

DScPT

Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist Degree Program

Andrews University and the North American Institute of Orthopaedic Manual Therapy (NAIOMT) are pleased to offer the DScPT Program in orthopaedic manual therapy. This degree represents one of the most clinically relevant programs in the United States. The program utilizes a combination of short course format, independent study and distance learning to minimize time away from home while providing necessary didactic contact. Applicants are also able to receive credit for previous achievements through our competency review process. Graduates will leave the program certified as an orthopaedic manual therapist and will have the credentials to market themselves as one of the most respected orthopaedic specialists in their area!

A. PROGRAM COMPOSITION

For the therapist with a Bachelors or Master's degree in Physical Therapy

Demonstrated competency or completion of a minimum of 64 credits of course work from the following areas:

Core I – Foundation Curriculum

- Doctoral Colloquium
- Advanced Clinical Physiology
- Clinical Screening and Differential Diagnosis
- Medical Diagnostics
- Clinical Pharmacology
- Educational Techniques for Healthcare Professionals
- Spirituality in Healthcare
- Comparative Religion
- Clinical Research
- Advanced Topics in Clinical Research
- Applications in Clinical Research
- Capstone Experience

Core II – Manual Therapy Curriculum

- NAIOMT Level I Introduction: Localizing and evaluating the site and source of the pain
- NAIOMT Level II Upper Quadrant: Detailed biomechanical assessment and manual therapy techniques for the cervical and thoracic spine, shoulder, elbow, wrist, and hand
- NAIOMT Level II Lower Quadrant: Detailed biomechanical assessment and manual therapy techniques of the lumbar and lower thoracic spine, hip, knee, ankle, and foot
- NAIOMT Level III Upper Quadrant: Advanced biomechanical assessment and skilled manual interventions to the upper and lower cervical spine, temporal mandibular joint, thoracic spine, shoulder, elbow, wrist, and hand
- NAIOMT Level III Lower Quadrant: Advanced assessment and treatment as noted above in the Level III upper quadrant course, and includes the lumbar and lower thoracic spine, pelvis and sacroiliac joints, hip, knee, ankle, and foot
- NAIOMT Level IV Spinal Manipulation: High-velocity, low-amplitude (thrust) techniques are taught addressing the spine, pelvic girdle, and ribs.
- NAIOMT Supervised Clinical Practice: Student will need to complete a minimum of 60 hours of 1:3 clinical supervision by completion of the degree

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Core III – Elective Curriculum

The student must complete a minimum of 10 elective credits from approved course work. These credits can be obtained from courses offered at Andrews or from a personal plan designed by the student and approved by their academic advisor. This plan may include continuing education courses, obtaining additional certifications or courses of independent study. Areas of interest outside of orthopaedic physical therapy may include administration and business, education, holistic health, alternative therapies, spirituality and psychology. Courses may be offered at Andrews based on interest and feasibility. Students may also select graduate courses offered elsewhere in the University either online or on campus pertaining to the previously listed categories.

Core IV – Professional Contribution Curriculum

Capstone Project: This serves as an essential outcome component to augment the professional development and new learning that occurs in the DScPT curriculum. The project demonstrates the ability of the graduate DScPT to make a significant contribution to the profession and/or to serve as a change agent in the field of physical therapy.

For the therapist that has a Doctorate in Physical Therapy

Core I – Foundation and Manual Therapy Curriculum

- Applications of Research
- Principles of Contemporary Leadership
- NAIOMT Level I Introduction: Localizing and evaluating the site and source of the pain
- NAIOMT Level II Upper Quadrant: Detailed biomechanical assessment and manual therapy techniques for the cervical and thoracic spine, shoulder, elbow, wrist, and hand
- NAIOMT Level II Lower Quadrant: Detailed biomechanical assessment and manual therapy techniques of the lumbar and lower thoracic spine, hip, knee, ankle, and foot
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B. CREDITS FOR COMPETENCY DETERMINATION

As a part of the application process and the Doctoral Colloquium course requirements, students are required to submit a portfolio. The portfolio review will then determine if qualifications for competency credit in any of the core areas has been met.

C. PROGRAM FORMAT

1. Bachelor's or master's degree students who have met all of the competencies up to but not beyond the entry-level masters degree, will attend classes on the following schedule:

YEAR 1: Attend three 4-6 day sessions on campus
1 Home Study Session
YEAR 2: 2 six day sessions on campus
2 Home Study Sessions
YEAR 3: 3 six day sessions on campus
NAIOMT Supervised Clinical Practice Hours
Capstone Project Completion
2. Clinicians with an entry-level bachelor's degree may be required to complete more than the minimum of 64 credits depending upon the review of their PTET scores.
3. The schedule for a student who has been awarded competency credit will vary depending upon which course work towards the degree remains to be completed. Students are given a maximum of 6 years from entrance into the program to complete all of the degree requirements.

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D. COSTS

1. Tuition for a semester credit is \$467. For credits awarded through the competency review process, the rate is \$185 per semester credit. Rates are subject to change at the beginning of each new fiscal year.

Using these figures, the total cost for the student with an entry-level master's degree student with no competency credits will be approximately \$29,888. The total tuition for students who have been awarded competency credits may be significantly less depending upon the amount of competency credit awarded. Bachelor's trained students whose PTET scores are not adequate may require additional course work to elevate them to entry-level master's degree status and may incur additional costs for the added credits needed for their degree. Tuition covers the course and/or semester credits, course outlines and course syllabi. Additional expenses may include required textbooks or other resource materials, travel, and lodging. Any fees charged by the clinical instructor for the required 60 hours of 1:3 clinical hours are also the responsibility of the student.

2. Students will be assessed tuition for the courses taken in each semester. Competency credits will also be billed during the semester in which the course is normally offered. Students who have finished all required coursework and who are not registered for any other credits in a given semester, will be required to register for a project continuation fee of \$175 to remain on active student status within the University

F. STARTING THE PROGRAM

Bachelor's or Master's trained PTs

Currently we have one entry-point a year into this program in August. Once a student begins the program they are required to complete their course work in sequential fashion with their classmates. A schedule will be published in a timely fashion to allow the student to plan for the times that he/she is required to be on the Andrews campus for courses.

DPT trained PTs

For DPT trained students we offer two entry points in March and October. At the time of entry into the program a schedule will be worked out for the student showing when their course work will be offered.