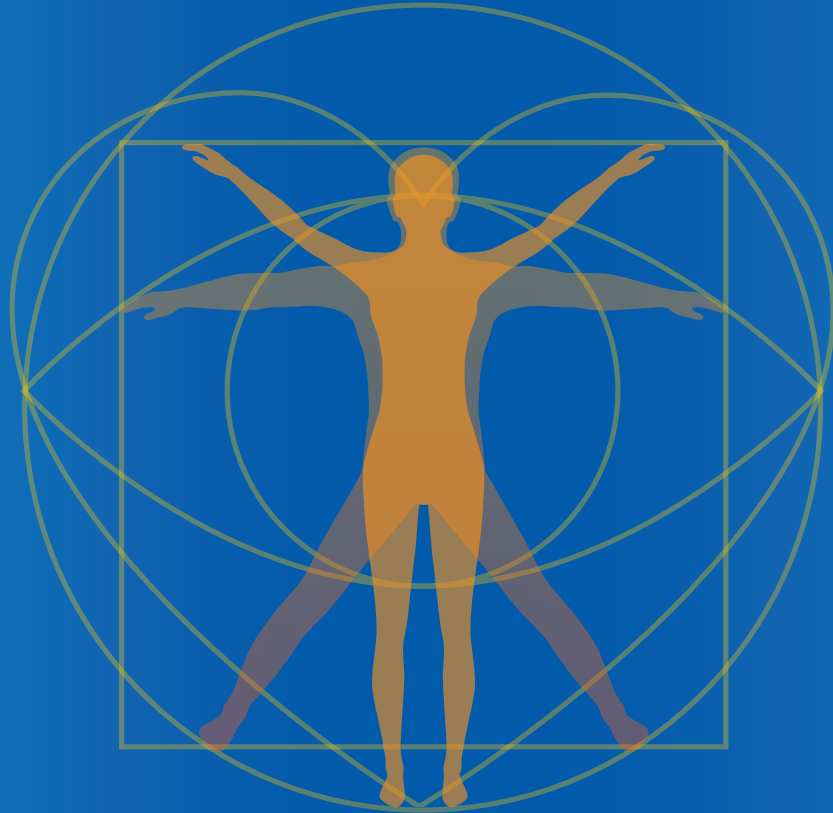


**SPOKANE FALLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

# **Physical Therapist Assistant Program**



## **Information Booklet**

For Admission: Fall Quarter



**Community Colleges of Spokane  
Spokane Falls Community College**

**Physical Therapist Assistant Program**

2917 W Whistalks Way  
Spokane, WA 99224-5202  
509-279-6073

[www.sfcc.spokane.edu/PTA](http://www.sfcc.spokane.edu/PTA)



Community Colleges of Spokane  
Spokane Falls Community College

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT**  
Associate in Applied Science Degree

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**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

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Physical therapy means the assessment, evaluation, treatment and prevention of physical disability, movement dysfunction, and pain resulting from injury, disease, disability, or other health related conditions. Physical therapist assistants work under the supervision of a physical therapist in the delivery of physical therapy services. Their duties include assisting the physical therapist in implementing treatment programs according to the plan of care, training patients in exercises and activities of daily living, conducting treatments, using special equipment, administering modalities and other treatment procedures, and reporting to the physical therapist on the patient's responses.

Physical therapy practitioners work with the entire spectrum of the patient population and are employed in a wide variety of settings including: hospitals and medical centers, rehabilitation centers, pediatric facilities or school systems, private physical therapy clinics, home health care agencies, convalescent centers and extended care facilities.

Spokane Falls Community College offers a two-year associate in applied science (A.A.S.) degree program to prepare physical therapist assistants for immediate employment. The program includes study in anatomy and physiology, social science, technical physical therapy courses, and clinical education in area health care facilities.

Spokane Falls Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. The PTA program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association.

**The deadline for submitting all application materials for fall quarter is found in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program Application website:  
<http://www.sfcc.spokane.edu/PTA>**

Questions can be directed to the Curriculum Advisor for Health – see the program's site at [sfcc.spokane.edu/PTA](http://www.sfcc.spokane.edu/PTA) for contact information.

