COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A foundations course in evidence-based clinical-decision making designed to provide Doctor of Physical Therapy students with content areas in forming clinical questions, literature search, and critical appraisal of selected literature. Applications will fall within the Physical Therapy Professional Patient/Client Management Model.

COURSE COORDINATOR: Han-Hung (Floyd) Huang, PT, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Office: 228 Vincent Building
(W) 325-942-2627
Email: floyd.huang@angelo.edu

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

COURSE LOCATION: CHP 143

MEETING HOURS: Tuesday 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

CLOCK HOURS: 32 Lecture Hours

COURSE PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of previous DPT coursework

COURSE OBJECTIVES: At the end of this course, the students will have demonstrated mastery of the subject by being able to:

1. Describe the significance of evidence-based practice in Physical Therapy (7D8, 7D11)
2. Discriminate among the levels of evidence across types of research (7D9, 7D11)
3. Formulate relevant clinical/practice questions (7D8, 7D11)
4. Access current literature using databases and other available information resources in response to clinical/practice questions (7D9)
5. Differentiate between various types of research designs (7D9)
6. Critically appraise the usefulness of retrieved evidence about intervention, diagnostic tests, clinical measures and systematic reviews (7D9, 7D11)
7. Share knowledge related to accessing and appraising evidence about intervention with peers (7D12)
8. Provide constructive comments and feedback to peers' presentations (7D12)

TEACHING METHODS/PHILOSOPHY:

- Lecture, group discussion, reading assignments, term paper and oral presentation.
- Blackboard will be used to communicate between instructor and students.

Class SCHEDULE: See attached.

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES AND REFERENCES:

GRADING/EVALUATIVE PROCEDURES:

I. **Assignments (Term paper) (65%)**

Objective: Completing a critical appraisal of an PT intervention article

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Content (Refer to handouts for more detail)</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Submit and describe your three clinical questions about PT interventions</td>
<td>Sep. 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Describe your literature search results</td>
<td>Oct. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Submit three selected PT intervention articles relevant to the (reformulated) one of your clinical questions</td>
<td>Oct. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Submit a summary about one of the three selected PT intervention articles for critical appraisal</td>
<td>Oct. 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Appraise the introduction and methods</td>
<td>Oct. 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Appraise the study results and discussion</td>
<td>Oct. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Integrate all previous assignments plus a discussion section into a final term paper</td>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
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</table>

II. **Oral presentation (15%)**

III. **Reflective journals (10%)**

IV. **Professional behavior (5%)**

V. **Meeting with research advisor(s) (5%)**

The final course grade will be assigned based on the cumulative percentage of points earned throughout the course:

- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- F = 69% or less

Students must score 80% or better in total (A or B grade) in order to meet mastery and receive credit for this course. Students who receive a failing course grade are subject to dismissal from the DPT program. Exceptions may be sought by petition of the Academic Committee of the Physical Therapy Program.

HONOR CODE STATEMENT:

Our students believe that ASU students should maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits.

The Honor Code at ASU describes expected academic behavior of both faculty and students, and it consists of an agreement between the student and the academic community to foster academic integrity, to value student educational goals, and to maintain the positive academic reputation of ASU. Angelo State University expects all students and faculty to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom.

ASU students and faculty will not participate or condone
- Plagiarism
- Cheating
- Fabrication of data
- Misrepresentation of information
• Misuse of library materials
• Misuse of technology
• Conspiring with others to commit these acts

ASU students are responsible for understanding the Honor Code as well as the individual academic requirements and stipulations for each course. This includes carefully reading the Angelo State University Student Handbook and reading the syllabus of each course. Students should ask for clarification of any ambiguous aspect of the syllabus.

