

Master of Public Health/ Doctor of Physical Therapy at Arcadia University

Global Perspectives...Personal Attention...Real-World Integrative Learning Experiences

Coordinators

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Dual Degree Program

**Master of Public Health and Doctor of
Physical Therapy**

About Arcadia's Dual Degree Program in Public Health and Physical Therapy

With dual degrees, students gain knowledge in two fields as they prepare for their professional careers.

Arcadia's College of Business, Health & Sciences has nationally recognized health care, science and business programs that make the world a laboratory by providing real-world, integrative learning experiences. Graduate programs use evidence-based research and project-based learning to prepare health care and business professionals for a rapidly changing global environment. Applied and pro bono clinical research, clinical rotations, international fieldwork, and multicultural assessment are threaded through the curricula. Graduate students also conduct research and publish with expert faculty in many fields.

Dual degree candidates must be accepted into each of the programs in order to pursue dual degrees: *Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)* and *Master of Public Health (M.P.H.)*.

Physical therapy is a health care profession whose practitioners evaluate, treat and instruct individuals in order to prevent or overcome the effects of disease or injury. Physical therapists work in a variety of settings, including acute care hospitals, rehabilitation hospitals, outpatient centers, individual homes, skilled nursing facilities and public school systems.

Physical therapists also work as educators, researchers and consultants. Physical therapy is an integral part of today's changing health care system, and a dual degree in Public Health can prepare therapists to address both individual needs and community-based issues.

Arcadia's entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy program, where students enter with a bachelor's degree and prerequisites, is ranked 7th in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*.

This three-year dual degree program requires students to complete a total of 142 credits and is a year-round program where students earn 106 credits for the D.P.T. program and 42 credits for the M.P.H. program.

Admission to the Master of Public Health Program

In addition to the general admission requirements for graduate students, the following program-specific requirements must be met:

1. A completed graduate application including personal statements, to be completed online at www.arcadia.edu/gradapp.
2. A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a recommended GPA of 3.0 or better in the major course of study.
3. One official transcript from each college, university or professional school attended. Transfer credits included on a transcript must include grades earned; if not, an official transcript from the original school must be submitted. Transcripts must be sent from the issuing school in a sealed envelope and contain the appropriate signatures and seals to be considered official.
4. Three letters of recommendation, at least one from a professor (if a recent graduate) and one from a health professional.
5. Test scores for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), Graduate

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- Management Admission Test (GMAT), Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT), taken within the last five years. Test scores are not required for students with an earned graduate degree in a related field.
6. Knowledge of the profession through work or volunteer experience.
 7. International applicants should visit www.arcadia.edu/international for detailed information on admission requirements and application procedures. TOEFL/IELTS results are required for all students for whom English is a second language or who have not earned degrees or diplomas from post-secondary institutions in English-speaking countries (e.g. the United States, Canada, England, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand). A course-by-course evaluation of all transcripts by an independent evaluation service based in the United States also is required.
- be sent from the issuing school in a sealed envelope and contain the appropriate signatures and seals to be considered official.
4. The following minimum prerequisite courses with grades of “C” or better and a cumulative GPA in these course areas of no less than “B” (3.0) is expected. When calculating the prerequisite GPA, Arcadia includes all courses in the prerequisite areas. A grade of “C–” is not acceptable for the minimum prerequisite courses. Courses used toward the minimum prerequisite biological and physical science requirements should be taken through the appropriate science departments (e.g., Biology, Chemistry, Physics). All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to the start of the Physical Therapy program. One-half of the prerequisite courses, including Physiology and Statistics, must have been taken within 10 years prior to application.
 - a. Biological Sciences—four courses (a minimum of 12 semester credits) from a biology department, which should include the following:
 - i. One lab/lecture course in Human or Mammalian Physiology. (Note that a two-semester lab/lecture course of Anatomy-Physiology will meet the requirements of one Physiology course.)
 - ii. Anatomy is recommended but not required.
 - iii. One upper-level course (300- to 400-level) of least 3 credits with a biology focus. This course can be taken through another department, such as exercise science or kinesiology, but preferably should be taken through a biology department. Examples of courses that would fulfill this requirement are

Admission to the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

(See separate catalog section for the Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy requirements.)

