

PHYSICAL THERAPY

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

www.sru.edu/dpt



DELIVERY METHOD

On-Campus

START DATE

Fall term only

COMPLETION TIME

Three years

NUMBER OF CREDITS

119 credits



SlipperyRock
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu/graduate

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program at Slippery Rock University was the third physical therapy program in the United States to transition from a master's level program to a doctoral level. SRU's DPT program is a clinical doctorate degree designed to prepare graduates for practice in physical therapy. The program is eight semesters, including 37 weeks dedicated to clinical hands-on patient experiences.

In the United States, physical therapy licensure is required to practice. The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy reports that SRU PT graduates consistently meet or exceed national pass rate averages on the licensure board exam.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Slippery Rock University integrates basic science with clinical practice. There are nine full-time and several part-time faculty members. All full-time faculty members hold doctoral degrees and six are engaged in clinical practice.

The variety of available clinical sites and length of time spent in clinical rotations are other strengths of the program. Clinical Experience I is two weeks in the summer preceding the start of the second year. Clinical Experience II is five weeks in between the fall and spring semesters of the second year. Clinical Internship I is 15 weeks in the fall of the third year and Clinical Internship II is for 15 weeks in the spring of the third year.

Students also have an opportunity to pursue special interests related to physical therapy in Professional Exploration I and II. These courses are designed to provide additional learning opportunities in a clinical specialty area, research, teaching, administration or service.

The SRU Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Slippery Rock University is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 N. Fairfax, Alexandria, VA 22314; telephone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org; website: www.capteonline.org.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

There are two options for pursuing a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree at SRU:

- Traditional 3 graduate years
- 3 undergraduate years + 3 graduate years (SRU undergraduates only)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To apply, all applicants should complete the Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service (PTCAS) application found at <https://ptcas.liasoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>

Applications will be accepted from June 15 until November 1. Your PTCAS application must be e-submitted, completed and verified by November 1, 2023.

1. A minimum of a baccalaureate degree or completion of the first three years of the Pre-Physical Therapy SRU 3+3 and the following prerequisites:
 - a. Two courses of Anatomy & Physiology with labs
 - b. Two courses of Chemistry with labs
 - c. Two courses of Physics with labs
 - d. Two courses of Psychology
 - e. One course in Statistics

*All prerequisite courses must be completed with a C or better. Due to COVID-19, we will accept "pass" for Spring and Summer 2020 courses. However, we will rank them as a "B" when analyzing grades.

2. An undergraduate grade point average **and** prerequisite grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Program averages grades of any courses that were repeated.
3. Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts from all institutions previously attended.
4. Official scores from the general test of the Graduate Record Exam scores. GRE scores are reportable for five years. **SRU PTCAS code is 4802**. If GRE scores are not submitted and received prior to the November 1 deadline, the application will not be considered complete. If the applicant already holds a Master or other graduate degree, we do not require GRE scores.
5. Documentation of 50 hours or more of physical therapy experience with a licensed physical therapist at a minimum of two different facilities.

Observation hours requirement for SRU for the 2023-2024 cycle: We recognize that obtaining the required observation hours still may be difficult prior to our application deadline of November 1, 2023 due to the COVID-19 situation. We encourage you to obtain the 50 observation hours in two different settings, including tele-health prior to November 1. In person hours are required and virtual hours are accepted as long as they represent no more than 25% of the total hours accumulated. However, we will fully consider applicants who are unable to meet the minimum hour requirement (50 hours) or multiple setting requirement by November 1. If admitted, all required prerequisite courses and observation hours must be complete by June 1, 2024 for entry into the Fall 2024 cohort.

6. Three references: two must be from licensed physical therapists and the third is a professional reference. The applicant is strongly encouraged to seek reference letters from physical therapists who can speak to the applicant's potential for professional growth. Reference letters from physical therapy assistants (PTAs), athletic trainers, etc. will not be accepted in place of one from a licensed physical therapist. Each applicant **MUST** submit one professional reference letter from someone of their choice; however, letters from family members or friends **WILL NOT** be accepted. Professional recommendations may include professors, employers, and volunteer supervisors other than physical therapists. Reference letters from professors teaching higher level coursework within the applicant's major are preferred. If the reference requirements are not fulfilled then the application will not be considered complete. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they have submitted the proper references.
7. Completed essay questions.