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**WHEN CAN NEW STUDENTS ENROLL?**

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The next physical therapist assistant program (PTA) courses begin Fall Quarter. Admission into the program is limited and requires a special application process. Please be aware that the admission process is competitive. The completion of all requirements **does not** ensure admission into the program. The program is designed to be completed in seven full-time academic quarters. PTA courses must be taken in sequence and are only offered to students accepted into the PTA program. Students are encouraged to complete general education requirements and related coursework prior to entering the PTA program or during the summer quarter between the first and second year of the program.

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**WHERE CAN I GET MY QUESTIONS ANSWERED?**

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PTA Program Application Booklets are available from PTA secretary, Building 27, Room 357 or online at [sfcc.spokane.edu/PTA](http://www.sfcc.spokane.edu/PTA)

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## PROGRAM INFORMATION

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The PTA faculty organizes the materials for admission but does not select students. Qualified applicants will be given points for grades earned in prior coursework and demonstration of previous experience in physical therapy or related medical fields. The top students will be invited for an interview. The interview is mandatory for acceptance into the program; additional points are earned from the interview process.

Applicants will be notified of their status (accepted, alternate, or not qualified) by the PTA Program no later than 30 days after the interviews are completed. Applicants who are accepted into the PTA program and then withdraw or decline acceptance are not given priority consideration in future classes.

If English is your second language, a total TOEFL Score of 74 is required after acceptance into the program (acceptable scores: reading 16, listening 18, speaking 22, and writing 18 for a total of 74.) Please contact the program for more information.

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## ADDITIONAL STUDENT FEES/SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

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***In addition to the usual tuition and fees charged at SFCC, the PTA student will be responsible for some additional costs. Estimated costs:***

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|-----------------------------|---|
| • Required PTA textbooks    | Based on approximate costs of textbooks for PTA technical courses \$2,027   |
| • Name badge                | Included in lab fee   |
| • Liability insurance       | Included in lab fee   |
| • Injury Insurance          | \$41 per quarter through college or student may have private insurance  |
| • APTA student membership   | Included in lab fees  |
| • CPR /BLS Certification    | Approximately \$50  |
| • Immunizations             | Current TB test, flu shot, COVID-19 vaccine, and proof of immunity to tetanus/diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, and chickenpox ( <i>cost varies</i> ) |
| • Lab Fees                  | Approximately \$1,700/year  |
| • National Background Check | Approximately \$78/year through a credentialing agency  |
| • Immunization Review       | Approximately \$35/year   |

***Information on financial aid is available in the Financial Aid Office.***

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## ADMISSION PREREQUISITES/REQUIREMENTS

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### A.A.S. Degree: SFCC

#### Admission Prerequisites/Requirements:

- Apply for Admission to SFCC.
- Completion of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program Application Booklet which is available at the SFCC Counseling Center, Building 30, Second Floor, online at [www.sfcc.spokane.edu/PTA](http://www.sfcc.spokane.edu/PTA), or at the Magnuson Building 27, Room 356.
- Biology 241 Anatomy & Physiology is the only prerequisite to enter the program. Minimum grade of 2.0 required.
- Biology 160 is recommended but not required for Biology 241. Please contact Laura Woods in order to waive Biology 160 – 509-533-3540, [Laura.Woods@sfcc.spokane.edu](mailto:Laura.Woods@sfcc.spokane.edu) or Building 30, Counseling.
- Completion of or eligibility for Math 92, 94, or 96 (Algebra II equivalent), **AND** Engl &101 (The Math Placement test must be taken to determine eligibility.) These courses are graduation requirements.
- Preference given to students who have completed Math 92, 94, or 96, Engl &101, **AND** Psyc&100 **OR** Abnormal Psychology.
- Documentation/Verification of either paid or volunteer experience in a physical therapy setting (minimum of 40 hours recommended), preferably in more than one setting to promote understanding of the breadth of the profession.
- Applications are accepted at the end of winter quarter for entry into the program the following Fall.
- If accepted, the student will be informed of documentation needed for current immunizations, CPR (must be BLS) and First Aid training, and Washington State and National criminal background check.
  1. The PTA program incorporates a selective process for admission. This admission process uses a point system based on relevant coursework completed at the time of application and verification of paid or volunteer experience in a physical therapy setting. Please be aware that the completion of all prerequisites **does not** ensure admission to the program.
  2. It is strongly recommended that students take the other general education requirements prior to entering the program. These include Psyc&100 or Abnormal Psychology, Math 94 or equivalent Algebra II, and Engl&101 or equivalent English composition.
  3. Courses are primarily offered on site during the day.

