



Certificate in Advanced Practice in Hand and Upper Quarter Rehabilitation

Program Mission

To provide occupational therapists and physical therapists with the advanced skills and knowledge to manage musculoskeletal conditions of the hand and upper extremity. The program strives to promote academic excellence, evidence-based practice, clinical competence, and life-long learning.

Apply online at:

<http://www.drexel.edu/em/apply/cnhp/>

Send Supporting Document To:

Drexel University
Application Processing
P.O. Box 34789
Philadelphia PA, 19101

For more Information Contact:

Allison Schukar
Admissions Coordinator
215-762-8852
ptadmissions@drexel.edu

<http://www.drexel.edu/physicaltherapy/>

Program Overview

This program is designed for physical therapists or occupational therapists who wish to participate in advanced study of the hand and upper quarter. The curriculum consists of four graduate level courses, offered in a convenient online format with integrated onsite weekend sessions to develop “hands on” skills required for advanced practice in hand therapy. Many graduates indicate that the coursework has helped them prepare for the Certification in Hand Therapy (CHT) board examination offered by the Hand Therapy Certification Commission (HTCC). The program is a recognized resource by HTCC to help therapists prepare for certification. For more information on becoming a certified hand therapist, please visit www.htcc.org.

Program Features

- Internationally known faculty members
- Over a 12 year history of hand therapy education
- Superior pass rate on the Certified Hand Therapist (CHT) exam
 - 4 graduate courses convenient for part-time study
- Online course work integrated with weekend laboratory sessions
- Cadaver anatomy, splinting skills and examination techniques
 - Infused with the latest technology for online interaction
- Premier teaching facilities and dynamic learning environment
 - Coursework may be applied to other degree programs

Course Credit May Be Applied to a Degree

After successfully completing the four courses, students will receive a post-professional certificate of completion. The credits may be applied to other degrees offered within the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences, including a Master degree in Health Science (MHS) in Hand and Upper Quarter Rehabilitation for occupational therapists and a Post-Professional Doctorate in Physical Therapy (PPDPT) for physical therapists with either an entry-level baccalaureate or masters degree in physical therapy. There is also a PhD Program in Rehabilitation Sciences for both occupational and physical therapists. Previous students have transferred credits from the certificate program to degree programs at other universities, usually as elective credits.

Learning Experiences

The majority of the curriculum will be delivered via web-based tools that allow for a dynamic interactive learning environment. Students will participate in class discussions through discussion boards and “live” classroom sessions. Drexel University resources, including the libraries, are easy to navigate via a distance format. The program is designed for part-time study so that students can maintain their current work schedules and other personal obligations.



Program Faculty



Program Director and Primary Instructor
Jane Fedorczyk, PT, PhD, CHT, ATC,
Clinical Professor, Director of Post-
Professional Clinical Programs

Graduating in 1984 from the University of Delaware with a combined degree in biology and athletic training, Jane went on to complete her M.S. degree in Physical Therapy from Beaver College in 1986. In 2007 she received a PhD at Temple University, investigating the neural consequences of repetitive movement. She became a certified hand therapist in 1992. Jane is internationally recognized by her publications and presentations on topics such as: tennis elbow, nerve compressions, pain modulation and physical agents. Her research interest is in the area of upper extremity tendinopathies and nerve compression syndromes. She has received grants from the American Association of Hand Surgery and the American Society of Hand Therapists for these studies. She has published chapters in the 4th and 5th editions of "Rehabilitation of the Hand and Upper Extremity" and is serving as a co-editor for the 6th edition. She currently serves on the board of directors for ASHT, the American Hand Therapy Foundation, and the Hand Rehabilitation Foundation.

