PT 7240
Evidence-Based Practice in Physical Therapy
Fall 2020

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Office: HHS 224N
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Information

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 Credits
2 credits (2-0-0)

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses
Successful completion of previous DPT coursework

Prerequisite Skills
Accessing Internet websites, using ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and PowerPoint are expectations of the course.
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)

Course Delivery

This is a face-to-face course with learning resources and supplemental materials posted on Blackboard.

Required Texts and Materials


Recommended Texts and Materials

Guide to Physical Therapist Practice 3.0
Topic Outline

- Course overview
- Introduction to evidence-based PT practice
- What is evidence?
- Formulating clinical questions
- Searching for evidence
- Appraising evidence about diagnostic tests and clinical measures
- Appraising evidence about interventions (1)- Study credibility
- Appraising evidence about interventions (2)- Critical analysis of the introduction & method
- Appraising evidence about interventions (3)- Critical analysis of the results & discussion
- Introduction of term paper and oral presentation
- Introduction of faculty research interests
- Student oral presentations

Communication

Faculty will respond to email within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday. All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes.
Grading

Evaluation and Grades
Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

I. Assignments (65%)

Objective: Completing a critical appraisal of a PT intervention research article

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Contents (Refer to handouts for more details)</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Submit and describe your three clinical questions about PT interventions</td>
<td>09-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Describe your literature search results</td>
<td>09-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Submit three selected PT intervention articles relevant to the (reformulated) one of your clinical questions</td>
<td>09-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Submit a summary about one of the three selected PT intervention articles for critical appraisal</td>
<td>09-28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Appraise the introduction and methods</td>
<td>10-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Appraise the study results and discussion</td>
<td>10-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Integrate all previous assignments plus a discussion section into a final term paper</td>
<td>10-26</td>
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</table>

II. Quizzes (5%)

III. Oral presentation (15%)

IV. Reflective journals (10%)

V. Professional behavior (2%)

VI. Meeting with research advisor(s) (3%)
**Grading System**

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

\[
A = 90\%-100\% \\
B = 80\%-89\%
\]

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.

**Teaching Strategies**

Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.

**Assignment and Activity Descriptions**

The primary objective is to develop a research proposal for capstone project and submit it to IRB. The due dates, rubrics, and instruction for all assignments are posted on the blackboard.

**Assignment Submission**

All assignments MUST be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email Dr. Huang at floyd.huang@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue. This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

**Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy**

Late assignments are NOT accepted without prior approval of faculty. Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the original due date.
General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

Student Responsibility and Attendance

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.

**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university’s [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).

**Accommodations for 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 the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#). The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford, Director of Student Disability Services, Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047, dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112
Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Syllabus Changes

The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student’s responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.
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
Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
Email: 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.
Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class at Angelo State University

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.
Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08-18</td>
<td>Course overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08-25</td>
<td>Introduction to evidence-based PT practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-01</td>
<td>1. What is evidence?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Formulating clinical questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-08</td>
<td>Searching for evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-15</td>
<td>Appraising evidence about diagnostic tests and clinical measures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-22</td>
<td>Appraising evidence about interventions (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Study credibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-29</td>
<td>Appraising evidence about interventions (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Critical analysis of the introduction &amp; method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-06</td>
<td>Appraising evidence about interventions (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Critical analysis of the results &amp; discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-13</td>
<td>Introduction of term paper and oral presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>Introduction of faculty research interests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-27</td>
<td>Oral presentations (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-03</td>
<td>Oral presentations (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-10</td>
<td>Oral presentations (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-17</td>
<td>Oral presentations (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-24</td>
<td>Meeting with capstone research advisor(s)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences.

Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

End of Syllabus

1 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/
2 https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/
3 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
4 https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/
5 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures
6 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
7 https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php
8 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of