The curriculum includes content and process-based courses, starting with a core of foundational science courses, clinical content/lab courses, and applied clinical integration courses.

Emphasis is placed on clinical decision-making, research design, and functional outcomes.
The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) is an entry-level professional physical therapy program designed for individuals possessing a bachelor’s degree in another subject area who have satisfied all the prerequisite course requirements and wish to become qualified for licensure as physical therapists. Students have the opportunity to acquire theoretical knowledge and clinical skills basic to physical therapy practice, participate in supervised clinical experiences, and develop an appreciation for research, all in a full-time, three-year program.

The professional physical therapy program leading to the Doctor of Physical Therapy is designed in accordance with the American Physical Therapy Association guidelines. It is not a transitional DPT, and is not open to students who possess a BS or MS in physical therapy. The DPT may only be completed as a full-time program.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program is part of the University’s College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions’ focus on bridging traditional academics with community needs. Through experiential learning and impactful scholarship, students and faculty work collaboratively to reach a common goal, achieving excellence through relevance.

PHYSICAL THERAPY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have completed a bachelor’s degree and required prerequisite courses before entering the doctoral program:

- Biology: (4 credits), one course with laboratory
- Human Anatomy: (4 credits) one course with laboratory
- Human Physiology: (4 credits) one course with laboratory. Note: When anatomy and physiology are taken as a combined course, two semesters (i.e. 8 credits) are necessary to meet the requirements
- Chemistry: (8 credits) general chemistry, two-course sequence with laboratory
- Physics: (8 credits) two-course sequence with laboratory
- Statistics: (3 credits) course to include descriptive statistics, correlation, and introduction to inferential statistics
- Pre-calculus or Trigonometry: (3 credits)
- Psychology: (9 credits) courses include general, developmental, and abnormal psychology
- Exercise Physiology: (3–4 credits) one course

Graduate program events are held throughout the year. Open Houses are held in August and January.

Learn more at hartford.edu/gradevents

Our faculty is made up of expert clinicians with doctoral degrees who are committed to advancing the profession of physical therapy and mentoring those who will become the new professionals of tomorrow. Our student to faculty ratio is 12:1, which means students work closely with faculty who get to know their career objectives and educational needs.

The Graduate Admission Office would be happy to provide more specific information about a degree program or answer any other questions you may have. Please contact the office by email at GradStudy@hartford.edu or by phone at 860.768.4371 or 800.945.0712.

For more specific information regarding post-bachelor’s entry into DPT, please contact:

Barbara Crane, Phd
Professor
Department of Rehabilitation Sciences
860.768.5371
bcrane@hartford.edu
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The admissions review committee will consider only complete applications. All application materials should be sent to the following address:

Graduate Admission Office
CC231
University of Hartford
200 Bloomfield Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117 USA

The following items are required:

- An online application. Visit hartford.edu/grad-apply.
- A non-refundable application fee of $50 for domestic students.
- Official transcripts for all collegiate level coursework, forwarded to the University of Hartford.
- An essay addressing the question specified in the graduate application.
- Documentation of physical therapy observation hours (10 hours required).
- Three letters of recommendation, including one from a course instructor or academic advisor, a supervisor in a professional or other work capacity, and one from another individual in either capacity.
- Official results of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) forwarded to the University of Hartford using school code 3436. Visit ets.org. Accepted students generally have an overall undergraduate grade point average (GPA) and science pre-requisite GPA of 3.2 or better, and GRE scores of 300 combined verbal/quantitative.
- TOEFL—Official score to be submitted. The University of Hartford test code number is 3436. Visit TOEFL at ets.org. Minimum score: 550 paper-based or 80 internet-based. The IELTS is also accepted with a minimum score of 6.5 or higher.
- Guarantor’s Statement—As part of the application, international students must provide a bank statement to ensure adequacy of funds. This statement is also used to issue an I-20 form to students. The Guarantor’s Statement is necessary for obtaining a visa. The cost for international students to study and live at the University of Hartford can be found at hartford.edu/graduate/int.aspx as estimated expenses.

INTERVIEWS

Interviews may be requested at the discretion of the graduate admission committee.

DEADLINES AND DATES

Classes for the doctoral program in physical therapy begin each year during the first week in June. The deadline to apply is December 1. All materials, including test scores, must be received before that deadline. Transcripts from fall coursework will be accepted and reviewed when available.

COSTS OF ATTENDANCE

Visit hartford.edu/DPT-tuition for current tuition and fees.

FINANCIAL AID

Domestic Financial Aid

Domestic graduate students may qualify for Federal Family Education Loans and must satisfy three requirements in order to be eligible for financial aid:

- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), fafsa.gov, for the academic year and meet all eligibility requirements established by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Be matriculated into a graduate degree-granting program (not conditionally accepted).
- Be registered for at least six credits per semester.

