

University College Dublin
An Coláiste Ollscoile Baile Átha Cliath

National University of Ireland, Dublin
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Baile Átha Cliath



Physiotherapy

Session 2005/06

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Degree of Bachelor of Science (Physiotherapy) (BSc) (Physio)

The full-time degree course leads to the examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Physiotherapy) of the National University of Ireland and to eligibility for membership of the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists.

The programme of study for the degree extends over a period of four years. Courses will be given in University College Dublin. Students will also spend time on clinical placement in hospitals throughout the country. While working in a hospital, students are subject to the rules of the hospital.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the course is based on the points system for students taking Leaving Certificate examinations. The points score of an applicant will be calculated on the six best subjects in a single year. It is estimated that fifty-six places will be available in the first year class in session 2005/2006.

Candidates for admission will be required to pass a medical health assessment prior to admission and from time to time thereafter. The assessment may include testing for Hepatitis B and Tuberculosis.

Students are responsible for providing their own items of equipment for practical classes. Details of required equipment will be provided at the Orientation Day and at the commencement of term.

Dates of Terms

The 2005/2006 session is as follows:

Michaelmas Term: Monday 12 September 2005-Friday 2 December 2005
(First Semester)

Hilary and Trinity Terms: Monday, 16 January 2006-Friday 10 March 2006
(Second Semester) Monday, 03 April 2006-Friday 28 April 2006

Examinations

Second University Examination in Physiotherapy

The courses of instruction and subjects of examination are:

ANAT 2002	Anatomy
PHYS 2002	Physiology
PHTY 2003	Biomechanics and Kinesiology
PHTY 2004	Applied Physics and Electrotherapy
PHTY 2007	Practice of Physiotherapy

Examinations may be held in Winter, Spring and Summer. Repeat examinations will be held in the Autumn. Students who fail to complete the Second University Examination in Physiotherapy in the Autumn are required to re-attend the respective courses in the following session before re-entering for the examination.

The Second University Examination in Physiotherapy must be passed within two years of the date of passing the First University Examination in Physiotherapy.

Third University Examination in Physiotherapy

The courses of instruction and subjects of examination are:

PHTY 3007	Practice of Physiotherapy
SOC 3701	Sociology
PSY 3701	Psychology
PHME 3001	Epidemiology, Statistics and Research Methods
PHTY 3003	Biomechanics and Kinesiology
PHTY 3004	Applied Physics and Electrotherapy

Examinations may be held in Winter, Spring and Summer. Repeat examinations will be held in the Autumn. Epidemiology, Statistics and Research Methods are examined at the end of the first semester. Students who fail to complete the Third University Examination in Physiotherapy in the Autumn are required to re-attend the respective courses in the following session before re-entering for the examination.

Clinical Attendance

The students' clinical performance will be evaluated continuously during Third year.

Fourth University Examination in Physiotherapy

The courses of instruction and subjects of examination are:

PHTY 4004	Practice of Physiotherapy
PHTY 4100	Minor Dissertation
PSYC 4001	Psychiatry
FMED 4002	Legal Medicine
BMGT 3046	Management

Practice of Physiotherapy examination includes evaluation of clinical performance. Examinations may be held in Winter, Spring and Summer. Repeat examinations will be held in the Autumn. The examination in Legal Medicine is held at the end of the First Semester. The Bachelor of Science (Physiotherapy) Degree may be awarded with honours.

Continuous Assessment

Physiotherapy skills are tested by continuous assessment in First, Second, Third and Fourth Years.

Clinical Attendance

The attendance of students at clinical placements in the general and specialist hospitals affiliated to the University must be certified before proceeding to the Third and Fourth

University Examinations in Physiotherapy. The students' clinical performance will be evaluated continuously during Fourth year.

Syllabus of Courses

Second Year

Anatomy

ANAT 2002

Two lectures, two hours practical/dissection class and one applied/functional anatomy seminar per week during the first and second semester.

The course continues from the first year with the emphasis again being placed on functional aspects of the subject. The abdomen, pelvis, perineum, head and neck and central nervous system (CNS) are studied with particular reference to topics of importance to physiotherapists. The study of the CNS includes detailed consideration of the control of motor function.

Physiology

PHYS 2002

Lectures: Two lectures and one practical class each week during the first and second semesters.

The course in Physiology over the second year is designed to continue on from the course in first year giving the student an in-depth knowledge of fundamental reactions of living organisms, particularly in the human body. The major topics covered include the following: respiration; blood vessels; circulation; cardiac cycle; systemic circulation; sensory receptors; special senses; motor unit; spinal cord; control of movement; hypothalamic functions; gastro-intestinal tract; kidneys; uterus; urinary tract; pregnancy; endocrine system.

Practical classes in the first semester include respiratory function tests, electromyography and exercise. Histology classes in the second semester are concerned with the microscopic structure of tissues; organs and systems and particular emphasis is placed on the relationship of structure and function.

