

Program Overview

The Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) Program provides the professional education required for eligibility for entry-to-practice as a Physical Therapist. Currently, to become registered as a Physical Therapist in the province of British Columbia, graduates of an accredited university MPT program must complete the national professional competency examination (PCE) which is administered by the Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators.

The full-time MPT curriculum is a continuous 26-month program divided into seven blocks of integrated classroom-based theory and clinical skills courses and clinical placements. Classroom based courses include basic sciences (anatomy, neuroanatomy, pathology), clinical decision-making (ethics, leadership, professional skills), research skills, case-based courses, and practical clinical skills courses. Clinical placements are an integral part of the program and students are placed in approved clinical practice sites throughout the province. The six clinical placements (30 weeks total) are interspersed across the 26-month program.

Applicants must meet the admissions requirements of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, and admission is offered on a competitive basis. The annual enrolment and class size is limited.

Northern and Rural Cohort

Beginning in September 2012, a new clinical education initiative began, offering 20 MPT students from within the existing 80 students, to be a part of the Northern Rural Cohort (NRC). The NRC students will complete four of their six placements in northern and rural communities in BC. The aim of this initiative is to increase recruitment and retention of physiotherapists to northern and rural communities through offering MPT students the opportunity to experience rural practice and rural life during their clinical education. Students submit an additional application at the time they apply to the MPT program and are selected *once* they have been offered a position in the MPT program. Preference is given to students who have a rural background and/or who have an affinity for rural practice.

UBC Admissions Criteria

1. **Completion of a recognized baccalaureate degree in any field and the successful completion of the following prerequisites:**

- a. **Physics** – Grade 12 Secondary level Physics **or** 3 credits of most university level Physics courses can be used to cover this prerequisite. We do not require that the course you complete has a lab component. Biomechanics is NOT accepted to cover this prerequisite. Academic standing of minimum B (72%) is required.
- b. **Chemistry** – Grade 12 Secondary level Chemistry **or** most half course equivalent university level Chemistry courses can be used to cover this prerequisite. Academic standing of minimum B (72%) is required.
- c. **Anatomy** – 3 credits in Human anatomy. Suggested courses (acceptable courses are not restricted to the following courses) from UBC are Anatomy 390 or 391 and at UVIC is EPHE 141 and at UNBC HHSC 105. If you are an HKIN student at UBC a combination of HKIN 190/191 will cover your Anatomy requirements. You can also take BIOL 235* from Athabasca University by distance education. Anatomy courses must cover gross anatomy of the human musculoskeletal, visceral and neurological systems. Academic standing of a minimum B (72%) is required.
- d. **Psychology** – Most 3 credits in Psychology can be used to cover this prerequisite. Academic standing of minimum B (72%) is required.
- e. **Statistics** – 3 credits in Statistics. Content should include statistical methods, probability theory, discrete and continuous random variables, estimation, hypothesis testing, regression, analysis of variance, goodness of fit, confidence intervals, elementary non-parametric methods, exploratory data analysis and hypothesis testing, simple linear regression and contingency tables variances. Academic standing of minimum B (72%) is required.
- f. **Human Physiology** – 6 credits in Human Physiology. Suggested course (acceptable courses are **not** restricted to the following courses) from UBC is Physiology 301 or BIOL 153, from SFU is KIN 305 and 306, and from UVIC is EPHE 241A and 241B. You can take BIOL 230* from Athabasca University by distance education. If you are a HKIN student at UBC a combination of HKIN 190/191 and an Exercise Physiology course will cover your Human Physiology and Human Anatomy requirements. The MPT program builds on the following principles of human physiology; properties of the living cell; neural, muscular, cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal, renal and endocrine systems; metabolism, reproduction and homeostasis.

From UNBC you must take HHSC 105, 111 and 112 combined to achieve 6 physiology credits but will also receive 3 anatomy credits.

Please note that the course work must solely be based on human physiology. Academic standing of a minimum B (72%) is required.

*Normally students cannot register for both BIOL 230 and 235 at Athabasca University; however, AU has agreed to let students who are wishing to complete prerequisites for entrance to the MPT program register in both courses. If you wish to do so, please contact John Ulici at johnup@athabascau.ca or 1-866-418-7205 and he will help you to gain access to registering for both courses. Please note that you will not get credit for both courses, but we will accept both of those courses taken there as covering prerequisites for entrance to our MPT program.

All prerequisite courses must be complete and noted on transcripts by the January 15th application deadline – they cannot be “in progress.”

