



## COURSE OUTLINE

<b>Course Number</b> <b>PTA 101</b>	<b>Course Title</b> <b>Intro to PTA</b>	<b>Credits</b> <b>1</b>
<b>Hours: lecture/Lab/Other</b> <b>1/0/0</b>	<b>Pre-requisite</b> <b>ENG 101</b>	<b>Implementation</b> <b>Fall/Spring</b>

### **Catalog description:**

Open to all students who are potentially interested in physical therapy as a career and required course for Physical Therapist Assistant majors. Provides an overview of the healthcare system and the specific roles of professionals in physical medicine and rehabilitation. Topics include medical terminology, documentation and communication skills.

### **Required texts/other materials:**

Clynch, H.M., (2012), *The Role of the Physical Therapist Assistant*, Philadelphia, FA Davis Co.  
ISBN 978-0-8036-2562-4

**Revision date:** Spring 2016

**Course coordinator:** Barbara J. Behrens, 609-570-3385, behrensb@mccc.edu

### **Information resources:**

This course makes use of the required texts for the course and in addition, uses the resources of the Web. In particular, websites for the following organizations or entities are frequented:

- o American Physical Therapy Association
- o Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
- o MCCC PTA Program Website
- o NJ Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association
- o NJ State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

### **Course Competencies/Goals:**

Following the successful completion of this course with a grade of C+ or higher, the learner will be able to:

1. articulate the differences between physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in terms of their academic preparation, roles within the clinical environment and levels of responsibility.
2. articulate the differences between the various practice settings within physical therapy that are available to choose from by interviewing practicing clinicians and asking pertinent questions about life in the clinical environment.

3. Describe the importance of being familiar with the Practice Act/ Regulations that govern the practice of physical therapy in a given state, how they differ from state to state and why that occurs.
4. Differentiate between different types of publications found in “the literature” in physical therapy in terms of the potential importance that it could have on clinical practice now and into the future.
5. Outline the precipitating factors in the history behind the development of physical therapy and the necessary factors that differentiate professions from trades.

**Course-specific General Education Knowledge Goals and Core Skills.**

**General Education Knowledge Goals**

**Goal 1. Communication.** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

**Goal 4. Technology.** Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

**Goal 7. History.** Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.

**Goal 8. Diversity.** Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.

**MCCC Core Skills**

**Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English.** Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.

**Goal D. Information Literacy.** Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

**Goal E. Computer Literacy.** Students will use computers to access, analyze or present information, solve problems, and communicate with others.

**Goal F. Collaboration and Cooperation.** Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group situations.

**Units of study in detail:**

		<b>Goals:</b>	<b>Learning Objectives</b>
<b><u>Unit 1</u></b>	Polio and Physical Therapy	7,8	P3
<b><u>Unit 2</u></b>	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	D	C5
<b><u>Unit 3</u></b>	Intro to the American Physical Therapy Association	7, F	C4, A1, A4
<b><u>Unit 4</u></b>	Levels of Healthcare State of Change in Physical Therapy	7	C2
<b><u>Unit 5</u></b>	Physical Therapist Assistant	A	C3, A2
<b><u>Unit 6</u></b>	Documentation Medical Terminology	A, 1	C1, C7
<b><u>Unit 7</u></b>	Professional Literature Review, Reimbursement	D	C6, C2, P4
<b><u>Unit 8</u></b>	Case Study Exploration	D, E	C6
<b><u>Unit 9</u></b>	Legal and Ethical Issues in Physical Therapy	4	P2, A3
<b><u>Unit 10</u></b>	Specialty Areas of Practice, Presentations	F, A, 1	P1, P4, P5

**Learning Objectives have been identified in each of the following domains of learning:**  
***The student will be able to...***

**Cognitive/Knowledge**

1. demonstrate an understanding of medical terminology by using it appropriately in submitted assignments and discussions for class work

2. describe the evolution of the healthcare reimbursement dollar to present day in written assignments
3. differentiate between the role of the Physical Therapist (PT) and the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) in written assignments and in class discussions
4. describe the components of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) from the local to the national level
5. describe the attributes of a professional that differentiate a professional from other workers
6. analyze a journal article describing its components and how they are organized
7. restate patient information categorizing it into a subjective, objective, assessment and plan (SOAP) note format

**Psychomotor**

1. demonstrates appropriate written, verbal and non-verbal communication skills in papers, exams and discussions that meet the outlined requirements for the class
2. demonstrate an ability to read and comprehend professional physical therapy literature by selecting and analyzing a case study article for dissection into parts
3. illustrate the differences between communication styles by participating in classroom discussions in a cooperative manner
4. demonstrate skill in accessing information from the World Wide Web (WWW) by submitting a paper that identifies 3 useful websites for physical therapy students
5. demonstrate professional behavior in the classroom that would be consistent with the behaviors expected of clinicians which includes maintaining confidentiality

**Affective**

1. defend the establishment of professional associations by outlining the strengths of an association in written assignments
2. defend the importance of licensure to practice physical therapy by analyzing the New Jersey Physical Therapy practice act and comparing it to the Physical Therapy practice act in another state and looking at the similarities and differences between them
3. defend the importance of professionalism in clinical practice by identifying professional behaviors from class scenarios
4. support membership activities for professional associations by accessing the WWW and identifying meeting dates and locations for professional associations and reasons for attending them

**Evaluation of student learning**

**Grading**

<b>%</b>		<b>Number</b>
60	Exams	3
10	article review	10
10	Paper	1
10	Presentation	1
10	class participation	Continuous

**Academic Integrity Statement:** There is a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism. Any work that violates the MCCC Academic Integrity policy will receive a grade of “0” and the learner will be reported to the College’s Academic Integrity Committee consistent with College policies. See <http://mlink.mccc.edu/omb/OMB210.pdf>