Program-Specific Admissions

Requirements: In addition to the general admission requirements of the University, the following program-specific requirements must be met:

1. A Doctor of Physical Therapy application, including personal statements, to be completed online at www.ptcas.org.
2. A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a GPA of 3.0 or better. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better is expected for all undergraduate- and graduate-level study.
3. One official transcript from each college, university or professional school attended. Transfer credits included on a transcript must include grades earned; if not, an official transcript from the original school must be submitted. Transcripts must

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- Neuroscience,
Principles of Motor
Control, Anatomy
and Biology of Aging.
- b. Physical Sciences—four
lab/lecture courses to include
the following:
 - i. Two courses in
Chemistry.
 - ii. Two courses in
General Physics.
- c. Psychology—two courses.
- d. Statistics—one course.
- 5. Three letters of recommendation, at
least one from a currently practicing
licensed physical therapist and one
from a college professor who is able
to judge the applicant's academic
qualification and readiness for
rigorous work at the graduate level.
This professor should have taught one
of the academic courses for the
applicant's major.
- 6. Test scores for the Graduate Record
Examination (GRE), taken within the
last five years. A minimum total score
of 1050 is expected for the verbal and
quantitative portions of the test with
no single score below 450. A
minimum score of 4 is expected on
the analytical writing portion of the
test. **NOTE:** Program GRE code is
2039.
- 7. **International Applicants:** Official
results from the TOEFL or IELTS are
required for all students for whom
English is a second language, except
for non-native speakers of English
who hold degrees or diplomas from
post-secondary institutions in English-
speaking countries (e.g. the United
States, Canada, England, Ireland,
Australia and New Zealand). A
course-by-course evaluation of all
transcripts by an independent
evaluation service based in the United
States also is required. **NOTE:**
International students applying to the
Physical Therapy program must send
scores to the PTCAS code **5312**.
- 8. Knowledge of the profession through
more than one documented work or
volunteer experience. A broad
overview of the profession is
preferable to experience in a limited
area.
- 9. Increasingly, clinical facilities are
requiring that participating students
undergo various criminal background

checks, child abuse clearances,
and/or drug screens. Therefore
students should be prepared to
participate in these screenings.

Application Deadline: The review process for
completed applications begins on September
1. Applicants are strongly encouraged to
complete all components of the application
well in advance of the priority deadline of
December 15. (A complete application for
Arcadia includes official GRE scores, PTCAS
application, and three recommendations.) For
applications completed by December 15,
decisions will be released between January 15
and February 15. A \$500 deposit must
accompany the acceptance reply. This deposit
is applied to the first semester's tuition, and it
is non-refundable if students fail to enter the
program on the date for which they are
admitted.

Following official admission into the program,
all students must supply information about
their health and medical history and are
required to submit the results of a physical
examination. Registration will be considered
complete when the University is satisfied that
the student is physically able to undertake the
year's work.

Institutions participating in clinical internships
require a certificate of good health before
permitting students to work with patients.

Deferred Admission: Students who want to
defer their admission for one year must submit
their request to do so in writing to the Director
of Physical Therapy Admissions. Deferrals will
be considered on an individual basis. Once a
deferral is granted, a student must submit the
required deposit to reserve a seat in the class.
This deposit will be credited toward tuition. A
student who is granted a deferral must
understand that he or she will be subject to the
prevailing tuition at the time of matriculation to
the program.