Faculty: Guest Lecturers and Laboratory Assistants

Mark Walsh, PT, DPT, MS, CHT, ATC

A partner in Hand & Orthopedic Physical Therapy Associates, Mark is a graduate of the University of Iowa in Physical Therapy, and 1978 recipient of a Master in Orthopedic Physical Therapy from Temple University in 1983 and a Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Drexel University in 2005. Mark is internationally recognized as an accomplished writer and lecturer on upper extremity topics including complex regional pain syndrome, peripheral nerve injuries, and neural mobilization. He is a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Hand Therapy*. Mark provides instruction primarily in the nerve course, but assists with weekend laboratory activities in all courses.

David Ebaugh, PT, PhD, Assistant Professor

Dave received his baccalaureate degree in Physical Therapy from Temple University in 1989 and his PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences in 2004 from Drexel University. His research interest is in the identification and treatment of altered neuromuscular and kinematic patterns associated with shoulder pathology. Dave provides instruction in the anatomy modules in the nerve and joint pathology courses.

Brian G. Leggin, PT, DPT, OCS

Brian is a clinical specialist on the shoulder and elbow service at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, Penn Therapy and Fitness. He has numerous publications and presentations at national therapy meetings in shoulder rehabilitation. Brian provides instruction on clinical conditions of the shoulder.

Sheri Feldscher, OTR/L, CHT

Sheri received her occupational therapy degree from Temple University. She is currently working at the Philadelphia Hand Center. Sheri serves as a lab instructor in each of the lab courses and provides some guest lectures as well.

Terri Skirvenp, OTR/L, CHT

Terri graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a B.S. degree in Occupational Therapy in 1975. She became a certified hand therapist in 1991. She is the Director of Hand Therapy at the Philadelphia Hand Center and the Director of the Hand Rehabilitation Foundation. She is a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Hand Therapy* and is coeditor of the 6th edition of *Rehabilitation of the Hand and Upper Extremity*. Terri provides instruction on clinical examination of the wrist in the joint pathology course.

Teresa Zapotochny, PT, CHT

Teresa is a graduate of the first class (2001) of the Certificate in Advance Practice in Hand and Upper Quarter Rehabilitation. She received her physical therapy degree from Temple University. She is currently working at the Philadelphia Hand Center. Teresa serves as a laboratory instructor in each of the lab courses.

Program Curriculum

<i>Fall Quarter</i>	<i>Winter Quarter</i>	<i>Spring Quarter</i>	<i>Summer Quarter</i>
<p>PTRS 767: Foundations in Hand Therapy</p> <p>This course introduces the student to the specialized field of hand therapy. The principles of hand therapy included are musculoskeletal tissues and pathology, clinical reasoning, hand examination, splinting principles, physical agents, and therapeutic exercise. Common elbow, wrist, and hand disorders are discussed to integrate the foundation topics into clinical practice. This course serves as a prerequisite course for PTRS 768, PTRS 769, and PTRS 770.</p>	<p>PTRS 769: Nerve Injuries of Upper Quarter</p> <p>This course emphasizes the anatomy and basic science principles for the cervical spine and major peripheral nerves of the upper quarter. Age-related changes and pathophysiology of nerve lacerations and entrapment neuropathies are discussed. Advanced examination skills and interventions, conservative and post-operative, for pathology of the peripheral nervous system are presented.</p>	<p>PTRS 768: Upper Quarter Joint Pathology</p> <p>This course reviews the common pathologies that affect the articulations and surrounding soft tissues, especially tendons and ligaments. Anatomy, biomechanics, and examination principles for each region- shoulder, elbow, wrist, and hand are discussed. Conservative and post-operative therapeutic management for fractures, dislocations, tendon repairs, ligament injuries, and degenerative disorders are presented.</p>	<p>PT 770: Diseases that Affect the Hand</p> <p>Course content emphasizes the impact of disease on hand function, especially with activities of daily living, vocational activities, and recreational activities. The overview will include pathology, clinical presentation, examination techniques and clinical interventions specific to the hand. Additionally, multisystem involvement associated with mutilated hand injuries and pain syndromes is discussed.</p>