To facilitate this code of ethical conduct, ASU has an Academic Integrity Committee, a committee composed of both students and faculty, which has the responsibility of reviewing cases of suspected academic dishonesty, which may be brought to it. The committee’s membership of students and faculty reinforces ASU’s commitment to academic integrity in and out of the classroom.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

University Statement on Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by emailing ADA@angelo.edu, or by contacting:

Mrs. Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Office of Student Affairs  
University Center, Suite 112  
325-942-2047 Office  
325-942-2211 FAX  
Dallas.Swafford@angelo.edu

When a student states he or she could meet the program's technical standards with accommodation(s), the Office of Student Affairs will confirm that the stated condition qualifies as a disability under applicable laws. If the condition qualifies as a disability, the University will determine if it agrees that the student can meet the technical standards with reasonable accommodation; this includes a review of whether or not the accommodation requested is reasonable, taking into account whether or not the accommodation would jeopardize clinician/patient safety or the educational process of the student or the institution, including all course work, clinical educational experiences and internships deemed essential to graduation. Students are required to read and sign the DPT program’s technical standards (DPT Program Student Handbook Appendix I) form and to update their responses on this form if their health status changes.

A student who requires accommodation to meet the technical standards must obtain verification by the Office of Student Affairs that proper reasonable accommodation is available for the student to meet the standard. The program will not provide accommodation without such written verification.
RELIgIOUS HOLY DAYS
Faculty will provide accommodations for student absences for observance of a religious holy day(s) (OP 10.19). Students should make every effort to inform a faculty member at the beginning of the semester regarding these absences.

Attendance/Tardiness Policy
Attendance and promptness to classes, meetings, and future work obligations are considered professional behaviors. As this department is preparing potential professionals in the area of physical therapy, it is part of our expectation that student presence and timeliness will be held in highest regard. Tardiness is a disruption to the instructor and fellow students. A student is considered tardy if he/she arrives for class after the instructor has begun class activities. Please see the following related to implications from excessive lateness or absences without a reasonable excuse:
   a. First offense - verbal warning
   b. Second offense - second verbal warning, initiation of Disciplinary Tracking Form.
   c. Third offense - 1% off final course grade
   d. 1% off final course grade for each additional unexcused tardy or absence

Per the student handbook, 2 or more occurrences combined or mixed will result in the initiation of a Disciplinary Tracking Form.

If a student has an unexcused absence during integrations it may lead to the removal of that student from that clinical environment. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the clinical site and give notice if they are ill, or have transportation issues.

If the student is unable to attend class, it is the student’s responsibility to either call the PT office at 942-2545 or the office of the professor of the class directly. This notification should be made prior to commencement of said class.

Continued issues with tardiness/attendance across all courses will result in disciplinary probation and will be referred to the PT faculty for consideration of options, including program dismissal.

The PT faculty is not oblivious to doctor’s appointments and other potential hazards and emergencies in daily life. Simply taking responsibility to notify the office or the professor if issues arise is considered professional behavior. Please do not rely on a classmate or other form of notification, as these have proven unreliable in years past.

ATTENDANCE AT ALL SCHEDULED EXAMINATIONS IS MANDATORY. Any unexcused absence from an examination will automatically result in a score of ZERO for that examination. Any student absent from examinations due to illness or injury must have a written justification from their physician. Absence from an examination for any other reason must be excused before the time of the scheduled examination or brought about by a very serious circumstance. For excused absences only, make-up examinations must be taken no later than one week after the student returns to class. Extended absences must be approved by the Program Director of Physical Therapy.
### SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subjects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 29</td>
<td>Course overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 5</td>
<td>Introduction to evidence-based PT practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 12</td>
<td>What is evidence? Formulating clinical questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep. 19</td>
<td>Searching for evidence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep. 26</td>
<td>Appraising evidence about diagnostic tests and clinical measures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>Appraising evidence about prognostic (risk) factors</td>
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<td>Oct. 10</td>
<td>Appraising evidence about interventions (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Study credibility</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 17</td>
<td>Appraising evidence about interventions (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Critical analysis of the introduction &amp; method</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 24</td>
<td>Appraising evidence about interventions (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Critical analysis of the results and discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 31</td>
<td>Introduction of term paper and oral presentation</td>
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<td>Nov. 7</td>
<td>Introduction of faculty research interests</td>
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<td>Nov. 14</td>
<td>Oral presentations (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 21</td>
<td>Oral presentations (2)</td>
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<td>Nov. 28</td>
<td>Oral presentations (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 5</td>
<td>Oral presentations (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 12</td>
<td>Meeting with research advisor(s)</td>
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