Expenses

Tuition and fees for the dual degree program
are billed in equal increments over the
program's nine semesters. Information on
current costs is available at
www.arcadia.edu/finaid. Financial aid is
available to assist qualified students in
covering tuition and related expenses, as well
as living costs. Upon review for admission,

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students automatically will be reviewed by the academic department for a limited number of merit scholarships. Additionally, students can apply to receive up to \$20,500 annually through the Federal Direct Stafford Loan at a fixed interest rate. In addition to the Stafford Loan, students can choose to borrow either a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan or a private alternative student loan to cover remaining expenses. Graduate assistantships also may be available to those who qualify. For more information on available financial aid and how to apply, visit www.arcadia.edu/finaid and click on Graduate.

PT	616	Physical Therapy Examination/Evaluation Skills II (4 credits)
PT	626	Physical Therapy Intervention Skills II (5 credits)
PT	636	Exposure to Physical Therapy in a Health Care System (1 credits)
PT	646	Physical Therapy Integrative Care and Practice II (4 credits)
PT	657	Biomedical Foundation Sciences II (8 credits)

Requirements for the Dual Degrees in Public Health and Physical Therapy

(142 credits; 106 credits for the D.P.T. program and 42 credits for the M.P.H. program)

Dual Degrees: Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) and Master of Public Health (M.P.H.)

SUMMER YEAR 1

(17 credits)

PT	717	Physical Therapy Examination/Evaluation Skills III (2 credits)
PT	727	Physical Therapy Intervention Skills III (2 credits)
PT	747	Physical Therapy Integrative Care and Practice III (4 credits)
PT	757	Biomedical Sciences III (9 credits)

FALL YEAR 1

(24 credits)

PBH	501	Social Determinants of Health and Disease (3 credits)
PBH	640	Research Methods and Design for Public Health (3 credits)
PT	605	Intro and Exposure to Physical Therapy Practice (4 credits)
PT	615	Physical Therapy Examination/Evaluation Skills I (2 credits)
PT	625	Physical Therapy Intervention Skills I (4 credits)
PT	645	Physical Therapy Integrative Care and Practice I (3 credits)
PT	675	Biomedical Foundation Sciences I (5 credits)

FALL YEAR 2

(18 credits)

PBH	600	Introduction to Epidemiology (3 credits)
PBH	689.1	Public Health Internship I (3 credits)
PT	718	Physical Therapy Examination/Evaluation Skills IV (2 credits)
PT	728	Physical Therapy Intervention Skills IV (2 credits)
PT	738	Clinical Education Experience I (4 credits)
PT	748*	Physical Therapy Integrative Care and Practice IV (2 credits)
PT	758	Biomedical Foundation Sciences IV (2 credits)

*Health Care Systems covered in this course takes the place of PBH 510 Health Care Systems.

SPRING YEAR 1

(25 credits)

PBH	620	Introduction to Biostatistics (3 credits)
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SPRING YEAR 2
(28 credits)

*PBH 560 will be taken and counted as the PT
Electives/Independent Study PT 879/889.

PBH 560	Community and Environmental Health (3 credits)
PBH 689.2	Public Health Internship II (*3 credits)
PT 819	Physical Therapy Examination/Evaluation Skills V (6 credits)
PT 829	Physical Therapy Intervention Skills V (6 credits)
PT 849	Physical Therapy Integrative Care and Practice V (4 credits)
PT 859	Biomedical Foundation Sciences V (6 credits)

SUMMER YEAR 2
(9 credits)

PBH 530	Theories of Health Behavior and Health Education (3 credits)
PT 860	Clinical Education Experience II (6 credits)

FALL YEAR 3
(12 credits)

PBH 630	Program Planning and Evaluation for Health Professionals (3 credits)
PBH 695	Public Health Fieldwork Thesis Seminar I (3 credits)
PT 870	Clinical Education Experience III (6 credits)

SPRING YEAR 3
(9 credits)

PBH 645	Evaluation of Public Health Programs: Case Studies (3 credits)
PBH 696	Public Health Fieldwork Thesis Seminar II (3 credits)
PT 805	Physical Therapy Practice II (3 credits)
PT 869	Independent Study (0 credits*)
PT 899	Independent Study (0 credits*)