

# PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

## Introduction

Students interested in a career in physical therapy may pursue any major along with completing specific prerequisites. Physical therapy schools typically require a minimum of 90 credit hours be completed at the undergraduate level and many require the bachelor degree to be completed prior to enrolling. Students must gain a thorough understanding of the profession through a range of shadowing experiences and for some schools, earn a competitive score on the GRE. Students should work with the Pre-Health advisor beginning in the first college year to select appropriate coursework based on their schools of interest and to plan appropriate co-curricular experiences to develop a high quality application. In addition to the information in this section, please check the general information at the pre-medical and pre-health section of the catalog (<https://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/academics/curricular-information/pre-professional-programs/pre-medical-pre-health-professions/>).

## Early Assurance Programs

Canisius students may apply to early assurance programs (4+3) such as the State University of New York Upstate Medical University (Syracuse, NY). Students apply to the Upstate program at the time they apply to Canisius from high school ([https://www.upstate.edu/chp/programs/pt/how-to-apply/early\\_4-3\\_chp.php](https://www.upstate.edu/chp/programs/pt/how-to-apply/early_4-3_chp.php)) or during the sophomore year at Canisius (<https://www.upstate.edu/chp/programs/pt/how-to-apply/for-college-sophmores.php>).

## Guaranteed Admission Program

Canisius students in the Sports and Exercise Health Care major meeting all requirements are guaranteed admissions to the D'Youville University Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. Contact the Pre-Medical Center for specific requirements for this program.

## Recommended Pre-Physical Therapy Courses

Academic admission requirements vary by school, but usually include the following courses:

### English

One year of English composition or the Honors Program equivalent:

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following:		
Option 1:		
ENG 111	Academic Writing	3
ENG 112	Writing about Literature	3
Option 2:		
HON 101	Honors English	3
and an Honors Literature course		3

### Biology

One year of general biology and one year of anatomy/physiology with laboratories. Note: some schools may not require general biology:

Code	Title	Credits
General Biology		
BIO 111 & 111L	Introductory Biology I and Introductory Biology Laboratory I	4
BIO 112 & 112L	Introductory Biology II and Introductory Biology Laboratory II	4
Anatomy/Physiology		
Select one of the following:		
Option 1:		
BIO 114 & 114L	Introductory Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Introductory Human Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory	4
BIO 115 & 115L	Introductory Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Introductory Human Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory	4
Option 2:		
BIO 324 & 324L	Human Anatomy and Human Anatomy Lab	4
BIO 340 & 340L	Physiology and Physiology Laboratory	4

### Chemistry

One year of general chemistry with laboratory:

Code	Title	Credits
CHM 111 & 111L	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry I Laboratory	4
CHM 112 & 112L	General Chemistry II and General Chemistry II Laboratory	4

### Physics

One year of introductory physics with laboratory. A student's major may dictate the option they should select:

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following:		
Option 1:		
PHY 201 & 201L	College Physics I and College Physics I Laboratory	4
PHY 202 & 202L	College Physics II and College Physics II Laboratory	4
Option 2:		
PHY 223 & 223L	General Physics for Physical Science Majors I and General Physics for Physical Science Majors I Laboratory	4
PHY 224 & 224L	General Physics for Physical Science Majors II and General Physics for Physical Science Majors II Laboratory	4

### Mathematics

One semester of statistics is required and one semester of calculus is recommended as a prerequisite for physics.

Code	Title	Credits
Statistics		
PSY 201	Basic Statistics for Behavioral Sciences	3
		or
		4

or MAT 141	Inferential Statistics and Computers for Science
or KIN 398	Statistics and Research Design

One calculus course is recommended

MAT 111	Calculus I	4
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## Psychology

One semester of developmental psychology. Note that some schools require additional course(s) in psychology such as PSY 101, PSY 102, and/or PSY 303. Please work with the Pre-Health advisor to determine coursework that aligns to your schools of interest.

Code	Title	Credits
PSY 203	Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3

## Additional Pre-Physical Therapy Courses

Some schools recommend additional coursework from the following:

**Exercise Science:** Courses in Kinesiology (KIN 235) and Exercise Physiology (KIN 336, KIN 336L) are helpful.

Medical Terminology (HRP 111) is helpful.

**Social Science and Humanities:** Students should select challenging courses in areas such as philosophy, ethics, literature, behavioral and social sciences, etc., to help develop strong critical analysis and reading skills. Sociology (SOC 110) is recommended.

## Elective Courses

HRP 101 allows students to explore different health professions.

HRP 111 introduces students to medical terminology.

HRP 201 and HRP 202 allow students to explore areas of medicine in more depth.

HRP 497 is a medical scribe internship in neurology.

HRP 498 is an internship in medical informatics. A medical scribe internship is also available.

HRP 498A is a medical service learning trip.