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## CLINICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

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### ***Because the PTA program requires each student to complete approximately 568 hours of clinical education in clinic facilities, there are several special requirements:***

1. Students are required to have access to reliable transportation. Clinic sites will be located throughout the greater Spokane area and perhaps beyond. Students may also be required to be on campus the same day as a clinical experience. Bus service will not accommodate transportation needs, and car pools are rarely feasible, as it is unusual for more than one student to be assigned to a site.
2. Students are required to have medical insurance during the quarters that they are in clinics. Medical insurance is available through the college although any private health insurance is acceptable.
3. Students are also required to have malpractice/liability insurance. This is paid for by lab fees on a quarterly basis for approximately \$10.
4. Drug testing may be required by clinical sites at the students expense.
5. Healthcare workers are required to have current TB tests, immunizations and CPR training. These are necessary prior to entering the program and will be explained in detail at the student orientation.
6. The PTA Program complies with the "Child/Adult Abuse Information Act," RCW 43.43.830 through 43.43.840. Each PTA student is required to participate in an investigation for criminal history information prior to entry into the program.
7. Dress and grooming will be appropriate for professional settings.
8. Spring quarter of the second year involves full-time clinical affiliations. Students will pay tuition and receive training in clinical sites 40 hours per week. It is nearly impossible to work at a paid job during this time. Please plan ahead for this financial consideration.

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## **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS FOR SUCCESS FOR THE PTA PROGRAM**

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The following information is provided to assist you in achieving a better understanding of the sensory, physical, communication, cognitive, behavioral, social and professional skills necessary to successfully work as a PTA. These criteria are identified as being **essential functions for success** for physical therapist assistants and as such, closely match the abilities needed to successfully complete the clinical and laboratory components of the PTA program at SFCC. Students must be able to meet these minimum standards throughout the program, with or without reasonable accommodation, for successful completion of the program requirements.

It is the policy of Spokane Falls Community College to provide reasonable accommodation to qualified students with disability so that they can meet these required standards. If you are disabled and need special accommodations, please contact the program supervisor of Disability Access Services at 533-4166.

### **1. SENSORY/PHYSICAL SKILLS *The student must be able to:***

1. Provide general and emergency treatment to patients, including CPR.
2. Execute actions which require strength and coordination of both gross and fine motor movements, balance and functional use of the senses of touch and vision.
3. Observe and interpret patient movement, non-verbal communication, skin condition including changes in appearance or color, anatomical structure, etc.
4. Read and interpret equipment dials, graphs, patient charts, professional literature, and notes from physicians and other professionals.
5. Lift, carry, and push adult and pediatric patients safely. Lift, carry and push heavy equipment and wheelchairs utilizing proper body mechanics, avoiding injury to self or patient/classmate.
6. Lift and carry up to 30 pounds frequently, lift up to 50 pounds occasionally, and greater than 50 pounds seldom.
7. Manipulate equipment including bolsters, pillows, plinths, mats, assistive devices, to aid in positioning, moving or treating a patient effectively.
8. Respond to a patient calling from behind a curtain, warning calls from anyone (patient, staff, etc.), bells, alarms/signals.

### **2. COMMUNICATION *The student must be able to:***

1. Provide patients with clear instructions that are adapted to their cognitive levels and communication needs.
2. Communicate effectively, compassionately and respectfully with patients and their families, including perception of non-verbal communication.
3. Document clear and legible progress notes in patient charts, written home programs and instruction to patients and family members.
4. Interact respectfully and effectively with many professionals including members of a multidisciplinary team and convey essential information for safe and effective care.
5. Deliver clear oral presentations to classmates and health care professionals.

*(continued on next page)*

### **3. COGNITIVE DEMANDS *The student must be able to:***

1. Concentrate and attend to detail amidst a variety of environmental distractions.
2. Prioritize multiple tasks and carry out complex sequence of instructions.
3. Read, measure, calculate, reason, and analyze information from a variety of sources accurately, thoroughly and quickly.
4. Use problem-solving skills to promote safety and to transfer learning from one situation to another and make appropriate decisions in a timely manner.
5. Interact effectively and appropriately with patients of various ages, behaviors, cognitive abilities, cultures and ethnic backgrounds.

