ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY
Archer College of Health and Human Services
Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

PT 7353: Musculoskeletal Examination and Management I (3 Credits)  
Fall 2019  
(1-6-0)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides the DPT entry-level physical therapist with the knowledge and skill sets to effectively manage patients/clients with musculoskeletal dysfunctions. Elements of patient management include examination, evaluation and diagnosis with special attention to differential diagnosis and screening strategies, identification of patient/client problems, prioritization of goals, treatment selection and provision including manual therapy techniques, therapeutic exercise and physical agents. Critical appraisal of musculoskeletal test characteristics, critical thinking, and evidence-based practice are emphasized.

COURSE COORDINATOR: Kendra Nicks, PT, ScD, COMT  
Associate Professor  
Office: 224D HHS Building  
(w) 325-942-2250  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Email: kendra.nicks@angelo.edu

COURSE LECTURER: James Villers, PT, DPT, FAAOMPT  
Associate Clinical Professor,  
Office: 224Q HHS Building  
(w) 325-942-2547  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Email: james.villers@angelo.edu

Teresa Huckaby, PT, DPT, OCS  
Assistant Clinical Professor  
Office: 224F HHS Building (w)  
325-942-2394  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Email: teresa.huckaby@angelo.edu

Han-Hung (Floyd) Huang, PT, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Office: 224A HHS Building  
(w) 325-942-2627  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Email: floyd.huang@angelo.edu

GUEST LECTURERS: Gina Karr, PT, Director of Adult Services at WTRC
MEETING HOURS: Monday 8am-12pm; 1pm-5pm
Wednesday 8am-12pm; 1pm-5pm
Friday 8am-12pm; pm as needed

COURSE LOCATION: HHS Building Room 210

CLOCK HOURS: Lecture: 16 Hours
Lab: 96 Hours

COURSE PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of previous DPT coursework

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to perform each of the following in a safe, effective and culturally competent manner:

1. Implement and internalize professional behaviors that are identified in the Professional Behavior Assessment Document, APTA’s Code of Ethics and Core Values. (7D1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)
2. Display respect and sensitivity to cultural and individual differences. (7D8)
3. Discuss the theoretical basis for the application of physical agents and manual therapy techniques on patients / clients with common musculoskeletal conditions. (7D5,10)
4. Describe indications and contraindications for the application of physical agents and manual therapy, and therapeutic exercise techniques. (7D8, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19)
5. Select the appropriate physical agents and manual therapy and therapeutic exercise techniques with emphasis on safety, effectiveness, and evidence-based practice. (7D1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 27, 28)
6. Demonstrate the proper application of physical agents and manual therapy and therapeutic exercise with regard to patient problems, patient preparation, safety, indications/contraindications, treatment parameters, and patient response. (7D27)
7. Assess response to treatments with physical agents and manual therapy and therapeutic exercises and recognize adverse patient responses. (7D1, 4, 5, 8, 11, 16, 19, 27, 28, 30, 31, 37)
8. Choose the most appropriate musculoskeletal imaging procedure according to patient presentation and current best evidence of diagnosis. (7D10, 16,19, 20)
9. Interpret the relevance of abnormal image findings to clinical decision making. (7D16, 17, 18,20)
10. Identify the appearance of normal musculoskeletal anatomy and common pathology on radiographs. (7D16, 17, 18, 20)
11. Define the signs and symptoms of adverse neurodynamics (7D19)
12. Duplicate neural tension tests and peripheral nerve provocation tests (7D19)

13. Demonstrate vertebral joint integrity and mobility assessment (7D19)

14. Employ pain assessment tools as part of a musculoskeletal examination (7D19)

15. Critically evaluate published studies related to topics in musculoskeletal physical therapy and integrate available evidence to determine the best management of musculoskeletal conditions. (7D 9, 10, 11)

16. Complete a musculoskeletal examination independently by obtaining a pertinent history from the patient and other relevant sources, performing relevant systems review, and selecting and administering appropriate to patient's age, diagnosis and health status-related tests and measures including but not limited to; ROM, muscle length, strength, power, endurance, sensation, reflexes, joint mobility, balance, special tests, and skeletal integrity. (7D10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 40)

17. Synthesize musculoskeletal examination data to make clinical judgments regarding musculoskeletal conditions. (7D 20-24)

18. Differentiate the need for further examination or consultation by a physical therapist or for referral to another health care professional. (7D11, 16, 20)

19. Determine a diagnosis and/or problem list that prioritizes and guides the management of the musculoskeletal condition. (7D 10, 11, 21, 22)

20. Select patient or client prognoses based on evaluation of results of musculoskeletal examinations and medical and psychosocial information. (7D23, 26)

21. Establish goals and functional outcomes related to musculoskeletal problems that specify an appropriate time frame. (7D 1, 4, 5, 6, 21, 23, 31)

22. Establish an evidence-based plan of care that considers a well formulated problem list, goals, and discharge plan (7D 1, 4, 5, 6, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31)

23. Revise the plan of care in response to patient status and/or data collected from selected outcome measures. (7D26, 28, 30)

24. Design a motor function training program (balance, gait, motor control, movement retraining) as part of the plan of care. (7D27)

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS/LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

Methods include but not limited to lecture, facilitated discussion, laboratory demonstration and practice, problem-solving sessions, self-instructional materials, reading assignments, small group work, clinical simulations/feedback sessions, and practical examinations. Blackboard will be used to communicate between instructors and students. Laboratory sessions require mandatory attendance.