Transferable classes in Northern British Columbia

Course - Requirements	UNBC, CNC or NWCC	UBC
Physics Gr 12 or 3 university credits	UNBC, CNC or NWCC – University level physics	PHYS 1 st (3) PHYS 100 PHYS 100 and PHYS 1st
Chemistry Gr 12 or 3 university credits	UNBC, CNC or NWCC – University level chemistry	CHEM 1 st CHEM 121 and CHEM 1 st CHEM 1 st
Anatomy (3)	CNC – HK 223 and 224 UNBC – HHSC 105 * Must be taken with HHSC 111 and 112	HKIN 190 and 191
Psychology (3)	UNBC- PSYC 101 or 102 UNBC- PSYC 215	PSYC 100 PSYC 2 nd
Statistics (3)	CNC - MATH 205 UNBC - ECON 205 or STATS 240 NWCC - MATH 251	UBC STAT 2 nd UBC STAT 2 nd STAT 200
Physiology (6)	UNBC – HHSC 111 and 112 CNC - BIOL 111 and 112 NWCC - BIOL 131 and 132	3 Physiology and 3 Anatomy credits *1.5 credits each for physiology and anatomy per class for CNC and NWCC courses.

Note: Not all transferable Chemistry, Physics or Psychology courses are listed.

2. A minimum of 70 hours of volunteer or paid work which includes direct contact involving interaction with persons with cognitive, emotional, or physical disabilities at no more than two facilities.
3. Two academic reference letters and once Practical Experience reference.

Residency

Primary consideration is given to residents of British Columbia and out of province students who have completed a Bachelor's degree or higher in BC within the last five years. We can accept up to 10% of incoming students from out of province.

English Competency

Applicants who have completed a degree in which English is not the primary language of instruction must present evidence of competency to pursue studies in the English language prior to being extended an offer of admission. Acceptable English language proficiency tests for applicants to the MPT program are:

- TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language): a minimum score of 600 (paper version); 250 (computer version); 100 (internet version).
- IELTS (International English Language Testing Service): a minimum overall band score of 6.5 is required with a minimum score of 6.0 in each component of the academic (NOT general) IELTS test.
- MELAB (Michigan English Language Assessment Battery): a minimum overall score of 81.

Interview

Applicants who meet the above minimum requirements are eligible for interview consideration. Invitation to interview is based solely on adjusted GPA scores calculated from the last 30 senior level (300 and 400 level) courses plus the Anatomy, Human Physiology, Statistics and Psychology prerequisite courses. Each year approximately twice the numbers of students who will be admitted to the program are invited to interview. The multi-mini interview assesses the candidate's verbal communication skills, maturity, and personal suitability.

Application Procedures

Individuals interested in applying to the MPT program must complete the on-line application and submit all necessary forms and transcripts no later than January 15, 2014 for admission to the September 2014 class. <http://physicaltherapy.med.ubc.ca/students-and-alumni/prospective-students-2/mpt-admissions/>

Applications will not be considered complete until all of the following documents are received by the Dep't of Physical Therapy:

1. A completed Graduate Studies Application Form made available on-line via www.physicaltherapy.med.ubc.ca.
2. A non-refundable application fee (for details, please refer to our web site). The electronic application form accommodates payments by credit card. In addition to this you will be required to submit a \$100.00 supplementary application fee to the Department of Physical Therapy - UBC.
3. Two copies of official transcripts from all college or universities attended (or in which one is currently enrolled). These transcripts must be mailed directly by the registrar of the institution to the Department of Physical Therapy. If any transcript is not in English or French, an official translation must be provided.
4. Three letters of reference, two of which should be written by an individual who has knowledge of the applicant's academic and/or research abilities, and one that is written by an individual who can confirm the applicant's completion of 70 hours of practical experience (volunteer or paid work) with individuals with physical, cognitive or emotional disabilities. The Practical Experience Reference Form can be found on our website. These letters must be mailed directly to the Department of Physical Therapy by the referees. The Graduate Student Reference Form is available on our website: www.physicaltherapy.med.ubc.ca or can also be sent to the referee electronically as part of your on-line application.
5. Eligible English language competency test results as per the above, if applicable.
6. Optional application to the Northern and Rural Cohort Program for clinical education. See website for application details. <http://physicaltherapy.med.ubc.ca/clinical-education/northern-and-rural-cohort/>

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This handout is for general information. Admission Policies change from time to time, and students are advised to refer to the UBC Department of Physical Therapy website www.physicaltherapy.med.ubc.ca for the most current admission requirements and information regarding tuition and fees.