### **4. BEHAVIOR, SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS *The student must be able to:***

1. Effectively adapt to frequent changes in work environment and patient/client population.
2. Tolerate emotionally stressful workloads effectively.
3. Comply with legal and ethical standards set forth by the APTA Standards of Ethical Conduct for the PTA, The Guide to Physical Therapist Practice, Value Based Behaviors for the PTA, and the laws of Washington State regarding physical therapy.
4. Adapt treatment styles to effectively work with a variety of different supervisors.
5. Possess emotional stability in order to provide safe and effective care.
6. Acknowledge and respect individual values, beliefs and opinions to successfully foster harmonious working relationships with fellow students, patients and other professionals.
7. Self evaluate capabilities, needs and performance.
8. Maintain personal appearance and hygiene appropriate to classroom and clinic settings.

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## **DOES THE PROGRAM TRANSFER TO A BACCALAUREATE INSTITUTION?**

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The technical courses for the physical therapist assistant program are not designed to transfer to four-year institutions. Students who are planning to earn a doctorate degree in physical therapy should consult with an adviser from the four-year institution to plan an appropriate selection of classes to ensure that all requirements are met.

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## **EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK**

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Regionally and nationally, job placement of graduates of physical therapist assistant programs is excellent. The PTA profession is rated by the United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics as one of the fastest growing professions, and current projections indicate that this trend will continue. Graduates of SFCC's PTA program can expect to be hired immediately, though relocation may be necessary. There are many job opportunities for both men and women, and career opportunities for pursuit of specialty interests in rehabilitation, orthopedics, geriatrics and pediatrics. Starting salaries vary in range depending on demand and usually include benefits. Complete information on practice acts and regulations can be obtained from state licensing boards.

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## PTA PROGRAM GRADING POLICY

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Grades are reported to your permanent transcript as a numerical grade to the nearest tenth according to the following table. A numerical grade of less than 2.0 is a failure:

LETTER GRADE	PERCENT	NUMERICAL GRADE
A	96-100	4.0
	95	3.9
	94	3.8
A-	93	3.7
	92	3.6
	90-91	3.5
B+	89	3.4
	88	3.3
	87	3.2
B	86	3.1
	85	3.0
	84	2.9
B-	83	2.8
	82	2.7
	80-81	2.6
C+	79	2.5
	77-78	2.4
	75-76	2.3
C	74	2.2
	72-73	2.1
	70-71	2.0

### **Z GRADE:**

The 'Z' grade is "an instructor initiated option to withdraw a student from a class after the official withdraw date has passed". A 'Z' grade is not given for non-attendance or to anyone who has not completed all of the course work to date.

### **INCOMPLETE GRADE:**

If your performance in a course has been generally satisfactory with the exception of 1 or 2 assignments or skill checks, you may be able to arrange for an Incomplete Grade Student Contract with the instructor. The student or instructor may initiate the request for an incomplete grade. Incomplete grades are given solely at the instructor's discretion and under specific conditions that must be met to change an incomplete to a permanent grade. An incomplete grade in any course of the program is equivalent to being placed on probation. If the Student Contract is not completed as agreed, the student may be dismissed from the program. A copy of an Incomplete Grade Student Contract can be found in the PTA handbook Appendix.

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## COURSE SEQUENCE – First Year

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**Prerequisite:** Biol&241 Human Anatomy & Physiology <sup>1</sup> 5 credits

### FALL

PTA 101	Introduction to Physical Therapy	3 credits
PTA 102	Physical Therapy Terminology	1 credit
PTA 106	Regional Human Anatomy & Physiology	5 credits
PTA 110	PTA Procedures I: Basic PT Procedures Seminar	3 credits
PTA 170	PTA Procedures I: Basic PT Procedures Lab	4 credits

**TOTAL: 16 credits**

### WINTER

PTA 103	Applied Anatomy Seminar	3 credits
PTA 173	Applied Anatomy Lab	3 credits
PTA 104	Survey of Pathophysiology	5 credits
PTA 105	Introduction to Neuroscience	4 credits
PTA 107	Physical Therapy Documentation	1 credit

**TOTAL: 16 Credits**

### SPRING

PTA 111	PTA Procedures II: PT Modalities Seminar	3 credits
PTA 171	PTA Procedures II: PT Modalities Lab	4 credits
PTA 112	PTA Procedures III: Functional Restoration Seminar	3 credits
PTA 172	PTA Procedures III: Functional Restoration Lab	4 credits
PTA 151	Clinical Experience I	1 credit

