

## Overview

The Master of Science in Physical Therapy program is designed for self-directed physical therapists who are strongly motivated to gain advanced competencies as clinicians, educators, administrators and researchers.

## Program Outcomes

When you successfully complete the Master of Science in Physical Therapy Program, you will be able to:

1. demonstrate advanced and highly proficient competencies in the application of physical therapy theories, skills, and professional behaviours to various work settings and within diverse roles.
2. seek, interpret, and utilize existing scientific and documentary evidence and effectively communicate the same to relevant stakeholders in written and oral form.
3. work collaboratively with patients/clients, carers, colleagues and other health professionals while being capable of independent practice relevant to societal and professional context at all times demonstrating ethics and expected professional behaviors.
4. demonstrate highly tolerant, culturally sensitive, flexible and adaptable ethical behaviors in multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural settings.
5. exercise sound analytical ability coupled with supporting evidence in making informed decisions about problems encountered in a range of physical therapy roles.
6. value lifelong learning and actively engage in continuing professional development as attributes of a competent physical therapist.

## 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, in their chosen practice settings.
- 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 and Critical Thinking

A course on Aristotelian and symbolic Logic that focuses on the fundamental laws of thought. It provides guiding principles in order to enhance critical and reflective skills that would facilitate correct and responsible judgment and reasoning. It gives an opportunity to be in control of one's thinking activities.

##### Health Research Methods

This course provides students with the basic knowledge of all research paradigms and designs (quantitative and qualitative) and design specific methods to be able to draft

a research methodology plan. It also provides students the ability to critique various research studies.

#### CORE COURSES – 10 UNITS

##### Evidence Based Health Care

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. This course introduces the concepts of evidence based practice and teaches students to undertake systematic and exhaustive searching, critical synthesis of the evidence and make recommendations based on the synthesized evidence. Students are required to complete a full systematic review and present their reviews in a colloquium.

##### Biomechanics and Motor Control – 3 units

This course allows the student to explain the concepts of motor control and motor learning, based on an analysis of human movement. Students learn how movement happens what factors affect it. It involves analysis of tasks related to daily activities, exercise, sports, and occupation that are commonly affected in patients seen in physical therapy.

##### Clinical Reasoning and Differential Diagnosis in Physical Therapy – 3 units

This course provides an opportunity for the student to apply clinical reasoning given an orthopedic, neurologic, and pediatric case. This course enables the student to decide which assessment or evaluation procedure, both subjectively and objectively, should be used in order to comprehensively come up with a physical therapy diagnosis/impression, problem list and physical therapy goals.

#### MAJOR COURSES:

Research track – 10 units

Clinical track – 14 units

##### Educational Strategies for Health Professionals - 2 units

This course prepares health professionals to be better educators of learners in various settings, including students, patients, clients, family and caregivers, colleagues, and other health professionals, through an in-depth understanding of teaching-learning principles and the application thereof to instruction in different practice settings. Focus is on instructional planning, teaching and evaluation of learning for audiences in different practice settings.

##### Leadership and Management – 2 units

This course is the study of management of academic organizations, rehabilitation centers or units in hospitals, community centers, and public health agencies. Emphasis is on methods of application of managerial functions including health program planning, evaluation and health policy formulation.

##### Clinical Practice 1 (*Orthopedic Physical Therapy*) – 6 units (3 hours lecture, 3 hours laboratory/field work per week)

This course provides students with the opportunity to acquire skills in using different manual therapy treatment such as Maitland, McKenzie, Mulligan and Neurodynamics. Students will also be able to make a clinical impression by correctly reading and interpreting X-ray, CT, MRI, MSUS and EMG findings of common musculoskeletal conditions. Additionally, the course provides students with the opportunity to understand different surgical procedures and evidence-based guidelines used in the treatment of patients with musculoskeletal conditions.

##### Clinical Practice 2 (*Neurologic Physical Therapy*) – 6 units (3 hours lecture, 3 hours laboratory/field work per week)

This course provides students with the opportunity to become critical Physical Therapist. Students learn to make sound clinical judgement in the assessment and

management of Neurologic and Paediatric conditions. They are taught how to apply in clinical practice.

This course introduces the concepts of assessment and sound decision making in Neurologic and Paediatric conditions. Students are required to present case analysis both in written and oral aspect in relation to the assessment and intervention plan.

**COGNATE COURSES: 3 UNITS**

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

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS:**

Written Comprehensive Examinations (WCE)

**Research Track**

- TW I - 3 units (Thesis Proposal)
- TW II - 3 units (Research Colloquium)
- TW III - 3 units (Thesis Defense)

**Clinical Track**

Research-based Special Project – 5 units

**Total = 40 Units**

**Summary of Course Requirements**

Requirements	units
Pre-requisites	6
Core Subjects	12
Major Subjects	
Research Track	10
Clinical Track	14
Cognates	3
Thesis Writing I	3
Thesis Writing II	3
Thesis Writing III	3
Research-based Special Project	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>

**SCHOOL CALENDAR**

The University of Santo Tomas follows an Academic Year Calendar of three (3) terms.

Third Term: June-July

For further information, please call,  
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 UST Graduate School  
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**UST Graduate School Administration  
 Officials and Faculty Set-up**

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*Dean*

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

ALEJANDRO S. BERNARDO, Ph.D.  
*Faculty Secretary*

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*Director for Graduate Research*

CHERYL PERALTA, MSPT, MHPed, PTRP  
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**PROFESSORIAL STAFF**

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**University of Santo Tomas**  
 THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES  
 MANILA, PHILIPPINES  
**The Graduate School**

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
 PHYSICAL THERAPY**