

Montgomery County Community College
PTA 201
Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Roles, Relationships and Responsibilities Seminar I
2- 2 - 0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

First of four seminars designed to foster professional development and prepare the physical therapist assistant student to successfully complete essential competencies and behaviors in the field of physical therapy. Orientation to the profession and the performance and behavioral expectations of the physical therapist assistant are discussed.

REQUISITES:*Previous Course Requirements*

- PTA 100 Fundamentals of Physical Therapist Assisting and Data Collection
- PTA 110 Therapeutic Modalities in Physical Therapy

Previous or Concurrent Course Requirements

- PTA 200 Pathology & Rehabilitation of Orthopaedic Conditions Across the Lifespan and Continuum of Care

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Identify key events in the development of the physical therapy profession: past, present and future.	Lecture / Discussion Textbook Readings Supplemental Handouts Case Study / Application	Written Assignments Summative Written Examinations
2. Differentiate between physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in terms of their roles within the clinical environment and levels of responsibility.	Lecture / Discussion Textbook Readings Supplemental Handouts Case Study / Application	Written Assignments Portfolio Prep Summative Written Examinations
3. Identify the legal and ethical standards of professional conduct as delineated by the American Physical Therapy Association and the State Practice Act.	Lecture / Discussion Textbook Readings Supplemental Handouts Case Study / Application	Written Assignments Portfolio Prep Summative Written Examinations

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
4. Describe the role of the PTA as patient advocate and the importance of communication in establishing and developing the patient – PTA relationship.	Lecture / Discussion Textbook Readings Supplemental Handouts Case Study / Application	Written Assignments Portfolio Prep Student Presentation Summative Written Examinations
5. Discuss the opportunities for lifelong learning and leadership for the PTA; and the role of this professional in evidenced based practice.	Lecture / Discussion Textbook Readings Supplemental Handouts Case Study / Application	Written Assignments Portfolio Prep Summative Written Examinations

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. The History of Physical Therapy and the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)
 - a. The Beginnings of Physical Therapy
 - b. Development of the PTA
 - c. Demand for PTA Services and Utilization of the PTA
2. The Physical Therapy Profession in the Changing World
 - a. Physical Therapist Practice Settings
 - b. The Future of Physical Therapy
3. The PTA and the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)
 - a. The APTA Today
 - b. The APTA's Influence on the Role of the PTA
 - c. Opportunities for PTA Involvement and Recognition in the APTA
4. The Preferred Physical Therapist (PT) / Physical Therapist Assistant Relationship
 - a. Components of the Preferred Relationship
 - b. Developing the Preferred PT/PTA Relationship
 - c. Communication Styles and Strategies: Planning for Interaction
5. Regulatory Requirements for Direction and Supervision of the Physical Therapist Assistant
 - a. State Regulation: Practice Acts
 - b. APTA Policies Regarding Direction and Supervision
 - c. Third-Party Payer Regulation

6. Laws Impacting Physical Therapist Practice
 - a. Health – Care Malpractice
 - b. Fraud
 - c. Failure to Report Suspected Physical Abuse
 - d. Assault and Battery
 - e. Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Harassment
 - f. False Imprisonment
7. Ethics and Ethical Behavior in Physical Therapy
 - a. Ethics Theory and Terminology
 - b. Evolution of Ethical Behaviors in Physical Therapy
 - c. Using an Ethical Decision-Making Model
8. The Patient-Physical Therapist Assistant Relationship
 - a. Patient Reactions to Illness and Injury: Psychosocial Factors that Affect the Patient-PTA Relationship
 - b. The Role of Communication in the Patient-PTA Relationship
 - c. Strategies to Improve Communication
9. The Impact of Culture on the Delivery of Physical Therapy Interventions
 - a. Components of Cultural Diversity
 - b. The Spectrum of Cultural Sensitivity
 - c. How to Become More Culturally Competent
10. Leadership Development for Physical Therapist Assistants
 - a. Leadership Needs in Physical Therapy
 - b. Recognizing PTA Leadership Demands
 - c. Developing PTA Leadership Skills
11. Lifelong Learning, Career Building, and Advanced Skill Development
 - a. Beyond Patient Care: Other PTA Roles in the Clinical Setting
 - b. Lifelong Learning Opportunities
 - c. Achieving and Demonstrating Advance Skill Development Through the APTA

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Clynch, H. (2012) *The Role of the Physical Therapist Assistant – Regulations and Responsibilities* (1st ed.). Philadelphia, PA: F.A. Davis Company.

Curtis, K. and DeCelle-Newman, P. (2015) *The PTA Handbook – Keys to Success in School and Career for the Physical Therapist Assistant* (2nd ed.). Thorofare, NJ: SLACK Incorporated.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Robert Cullen, PT, JD, MBA
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:
Victoria Bastecki - Perez , Ed. D.

Date: 9//2015

Date: 7/14/2016

This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.