**TOTAL: 15 credits**

### SUMMER

*(It is possible to do this the summer between the 1st and 2nd year, however, preference is given to students who complete this before entry.)*

ENGL& 101	English Composition I <sup>2</sup>	5 credits
PSYC& 100	General Psychology <sup>3</sup>	5 credits
Math 94	Algebra II <sup>4</sup>	5 credits

**TOTAL: 15 credits**

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## COURSE SEQUENCE – Second Year

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### FALL

PTA 202	Introduction to Orthopedics	3 credits
PTA 210	PTA Procedures IV: Therapeutic Exercise Seminar	3 credits
PTA 270	PTA Procedures IV: Therapeutic Exercise Lab	4 credits
PTA 212	PTA Procedures VI: Pediatric Rehab Seminar	1 credit
PTA 272	PTA Procedures VI: Pediatric Rehab Lab	2 credits
PTA 251	Clinical Experience II	1 credit
PTA 254	Clinical Seminar II	1 credit

**TOTAL: 15 credits**



## WINTER

PTA 201	Issues in Physical Therapy	2 credits
PTA 203	Physical Therapy Preparatory Lab	1 credits
PTA 211	PTA Procedures V: Rehab Applications Seminar	3 credits
PTA 271	PTA Procedures V: Rehab Applications Lab	4 credits
PTA 252	Clinical Experience III	3 credits
PTA 255	Clinical Seminar III	1 credit

**TOTAL: 14 credits**

## SPRING

PTA 253	Clinical Affiliation	12 credits
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**TOTAL: 12 credits**

**PROGRAM TOTAL (required for AAS): 103 credits**

- 1 Must have been taken within the last five years and completed with a 2.0 grade or better. Coursework older than five years will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Even though BIOL& 160 is not a prerequisite for BIOL& 241 for PTA students, it is recommended. You must contact Laura Woods in the counseling center at (509) 533-3540 (Laura.Woods@sfcc.spokane.edu) in order to waive BIOL& 160 as a prerequisite for BIOL& 241.
- 2 Admission preference is given to students who complete these courses prior to entry into the program. May be substituted with approval of program chair. Credits may be taken during summer between first and second year. Credits from these courses are included in the total credits for degree.
- 3 Abnormal Psychology may be substituted for PSYC& 100 General Psychology.
- 4 MATH 094, 098, 107, 148 or any higher level 5-credit Math course or equivalent Algebra II course. Placement test is needed to determine eligibility if a college level math has not been taken.

**Disclaimer:** The college cannot guarantee courses will be offered in the quarters indicated. During the period this guide is in circulation, there may be curriculum revisions and program changes. Students are responsible for consulting the appropriate academic unit or adviser for more current and specific information. The information in this guide is subject to change and does not constitute an agreement between the college and the student.

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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### **PTA 101 Introduction to Physical Therapy**

**(3.0 credits)** This course is an introduction to the practice of physical therapy emphasizing the role of the physical therapist assistant as a member of the health care team. Investigation of the law pertaining to the practice of physical therapy and ethical conduct. Issues of teamwork, interpersonal communication skills and patient motivation will be explored.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the PTA program.

### **PTA 102 Physical Therapy Terminology**

**(1.0 credits)** This course is a supervised self-study of terminology and abbreviations used to describe the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the body systems used in relationship to the practice of physical therapy. Terms associated with diagnostics, surgery, laboratory tests, pharmacology, and patient care are included.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the PTA program.

### **PTA 103 Applied Anatomy Seminar**

**(3.0 credits)** Instruction in human anatomy with an emphasis on the musculoskeletal system. Musculoskeletal structures are explained in their relationship to function. Basic principles of kinesiology (the study of the body in motion) will be presented. The principles of joint range of motion and manual muscle testing will be taught. Respiration and its neuromuscular process will be provided.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

### **PTA 104 Survey of Pathophysiology**

**(5.0 credits)** This course includes a basic overview of disease processes including general pathological responses and the physiology of healing and repair. A description of specific diseases and conditions, and the medical and surgical forms of treatment as they relate to rehabilitation is covered and there is discussion of systemic origins of musculoskeletal pain.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

### **PTA 105 Introduction to Neuroscience**

**(4.0 credits)** An introduction to the structures and basic functions of the nervous systems in relationship to physical therapy treatment of patients with neurological diagnoses is offered in this course.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in PTA courses.