Practice of Physiotherapy

PHTY 2007

Lectures: One hundred and ten lecture hours. Fifty-eight Tutorial/Practicals throughout the year.

Relationship between pathological changes and clinical signs in a range of disorders.

Musculoskeletal 1: Theoretical basis, exercise and movement studies for assessment and management of traumatic, orthopaedic and rheumatological conditions. Manual therapy approach to the assessment and treatment of musculoskeletal disorders of the lower limb.

Cardiorespiratory 1: Introduction to assessment and management of respiratory conditions.

Practical respiratory therapy.

Neurology 1: Introduction to assessment and management of neurological conditions. Exercise and movement studies in neurological conditions.

Professional issues: Ethical guidelines for clinical practice. Interviewing patients; reasoned approaches to problem solving and treatment planning; facilitating reflection for learning and for professional practice.

Biomechanics and Kinesiology

PHTY 2003

Lectures/Practicals/Tutorials: Two hours per week during the first and second semesters.

1. Kinematic variables involved in the description of movement. Relative and absolute spatial reference systems.
2. Kinetics: Forces that cause and adjust movement.
3. Anthropometry.
4. Biomechanics of equilibrium in standing and sequence leading to its attainment.
5. Work, kinetic and potential energy.
6. Muscle and joint biomechanics.
7. Recording systems in current use for measurement of joint range and muscle strength.
8. Normal locomotion patterns in man.

Applied Physics and Electrotherapy

PHTY 2004

Lectures/Practicals/Tutorials: Forty eight hours during the first semester.

Thermal energy. Hot packs, short wave diathermy. Muscle stimulating currents. Ultrasound. Application of techniques: Hot packs, short wave diathermy. Electrical stimulation of muscle. Therapeutic ultrasound.

Third Year

Practice of Physiotherapy

PHTY 3007

Lectures: One hundred and thirteen hours during the first and second semesters.

Tutorials/Practicals: Forty hours in both the first and the second semester.

Musculoskeletal II: Theoretical basis for management of spinal pathologies and syndromes. Manipulative therapy for spinal conditions.

Neurology II: Theoretical basis for management of adult and paediatric neurological conditions, neurosurgery and peripheral nerve lesions. Exercise and movement studies for neurological conditions and aged care.

Cardiorespiratory II: Theoretical basis for management of cardiorespiratory conditions.

Vascular and Metabolic Conditions: Theoretical basis for management of vascular and metabolic conditions including peripheral vascular disease and diabetes.

Women's Health: Introduction to women's health including management of gynaecological conditions, incontinence, ante & post natal care.

Principles of management of dermatological conditions, burns, and plastic surgery.

Principles of palliative care. Dissertation proposal. Reflective practice.

Biomechanics and Kinesiology

PHTY 3003

Lectures/Practicals/Tutorials: Thirty hours during the first and second semesters.

1. Biomechanics of loading the vertebral column.
2. Validity and reliability of measurement.
3. Deviations from normal locomotion patterns in various pathological conditions.
4. Prehensile operation/function of hand.
5. Biomechanics of various occupational and sporting activities.

Applied Physics and Electrotherapy**PHTY 3004***Lectures/Practicals/Tutorials: Twenty four hours during the first semester.*

Cryotherapy. Interferential currents, transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation. Laser. Contemporary trends in physiotherapy. Wound management.

Sociology**SOC 3701***Lectures: Twelve during the first or second semester.*

The sociological perspective, professional and lay models of health and illness, health and illness behaviour, the professional-patient relationship, chronic illness, disability and ageing, inequalities in health and health care, illness and the family, the hospital as a social system, the Irish health care system.

Psychology**PSY 3701***Lectures: Twelve during the first or second semester.*

Social psychology attitudes, attribution theory. Pain, stress and coping. Social groups - group structure – conformity, obedience, relationships (social support). Application of social psychology and health (behaviour, bereavement). Therapies: Psychotherapy, behavioural therapy, cognitive restructuring (stress inoculation training).

Epidemiology, Statistics and Research Methods**PHME 3001***Lectures: Twenty four hours during the first semester.*

Lectures to include:- Critical appraisal. Evidence-based practice. Design, analysis and reporting in biomedical research. Prospective and retrospective studies. Randomised controlled clinical trials. Ethics in research. Clinical measurement, observer, variation, sensitivity and specificity. Computers in medicine. Epidemiology. Statistics.

Clinical Education

A minimum of 1,000 hours is spent on clinical placement. This commences at the end of the second year but the greater proportion of the clinical experience occurs during the third and fourth years. A block of clinical work is carried out at the end of the second and third academic years during the summer vacation. The attendance of students at clinical placements in the general and specialist hospitals affiliated to the University must be certified before proceeding to the Third University Examination in Physiotherapy.