There might be some open laboratory sessions. They are for your benefit to work on your skill techniques and procedures with faculty available for guidance. They are unstructured in terms of assignments, as you know which skills, techniques and procedures you need to work on. Come prepared to utilize the time and faculty
resources wisely. If you are disruptive, in terms of didactic class or laboratory material review during these open lab sessions, then you will be barred from additional open laboratory use.

ASU Department of Physical Therapy equipment sign out will be done following the procedures listed below:

1. Check with the primary faculty who traditionally use the equipment for initial approval
2. Check with the other faculty team members teaching the course to make sure they have not scheduled a use for the equipment during the desired check out timeframe
3. See the PT Office Coordinator to sign out and sign in the equipment, stating the date of sign out, the piece of equipment and the anticipated date of return
4. Inform the primary faculty member when the equipment is returned.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: See Schedule

TEXTBOOKS:

Required:
- Cameron M. Physical Agents in Rehabilitation: From Research to Practice. 4th ed.
- Michael P. Reiman, Orthopedic Clinical Examination. 1st ed.

Recommended:

REQUIRED LAB CLOTHES:

Shorts, T-shirt, patient gown (provided), sneakers, sport bra or full coverage brassiere (not see through, preferably of dark color and that hooks in back). Clothing must be appropriate to expose the area being studied yet maintain modesty.

COURSE EVALUATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graded activities</th>
<th>Mastery</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Mid-term written exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Mid-term skills check-off</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Anatomy quizzes</td>
<td></td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Final written exam</td>
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<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Final skills check-off</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Discussion Boards</td>
<td></td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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- Written examinations may consist of multiple choice, true-false, matching, short answer, essay questions and patient case studies. The examinations will address knowledge, analysis and application of concepts. Each written examination may be cumulative including previously presented material in the curriculum. Students are expected to take all written examinations on the day they are scheduled. There will be no retake on written examinations.
- There will be two skill check-offs. Criterion-referenced methods will be used for evaluation. Retakes will be limited to one practical exam per course. Once a retake is successful, regardless of the obtained passing score, a score of 80% will be used to calculate the final grade. Students with below Mastery (80%) performance on the first attempt of either practical exam will be subject to the program policy regarding failures as outlined in the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program Student Handbook. If mastery is not obtained on a retake, a “Fail” will be assigned for the course.

- 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.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Academic honesty policies and procedures are reinforced throughout all aspects of the professional program. Faculty and students should familiarize themselves with the Angelo State University Code of Student Conduct found in the ASU Student Handbook available on the ASU website (http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/). This document, in addition to the information listed below, will be utilized to identify and address academic dishonesty within the program. The Department of Physical Therapy bases student conduct on the APTA Code of Ethics, Guide for Professional Conduct and Standards of Practice (http://www.apta.org/) (Appendix 8), in addition to Professional Behaviors. Specifically, the Department of Physical Therapy aligns itself with Angelo State University procedures under the Code of Conduct located at http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/code-of-student-conduct/, and the Community Policies located at http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/. Both of these documents are located in the Angelo State University Student Handbook http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/ and fall under the guidance of the Office of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. Please see the Dept. of Physical Therapy Student Handbook for further explanation.

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.

**ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORTING:** Any student involved in a safety incident on ASU property or at an ASU related educational activity (e.g. accidental needle stick, fall, etc.) must immediately notify the course coordinator, clinical instructor and/or department chair. If the incident occurs after hours, all incidents must be reported to the University Police at 942-2071. A student Accident/Incident Report must be completed no matter how insignificant the incident may appear. [See Appendix 15 of the Student Handbook for the form.]

**STUDENTS WITH 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 of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about
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.

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIORS

Professional attire including nametag is expected when guest speakers are scheduled unless other instructions are given. Appropriate clinic attire is expected during clinical integration. It is the responsibility of the students and faculty to keep all teaching areas including labs and classrooms neat, clean and free of clutter. Eating a meal is prohibited during class. Light snacks and sealed beverages are permissible during class and breaks.

Cell phones are to be silenced upon entering the classroom. If you are expecting an important call or text, please advise the professor before class. Personal e-mailing, private messaging and internet surfing are not allowed during lecture and lab activity. Students with two violations will be penalized 1% on their final course grade. Thereafter, 1% will be deducted for each subsequent violation and dismissal from the class activity. Persistent infractions of professional behavior will be directed to the student's academic advisor and, if necessary to the Academic Committee for action.

Title IX at Angelo State University:

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal
and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

**Online:** [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

**Face to Face:** Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

**Phone:** 325-942-2022

**E-Mail:** michelle.boone@angelo.edu

*Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).*

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).