### **PTA 106 Regional Human Anatomy and Physiology (5.0 credits)**

Human body structure and function with emphasis on the skeletal, muscular, and nervous systems; the respiratory and cardiovascular systems and introduction of digestive and endocrine systems. **Prerequisite:** BIOL&241

Course Descriptions (continued on next page)

**PTA 107 Physical Therapy Documentation**

**(1.0 credit)** Instructional focus on physical therapy documentation that follows guidelines and specific documentation formats required by state practice acts, practice settings and other regulatory agencies. Billing and payment information will also be discussed.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the PTA program.

**PTA 110 Procedures I: Basic PT Procedures Seminar (3.0 credits)**

Basic introduction to patient care skills including body mechanics, preparation for different patient diagnoses and treatment environments. Basic concepts and components of aseptic and infection control techniques, wound care, edema management, compression bandaging and taping will be explored. Methodology of data collection including vital signs and anthropometric measurements is presented. An introduction to modalities including superficial heat, cold, light therapy, diathermy and hydrotherapy as it pertains to patient care will be taught.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 111 PTA Procedures II: PT Modalities Seminar (3.0 credits)**

Theory and principles of deep heat modalities, electrotherapy, postural drainage, basic massage, and introduction to fundamentals of traction and other physical agents used in physical therapy.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 112 PTA Procedures III: Functional Restoration Seminar (3.0 credits)**

Instructional focus on functional restoration techniques for neurologic, orthopedic and other patients requiring physical therapy; including bed mobility, patient transfers, use of assistive devices, orthotics, and prosthetics, wheelchair positioning, and postural analysis. Issues pertaining to the principles of normal and abnormal gait, Americans with Disability Act pertaining to environmental accessibility and community service opportunities will be explored.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 151 Clinical Experience 1 (1.0 credits)**

Supervised clinical observation and experience in a variety of physical therapy clinic settings affiliated with the college are provided. A clinical discussion group focuses on interpersonal communication and patient interaction, oral and written patient progress reports, and effective problem solving skills.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in PTA courses.

**PTA 170 PTA Procedures I: Basic PT Procedures Lab (4.0 credits)**

Experiential learning of basic patient care skills including vital signs, bandaging, aseptic techniques, wound care and edema management, and athletic taping. Preparation of patient and treatment environment in a laboratory setting. Application of superficial heat, cold, light therapy, diathermy and hydrotherapy.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the PTA program.

**PTA 171 PTA Procedures II: PT Modalities Lab (4.0 credits)**

Laboratory course focusing on the application of deep heat modalities, electrotherapy and basic massage techniques. Laboratory sessions include the fundamentals of traction and other physical agents used in physical therapy with an emphasis on communication, utilization and safety in all applications.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 172 PTA Procedures III: Functional Restoration Lab (4.0 credits)**

Instruction in physical restoration techniques including bed mobility, patient transfers, postural analysis, principles of normal and abnormal ambulation, balance, use of assistive devices, and selected functional rehabilitation activities.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 173 Applied Anatomy Lab (3.0 credits)**

Laboratory course focusing on human anatomy with an emphasis on the musculoskeletal system and functional movement. External palpation and identification of structures is explained and their relationship to function. Application of basic principles of kinesiology (the study of the body in motion) will be presented. Data collection and assessment pertaining to joint range of motion, manual muscle testing, and respiration will be taught.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 201 Issues in Physical Therapy and Health Care (2.0 credits)**

This course is a survey of medical, legal, and psychosocial issues relating to the role of the physical therapist assistant in various physical therapy facilities and in the delivery of health care. Emphasis on the goals of physical therapy and how the PTA can influence the achievement of those goals.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in PTA courses or permission of instructor.

**PTA 202 Introduction to Orthopedics (3.0 credits)**

This course is the basic introduction to biomechanics and mechanisms of orthopedic injuries and diseases. Fundamentals of orthopedic terminology are addressed, and a survey of surgical repair with emphasis on rehabilitation is included.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in PTA courses or permission of instructor.

