summer Term: April-May

**For further information, please call,
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 Tel. No. (632) 786-1611 loc 8247; 731-5396
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 España, Manila, Philippines 1008**

University of Santo Tomas

GRADUATE SCHOOL

in cooperation with the

University of South Australia



GRADUATE PROGRAM

AY 2004 – AY 2006

MSPT

Master of Science in
Physical Therapy

España, Manila