Fourth Year**Psychiatry****PSYC 4001***Lectures and Clinical Presentations: Sixteen hours during the first or second semester.*

Adult and child psychiatry – classification. Chronic illness. Dying and bereavement, psychiatric disorders and treatments and response to physical illness. Personality disorders. Drug abuse, psychiatric disorders in childhood. Effects of hospitalisation. Assessment. Clinical presentations.

Practice of Physiotherapy

PHTY 4004

Lectures, seminars and clinical presentations: One hundred and twenty hours during the first and second semesters.

Loss and grief in physiotherapy practice. Rehabilitation for survivors of torture. Physiotherapeutic management of pain. Evaluation of Fitness. Sports Physiotherapy. Advanced studies in gerontology. Physiotherapy in industry. Manipulative Procedures. Acupuncture. Pathomechanics of the foot and ankle. Clinical case presentation of patients – thirty hours' clinical examination/assessment of patients.

Legal Medicine

FMED 4002

Ten lectures and two seminars during the first semester.

The course is particularly concerned with the areas of medical law and ethics as applied to physiotherapy. The aim is to give the student physiotherapist a working knowledge of medico-legal matters pertinent to present-day and future clinical practice, including the legal and ethical obligations of the practicing physiotherapist.

Topics covered include: Introduction to medical law and ethics; basic legal concepts and the Court system; physiotherapists' legislation and registration in Ireland and the European Union; legal framework for the physiotherapist-patient relationship; basic concepts in professional negligence; patient consent to diagnosis, investigation and treatment; communications and preventive medical law; medical records and confidentiality; data protection legislation; structure and functions of the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists; codes of ethics, physiotherapists' code of conduct; medico-legal reports, expert witness and the Court appearance; contracts of employment, trade union law and partnerships in private practice.

Management

BMGT 3046

Lectures/Seminars/Project: Sixteen during the second semester.

History of the health service, Department of Health requirements, review of health economics. The management and business world - planning, organisation, controlling, leadership, communication skills, budgeting.

Clinical Education

The attendance of students at clinical placement in the general and specialist hospitals affiliated to the University must be certified before proceeding to the Fourth University Examination in Physiotherapy.

Minor Dissertation

PHTY 4100

Each candidate will have to present a minor dissertation.

Postgraduate Programmes

Higher Diploma in Healthcare (Acupuncture)

Programme Code MDHDP0037

The Higher Diploma in Healthcare (Acupuncture) is a 2-year part-time postgraduate programme. It is designed to assist healthcare professionals to employ acupuncture as an adjunct to other treatments. The course provides training in acupuncture for healthcare professionals. The skills learned provide the basis for safe and effective treatment within the healthcare system. The aim is that the knowledge and skills required can be applied to the improvement of patient care and to healthcare delivery in general. The study will include Theory of Acupuncture, In-depth study of Point Finding, Diagnostic Skills, Case Studies. The course is open to healthcare professionals with a basic qualification in one of the health sciences, with a minimum of two years post qualification experience, and to other healthcare personnel who hold qualifications as may be approved by the College of Life Sciences.

Course Structure

The course provides training in Acupuncture for physiotherapists, medical practitioners and other health professionals working in the area of musculo-skeletal disorders. The skills learned provide the basis for safe and effective treatment within the healthcare system. The aim is that the knowledge and skills required can be applied to the improvement of patient care and to healthcare delivery in general. The course will be part-time over two years and will consist of lectures, tutorials and practical/laboratory sessions. The syllabus of courses offered in each year of study will include:

Year 1

Theory of Acupuncture, Study of Point Finding, Diagnosis, Case studies.

Year 2

Scientific Theory, Ear Acupuncture, Meridial Networks, Disease Syndromes.

Examinations

The examinations for the Higher Diploma in Healthcare (Acupuncture) will consist of the following:

1. A written examination at the end of Years 1 and 2
2. A clinical and oral examination
3. Three case studies

Candidates must pass the Year 1 written examination before commencing Year 2.

**Certificate in Outcome Assessment in Motor Disability
(Web Based Distance Learning)**

Programme Code: MDCTP0003

The certificate in Motor Disability is a one-year part-time postgraduate programme. The course is delivered entirely on the Web.

The course provides training in motor disability testing and related areas to evaluate and communicate the effectiveness of treatment to professionals in the healthcare system. It consists of standardised and validated measures to be used before and after treatment. The objective is to encourage transparency in the communication of the effects of treatment in patients with motor disability. The course has a total student workload of 90 hours and is divided into 10 units.

Entry Requirements: The course is open to physiotherapists, doctors, bioengineers and nurses and to other healthcare personnel who hold such other qualifications as may be approved by the College of Life Sciences.

Examination is by multiple-choice questionnaire, by essay, by discussion topics and the clinical laboratory record will take place on the web at the end of each unit.