**PTA 203 Physical Therapy Preparatory Lab (1.0 credits)**

Instructional focus is on general pharmacological concepts for the physical therapist assistant, preparation for the physical therapist assistant (PTA) licensing exam, special tests and evidence based standardized tools for assessment of the patient in physical therapy.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 210 PTA Procedures IV: Therapeutic Exercise Seminar (3.0 credits)**

Instructional focus on physical therapy concepts for therapeutic exercise techniques as they relate to treatment of the spine, extremities, cardiovascular, pulmonary, and vestibular systems. Discussion of stages of healing, post-operative indications and contraindications will be explored. Common exercise programs, protocols, equipment and exercise strategies will also be examined. Patient motivational issues and the PTA role as a member of the healthcare team will also be incorporated.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 211 PTA Procedures V: Rehab Applications Seminar (3.0 credits)**

Instructional focus on physical therapy concepts for specific neurologic disabilities including spinal cord injuries, stroke, head injuries, MS and other neurologic diseases. Normal and abnormal aging processes including Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, pulmonary and balance related disorders will be explored. Investigation of appropriate data collection methods and treatments for orthopedic patients including upper and lower extremity dysfunctions; injuries to the spine; and lower extremity amputations according to the Guide to Physical Therapist Practice. Issues pertaining to physical therapy management of the burn patient, functional assessments and testing for sensory-related deficits is discussed.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 212 PTA Procedures VI: Pediatric Rehab Seminar (1.0 credits)**

Instructional focus on pediatric physical therapy pertaining to normal and abnormal development, pediatric treatment philosophies and principles, pediatric assessment tools, gross motor skill development, behavior management and communication skills, and common pediatric disorders.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 251 Clinical Experience II (1.0 credit)**

Supervised clinical experience in a variety of physical therapy sites affiliated with the college. Students are expected to continue to develop skills in basic patient care, documentation, modalities and functional activities which have been previously evaluated in the laboratory setting.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 252 Clinical Experience III (3.0 credits)**

Supervised clinical experience in a variety of physical therapy sites affiliated with the college. Students are expected to continue to develop skills in basic patient care, documentation, modalities and functional activities which have been previously evaluated in the laboratory setting.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 253 Clinical Affiliation (12.0 credits)**

This is a full-time internship of practical performance and appropriate application of physical therapy procedures and techniques under supervision in two selected clinical

settings or a physical therapy departments associated with the college. This affiliation is sufficient to insure that the student has reached the minimum level of competency required for an entry-level physical therapist assistant in the application of physical therapy procedures and the understanding of clinical responsibilities and supervisory relationships prior to graduation.

Grading option: Pass/fail.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in PTA courses.

**PTA 254 Clinical Seminar II (1.0 credit)**

Clinical lecture and discussion seminar will focus on cultural competence and verbal and written communication with clients and the health care team.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 255 Clinical Seminar III (1.0 credit)**

Survey of issues surrounding patient care and teamwork. Topics will focus on patient interaction, adjustment to disability and grief, ethics, and physical therapist and physical therapist assistant roles and responsibilities.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 270 PTA Procedures IV: Therapeutic Exercise Lab (4.0 credits)**

Laboratory course focus on development of therapeutic exercise programs for prevention and treatment of dysfunction of the spine, extremities, cardiovascular system, vestibular system, and somatosensory system. Implementation of treatment protocols and exercise techniques for specific diagnoses and conditions including orthopedic and neurological. Assessment techniques for posture, strength, flexibility, cardiovascular fitness will be employed. Documentation of treatment, response to treatment, assessment and planning.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 271 PTA Procedures V: Rehab Applications Lab (4.0 credits)**

Laboratory course focusing on the application of physical therapy skills for the treatment of specific neurologic disabilities including spinal cord injuries, stroke, head injuries, MS and other neurologic diseases. Emphasize the development of treatment programs for orthopedic patients including upper and lower extremity dysfunctions, injuries to the spine and lower extremity amputations. Develop specific home programs, instruct in family training and select appropriate assistive devices and equipment for neurologic, geriatric and orthopedic patients. Apply physical therapy skills for the comprehensive treatment of the geriatric patient.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.

**PTA 272 PTA Procedures VI: Pediatric Rehab Lab (2.0 credits)**

Laboratory sessions focus on pediatric physical therapy with an emphasis on facilitation of the developmental sequence, common treatment approaches including handling, positioning, range of motion, strength and mobility.

**Prerequisite:** Grade of 2.0 or better in previous PTA courses.



**Community Colleges of Spokane**  
**Spokane Falls Community College**

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