NOTE:

- All prerequisites must have been taken within the last 10 years. The 10-year window is from when the student would begin the program.
- Online courses are permitted for all prerequisites. However, we encourage students to take Anatomy & Physiology in person.
- AP/IB courses are permitted except for Anatomy & Physiology. For Chemistry, Physics and Psychology we only accept one as AP/IB while the second prerequisite must be from a college-level course.
- Applicants who are offered and accept admission in the program are required to submit a non-refundable deposit within two weeks of acceptance to hold a seat in the upcoming cohort. The \$500.00 deposit is applied directly to the student's tuition for the fall semester.
- Regardless of citizenship, if you are a non-native English speaker, you are required to submit scores that show proficiency in the English language. SRU accepts several methods of English Proficiency (see International Admissions). If applicable, the English Proficiency requirement must be completed and score received by the application deadline.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICANTS

International applicants, please visit www.sru.edu/graduate for requirements.

RECOMMENDED COURSE SEQUENCE

Semester I (Fall): (17 credits)

Neuroscience I (PHTH-631)	4
Pathology I (PHTH-654)	4
Gross and Applied Anatomy I (PHTH-656)	6
PT Assessment and Procedures I (PHTH-659)	3

Semester II (Spring): (18 credits)

Healthcare Systems I (PHTH-545)	2
Neuroscience II (PHTH-636)	4
Pathology II (PHTH-655)	4
Gross and Applied Anatomy II (PHTH-658)	6
PT Assessment and Procedures II (PHTH-660)	2

Semester III (Summer) (13 credits)

Clinical Experience I (PHTH-645)	1
Nutrition (PHTH-652)	1
Pharmacotherapy (PHTH-653)	1
Environmental Considerations for Physical Therapists (PHTH-661)	2
Foundations of Therapeutic Exercise (PHTH-729)	2
Diagnostic Imaging for PTs (PHTH-731)	1
Psychosocial Integration (PHTH-744)	2
Concepts of EBP (PHTH-757)	2
Professional Exploration I (PHTH-816)	1

Semester IV (Fall): (19 credits)

PT Modalities (PHTH-650)	2
Musculoskeletal III (PHTH-704)	3
Clinical Experience II (PHTH-710)	3
Neuromuscular I (PHTH-717)	4
Therapeutic Adaptations (PHTH-719)	3
EBP: Appraising Lit (PHTH-758)	3
Professional Exploration II (PHTH-819)	1

Semester V (Spring): (17 credits)

Musculoskeletal II (PHTH-703)	3
Neuromuscular II (PHTH-718)	4
Cardiopulmonary (PHTH-732)	3
Health Care Systems II (PHTH-742)	3
Education, Prev., & Wellness (PHTH-743)	2
EBP: Application (PHTH-759)	2

CURRICULUM (CONT)

Semester VI (Summer): (13 credits)

Musculoskeletal I (PHTH-702)	3
Geriatric PT (PHTH-734)	3
Pediatric PT (PHTH-735)	3
Electives - Selected Topics	
PT in Rehabilitation (PHTH-698-03)	(2)
Applied Orthopedics (PHTH-698-04)	(2)
Biomechanical Applications (PHTH-698-05)	(2)
Pediatrics Elective (PHTH-752)	(2)
Sports PT (PHTH-754)	(2)
Geriatric Elective (PHTH-755)	(2)
Vestibular and Concussion PT (PHTH 761)	(2)
Integumentary PT (PHTH-733)	1
Special Topics in PT (PHTH-736)	1

Semester VII (Fall): (11 hours)

PT Business Practices (PHTH-737)	2
Clinical Internship I (PHTH-802)	9

Semester VIII (Spring): (11 credits)

Clinical Internship II (PHTH-804)	9
Professional Inquiry (PHTH-820)	2

Total Hours** **119 credits**

DPT matriculation/acceptance rates and student outcomes are available upon request.

** This document is meant to serve as a guide. Please consult with your academic adviser and refer to your curriculum guide prior to registering for courses. This plan should be reviewed, and verified, by you and your academic adviser at least once each academic year.

Major Code: 9D6C

TUITION & ASSISTANTSHIPS

Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate. Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office at www.sru.edu/FinAid or the Office of Graduate Admissions.

Note: Assistantships are not recommended for first year PT students due to the heavy academic load.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE CERTIFICATION

The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) at SRU is a professional doctorate degree program designed to prepare graduates for clinical practice in physical therapy. Graduates will be eligible to sit for the National Physical Therapist Examination (NPTE), successful completion of which is required for physical therapy practice throughout the United States. Licensure requirements vary by state. We strongly urge you to contact the licensing board in the state where you plan to practice.

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Dr. Kelly Lindenberg
Program Coordinator
215 Physical Therapy Building
724.738.4368
kelly.lindenberg@sru.edu

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions
104 North Hall, Welcome Center
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
www.sru.edu/graduate
724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD
graduate.admissions@sru.edu

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.