

Table 3. Curricula of three MPT education programs

MPT program (1st decile ranking) ¹	MPT program (4th decile ranking) ¹	MPT program (10th decile ranking) ¹
<p>Required coursework Cardiopulmonary Therapeutics Clinical Education I, II, III Clinical Medicine, Applied Human Anatomy Introduction to Human Pathology Kinesiology and Pathomechanics Medical Neuroscience Musculoskeletal Therapeutics I, II, III Neuromuscular Therapeutics Pediatric Physical Therapy Physical Therapy Management and Administration Principles of Motor Control & Applied Neuroscience Principles of Physical Therapy Professional Issues & Ethics in Physical Therapy Prosthetics and Orthotics Psychosocial Aspects of Patient Care Research Practicum I, II Therapeutic Physical Agents I, II</p>	<p>Required coursework Cardiopulmonary Therapeutics, Advanced Clinical Education I, II, III, IV Clinical Medicine Contemporary Health Care Issues and Management Development and Pediatrics Health Promotion Human Anatomy, Advanced Topics Kinesiology and Biomechanics, Applied Musculoskeletal Disorders - Evaluation Methods and Principles Musculoskeletal Disorders - Evaluation Methods and Principles, Advanced Neuromuscular Therapeutics I, II Neuroscience Pathophysiology Patient Care and Education Pharmacology for Physical Therapy Physical Therapy Practice Issues Physical Therapy Procedures I, II Professional Interactions Research I, II Research Practicum</p>	<p>Required coursework Anatomy Basic Skills Clinical Education I, II, III, IV Differential Diagnosis Educ/Communication Gait Analysis Human Growth and Development Kinesiology Medical/Surgical Conditions I, II Musculoskeletal Assessment Neurology I, II, III Neuroscience Orthopedics I, II Pathology of Musculoskeletal System Physical Agents I, II Psychosocial Reaction to Disease PT Management Research Project Scientific Inquiry I, II Seminar I, II, III, IV, V, VI Therapeutic Exercise I, II</p>
<p>Prerequisites Biology or Zoology (12 semester hours) Chemistry (8 semester hours) Physics (8 semester hours) Physiology (3 semester hours) Psychology (6 semester hours) Trigonometry or higher (3 semester hours) Statistics (3 semester hours)</p>	<p>Prerequisites Algebra (1 course) Anatomy with lab (1 semester) Biology with lab (2 semesters) Chemistry with lab (2 semesters) English Composition (2 courses) First Aid and CPR certification (1 course) Human Development (1 course) Human Physiology with lab (1 semester) Physics with lab (2 semesters) Psychology (2 courses) Sociology (1 course) Speech (1 course) Statistics (1 course) Trigonometry (1 course)</p>	<p>Prerequisites Biology (2 courses) Chemistry (1 course) CPR certification English Composition (2 courses) Mathematics (1 course) Physics (1 course) Psychology (1 course)</p>
<p>Clinical field experience Three different clinical internships totaling 24 weeks</p>	<p>Clinical field experience Two 2-week clinical placements, One 4-week placement, and Either two 9-week placements OR three 6-week placements</p>	<p>Clinical field experience First year: 280 clinical hours Second year: 240 clinical hours Third year: 320 clinical hours Four year: 280 clinical hours</p>

¹Rankings are from *U.S. News and World Report, America's Best Graduate Schools* (2000).

Note: PT is physical therapist; PTA is physical therapist assistant; MPT is Masters of Physical Therapy.

Source: Urban Institute summary of education programs' curricula.