Degree of Master of Science (MSc)

Candidates who have obtained the Degree of BSc (Physiotherapy) from the National University of Ireland, or other primary degree or other qualification deemed equivalent by the College of Life Sciences, and who wish to obtain further postgraduate training in their chosen branch of allied subjects related to Medicine, with particular reference to the academic and research aspects, shall be eligible to enter for the Degree of MSc. The Degree may be obtained by thesis (Mode I) or by examination (Mode II).

MSc Degree by Thesis (Mode I)

Programme Codes: MDMRF0004 and MDMRP0001

Candidates must attend for at least three terms and carry out research under the direction of the professor (or university lecturer) in the subject concerned. The thesis presented by the candidate is to embody the results of this research. The College may approve of the work being carried out elsewhere under the direction of the professor (or university lecturer) in the subject concerned.

Candidates may be required to pass an oral examination in the subject matter of the thesis if the examiners so decide. Three copies of the thesis must be lodged with the Supervisor of Examinations, University College Dublin, on or before the date fixed by the university.

MSc Degree by Examination (Mode II)

Programme Codes: MDMXF0022 and MDMXP0009

The course will be full-time, covering twelve months, or on a part-time basis over at least two years. It will be divided into Section A and Section B. Section A will be aimed at that aspect of Medicine, or allied subjects related to Medicine, and will be directed by the relevant department. The student will follow the teaching programme made available, including lecture demonstrations in research techniques and will take part in the teaching of undergraduate students. Section B will consist of a research project and thesis. The examination for Section A may be held in June or September.

Degree of Master of Science (MSc) (Sports Physiotherapy)

Programme Code: MDMXP0007

This is a part-time modular postgraduate course held over two years. The course is suitable both for those practicing general physiotherapy and for those with an interest in Sports Physiotherapy as a full-time career.

Applicants must hold the Degree of BSc (Physiotherapy) (NUI) or other primary degree or other qualification deemed equivalent by the College of Life Sciences, with two years' post qualification experience.

The aim of the course is to provide detailed training in the various disciplines related to Sports Physiotherapy.

There will be four 75 hour modules (i.e. 300 hours). Each module will run over 15 weeks and will involve one half-day (4 hours) per week and occasional Saturday sessions. Each candidate will be expected to affiliate themselves with a sports team or organisation of their choice, to present a log of their involvement with relevant case studies. Students are required to complete a minor research dissertation.

Topics covered:

Exercise Physiology, Functional Human Anatomy, Human Biomechanics, Sports Nutrition, Sports Psychology, Informatics, Research Methodology and Statistics, Clinical Examination, Screening, Manual and Exercise Physiotherapy.

Examinations:

Examination by in-course assessment during the first and second year and by written and practical/oral exams in the first and second year (Summer). The MSc requires completion of a minor research dissertation.

Degree of Master of Science (MSc) (Acupuncture)

Programme Code: MDMXP0037

The MSc Physiotherapy (Acupuncture) is a two-year part-time programme in Acupuncture. It is designed to assist physiotherapists, particularly those working in the area of musculoskeletal and sports injuries to employ acupuncture as an adjunct to other forms of treatment.

The course provides training in acupuncture for physiotherapists working in the area of musculoskeletal disorders. The skills learned provide the basis for safe and effective treatment within the healthcare system. The aim is that the knowledge and skills required can be applied to the improvement of patient care and to healthcare delivery in general. The study will include Theory of Acupuncture, In-depth study of Point Finding, Diagnostic Skills, Case Studies, Scientific Theory and Research.

The course is open to physiotherapists with a minimum of two years post qualification experience and to other healthcare personnel who hold such other qualifications as may be approved by the College of Life Sciences.

Degree of Master of Science /Postgraduate Diploma Neuromusculoskeletal Physiotherapy

This 2-year part-time course has been developed in accordance with the educational standards of the International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapists (IFOMT) and provides practising physiotherapists, eligible for ISCP registration and with 2 years post qualification experience, the opportunity to undertake postgraduate studies while continuing with their clinical work. The course will develop critical evaluation of the theoretical basis of manipulative physiotherapy with clinical skills, evidence-based practice and research. Modules of study include muscle physiology, pain, biomechanics, functional anatomy, exercise, research methods, spinal and peripheral orthopaedic manipulative therapy and supervised clinical placements.

This modular part-time course will take place one day per week with one week blocks in December and March, and a supervised two week clinical placement each year. Upon successful completion of the taught modules a postgraduate diploma will be awarded and the MSc will be awarded on successful completion of a research dissertation.

Examinations

Examination by written, practical/oral examination and in course assessment in the first and second semesters of each year. The MSc requires the completion of a minor dissertation.

Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Doctoral studies may also be undertaken at the School of Physiotherapy and Performance Science.