For more information, call 800.947.4303, email finaid@hartford.edu, or visit admission.hartford.edu/finaid.

International Financial Aid

Financial Aid for international graduate students is currently available to Graduate Assistantships. These assistantships are administered by the individual departments throughout the University and vary in size and availability.

Assistantships and Fellowships

Students are encouraged to contact the Office of the Dean of the respective school or college at the University of Hartford regarding the availability of assistantships or fellowships in their specific program of study. Please note: assistantships, fellowships, or other support a student receives as a result of his or her enrollment may have an impact on Federal Stafford Loan eligibility.
PROGRAM OF STUDY
The full-time curriculum for the Doctor of Physical Therapy is a minimum of 105 credits as follows:

YEAR ONE (DPT I)
SUMMER SEMESTER 1 (credits)
» DPT 500 Gross Anatomy Lecture » (2)
» DPT 501 Gross Anatomy Lab » (2)
» DPT 504 Kinesiology » (2)
» DPT 505 Kinesiology Lab » (1)
» DPT 515 Found. of Professional Practice » (2)
FALL SEMESTER 2
» DPT 502 Biomechanics » (2)
» DPT 503 Biomechanics Lab » (1)
» DPT 506 Physical Agents in PT » (3)
» DPT 509 Pathophysiology for PT II » (3)
» DPT 510 Ortho Path for PT » (3)
» DPT 511 PT Exam and Intervention I » (2)
» DPT 512 PT Exam/Intervention I Lab » (2)
» DPT 530 Integrated Clinical Experience I » (1)
SPRING SEMESTER 3
» DPT 520 Scientific Inquiry » (3)
» DPT 521 Diag/Int in Muscul Dys I » (3)
» DPT 522 Diag/Int in Muscul Dys I Lab » (2)
» DPT 513 Diag/Int in Acute Care » (2)
» DPT 514 Diag/Int in Acute Care Lab » (1)
» DPT 517 PT Exam/Intervention II » (2)
» DPT 518 PT Exam/Intervention II Lab » (1)
» DPT 523 Educational Strategies » (2)
» DPT 535 Integrated Clinical Experience II » (1)

YEAR TWO (DPT II)
SUMMER SEMESTER 4 (credits)
» DPT 630 Clinical Education I [10 weeks] » (0)
FALL SEMESTER 5
» DPT 601 Scientific Inquiry II » (3)
» DPT 610 Diag/Interv Muscul Dsyfun II » (2)
» DPT 611 Diag/Interv Muscul Dysfun II Lab » (1)
» DPT 615 Neuroscience » (2)
» DPT 616 Neuroscience Lab » (1)
» DPT 621 Motor Control/Learning » (2)
» DPT 622 Motor Control Lab » (1)
» DPT 624 Neuropathology for PT » (3)
» DPT 640 Pharmacology for PT » (3)
SPRING SEMESTER 6
» DPT 602 Scientific Inquiry III » (3)
» DPT 603 Diag/Interv in Neuro Dysfun » (3)
» DPT 604 Diag/Interv Neuro Dysfun Lab » (2)
» DPT 605 Diag/Interv in Pediatric Pops » (2)
» DPT 606 Diag/Interv in Pediatric Pops Lab » (1)
» DPT 619 Diff Diag Adv Int Skills » (3)
» DPT 626 Gerontology and Geriatric PT » (2)
» DPT 627 Diag/Interv in Older Adult Lab » (1)
» DPT 635 Integrated Clinical Experience III » (1)

YEAR THREE (DPT III)
SUMMER SEMESTER 7 (credits)
» DPT 700 Assist Tech/ Disability Studies » (4)
» DPT 717 Diag/Interv in Neuro Dysfun II » (2)
» Elective [choose 1] » (2)
FALL SEMESTER 8
» DPT 702 The Business of Health Care » (3)
» DPT 704 Doctoral Research » (3)
» DPT 706 Nutrition for PT » (3)
» DPT 711 Diagnostic Radiography for PT » (3)
» DPT 712 Di Diag Adv Int Skills II » (2)
» DPT 713 Di Diag Adv Int Skills II Lab » (1)
» DPT 720 Diag/Interv in Muscul Dysfun III » (2)
SPRING SEMESTER 9
» DPT 730 Clinical Education II [10 weeks] » (0)
» DPT 740 Clinical Education III [12 weeks] » (0)

CLINICAL EDUCATION
In addition to didactic and laboratory coursework, students will be required to complete and pass clinical education experiences. Clinical education experiences are arranged by the University in conjunction with the student and may take place in a number of contracted sites throughout the United States. During these experiences, students will be registered as full-time students and will be responsible for paying a fee for each of the three clinical education experiences. In addition, students will be responsible for all other living and/or transportation expenses associated with the clinical education experience.