



# Physical Therapy

## Pathway Preparation Sheet 2016-2017

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### What is Physical Therapy?

Physical Therapists diagnose and treat patients with limited movement or mobility due to medical conditions, illness or injury. They evaluate physical problems and develop treatment plans to help reduce pain, restore function or movement, and/or resolve the dysfunctional condition to achieve optimum physical functioning.

**Areas of Study in Physical Therapy:** Neuroscience, Neuroanatomy, Biophysics, Pathology, Pharmacology, Radiology, Cardiopulmonary Therapy, Orthopedic Evaluation, Physical Intervention and Rehabilitation, Therapeutic Exercise, Ambulatory function, Pediatrics, Geriatrics, Leadership and Management, Health Care Policy, Professional and Medical Ethics and Clinical Practice.

### Where does my path start?

You will complete an Associate of Arts – Direct Transfer Agreement (AA-DTA) at Shoreline.

Use the AA -DTA **Degree Planning Guide** to understand the requirements for graduation.

Once you complete your Shoreline degree, you can transfer to a four-year school to earn a Bachelor of Arts or Science degree. Physical Therapy is a post baccalaureate, graduate level professional program leading to a Doctoral degree. Students must complete graduate course work, clinical fieldwork and be licensed in the state to practice. Provided students meet program prerequisites, they are encouraged to major in any liberal arts degree of interest. For more information:

<http://www.shoreline.edu/science/prehealth>

<http://prehealthblog.shoreline.edu>

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### Where can I go for help?

#### Physical Therapy Faculty Advisors

**Kira Wennstrom** 206-546-4578  
[kwennstrom@shoreline.edu](mailto:kwennstrom@shoreline.edu) Rm 2816  
**Movakel Sargizi** 206-546-4569  
[msargizi@shoreline.edu](mailto:msargizi@shoreline.edu) Rm 2813  
**Joyce Fagel** 206-546-6984  
[jfagel@shoreline.edu](mailto:jfagel@shoreline.edu) Rm 5229

#### General Academic Advising

FOSS (5000) Building, Rm. 5229  
206-546-4559  
[advising@shoreline.edu](mailto:advising@shoreline.edu)  
[www.shoreline.edu/advising](http://www.shoreline.edu/advising)

#### Career Planning

[www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/](http://www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/)

#### International Advising

9000 Building, Rm. 9302  
206-546-4697  
[ieadvisors@shoreline.edu](mailto:ieadvisors@shoreline.edu)  
[www.shoreline.edu/international/advising/](http://www.shoreline.edu/international/advising/)

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### Where can I transfer?

Students can transfer to a number of public and private colleges and universities in the U.S., but the Direct Transfer Agreement applies only within Washington. Students will need to complete a Bachelors degree before beginning graduate work in Physical Therapy. The following colleges in Washington offer post-graduate degrees in Physical Therapy:

[Eastern Washington University](#)  
[University of Washington](#)

[University of Puget Sound](#)

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### What can I do with a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Therapy?

Physical Therapists develop strong critical thinking, assessment, problem solving, communication and technical skills applicable to a number of health care settings. In addition to providing direct patient care, Physical Therapists consult with other health care providers, conduct research, teach courses, promote wellness, develop public policy and provide leadership in the health care field.

**Potential employers include:** Hospitals, schools, rehabilitation centers, private clinics, nursing homes, public schools, colleges and universities and government agencies. For more, please visit career information and resources at

<http://www.shoreline.edu/counseling-services/career-counseling.aspx>

## Physical Therapy – Major Preparation Sheet –2016–2017

### What courses should I take?\*\*\*

*Below are recommendations for fulfilling the AA-DTA requirements if you are planning to pursue an Physical Therapy pathway*

**Strongly Recommended**  
These are commonly **required** for admission. Check with your chosen four-year program(s) to confirm.

**Other Recommendations**  
These courses are well-matched with African Studies, but are not commonly required for admission.

#### I. GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

**Quant. and Symbolic Reasoning** MATH &146

#### II. DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

**Humanities**

**Natural Sciences** BIOL &211, &260; CHEM 171/181

**Social Sciences** PSYC &100, &200, &220, ANTH &206

#### III. GENERAL ELECTIVES

BIOL &241 and &242; CHEM 172/182; PHYS &114 (Fall only); PHYS &115 (Win only) CHEM173/183, PHYS& 116 (EWU and UPS); take courses that apply toward major for your bachelor's degree.

### What does your chosen four-year school require?

Before choosing classes, become familiar with the four-year program where you want to apply: visit the website, email the department, and/or speak with a Shoreline advisor. While completing your Bachelor's degree at any university, complete the courses and other requirements for Physical Therapy schools. Below are examples from Washington schools with different admissions and graduation requirements. Check with the school for world language requirements. (Non-native speakers of English are often exempt from this requirement.) For more information contact The American Physical Therapy Association at [www.apta.org/](http://www.apta.org/)

School	Degrees	Requirements*	SCC Courses
Eastern Washington University	D.P.T.--Doctor of Physical Therapy	An overall 3.0 GPA is required, including a 3.0 GPA in prerequisite courses. 75 hours of work, observation or volunteer experience under a licensed Physical Therapist is required. Two upper division biology courses (these may have BIOL &211-&213 as prerequisites).	BIOL&211, &241 + &242, &260, CHEM 171/181, 172/182, 173/183, PHYS &114-&116, MATH &146, two courses from psychology, sociology or anthropology
University of Puget Sound	D.P.T.--Doctor of Physical Therapy	Overall 3.0 GPA required with 3.0 in each prerequisite course. One course in psychology or sociology emphasizing human behavior or disability. 100 hours of Physical Therapy observation is recommended.	CHEM 171/181, 172/182, 173/183, BIOL &211, &241 + &242, PHYS &114-&116, MATH &146, PSYC &100 or &220.
University of Washington	D.P.T.--Doctor of Physical Therapy	The UW admits about 45 students per year with an average GPA of 3.60; the range is 3.10 to 4.0. Applicant must be a US citizen or permanent resident. UW application deadline is Dec 15.	BIOL &211, &212, &241 + &242; CHEM &121, &131 or 171/181, 172/182, PHYS &114, &115, MATH &146, PSYC &100, plus one course in behavioral sciences such as psychology, sociology or anthropology.

\* All programs listed here require a Bachelor's degree.

\*\* This unofficial guide is intended to support you as you prepare for your major. Please consult with an advisor and your chosen four-year school(s), as program and admissions requirements vary and may change without notice.