



University of Maine at  
**PRESQUE ISLE**  
*North of Ordinary*

**Clinical Education II**  
**PTA 220**  
**Spring 2022**  
**Matthew Papsadora**

**Course Overview**

Course Description

This clinical experience provides students with the opportunity to work full time in a health care setting under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant. This is the first of two terminal clinical experiences where the student demonstrates entry-level skills in direct patient care.

Prerequisites

Successful completion of all PTA general education requirements and technical coursework except PTA 215 and 225.

Instructor: As assigned by clinical sites

Matthew Papsadora: Wieden Hall PTA lab [matthew.papsadora@maine.edu](mailto:matthew.papsadora@maine.edu)  
768-9678, cell # 357-6689

Clinical experience days/times: TBA

**Required Text(s)**

NONE

Additional required material(s): Contact clinical site for specific details

**Course Outcomes/ Program Outcomes**

PLOs

**#1 Professional Communication:** The student will demonstrate effective, accurate, and professional verbal, nonverbal, and written communication in all aspect of health care.

**#2 Professionalism:** The student will demonstrate behavior in a professional, legal, and ethical manner in all situations.

**#3 Data Collection:** The student will competently and safely collect data as needed to carry out the physical therapy plan of care under the direction and supervision of the physical therapist.

**#4 Interventions:** The student will competently and safely implement select components of intervention identified in the physical therapy plan of care under the direction and

supervision of the physical therapist.

**#5 Clinical Problem Solving:** The student exhibits sound clinical decision making abilities within the physical therapy plan of care while carrying out the physical therapy plan of care.

**#6 Participation in Clinical Environment and Practice Management:** The student demonstrates proficient knowledge and skills to participate in clinical provider safety, interprofessional collaboration, quality assurance, organizational planning and operation, billing and payment

### SLOs

1. (1-2) 7D1 Adhere to legal practice standards, including all federal, state, and institutional regulations related to patient/client care and fiscal management.
  - a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 2 Clinical Behaviors on the PTA CPI
2. (1-2) 7D2 Report to appropriate authorities suspected cases of abuse of vulnerable populations.
  - a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 2 Clinical Behaviors on the PTA CPI
3. (1-2) 7D3 Report to appropriate authorities suspected cases of fraud and abuse related to the utilization of and payment for physical therapy and other health care services.
  - a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 2 Clinical Behaviors on the PTA CPI
4. (1-2) 7D4 Perform duties in a manner consistent with the Guide for Conduct of the Physical Therapist Assistant (APTA) and Standards of Ethical Conduct (APTA) to meet the expectations of patients, members of the physical therapy profession, and other providers as necessary.
  - a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 2 Clinical Behaviors on the PTA CPI
5. (1-2) 7D5 Perform duties in a manner consistent with APTA's *Values Based Behaviors for the Physical Therapist Assistant*.
  - a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 3 Accountability on the PTA CPI
6. (1-2) 7D6 Implement, in response to an ethical situation, a plan of action that demonstrates sound moral reasoning congruent with core professional ethics and values.
  - a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 2 Clinical Behaviors on the PTA CPI
7. (1) 7D7 Communicate effectively with all stakeholders, including patients/clients, family members, caregivers, practitioners, interprofessional team members, consumers, payers, and policymakers.
  - a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 5 Communication on the PTA CPI
8. (1-2) 7D8 Identify, respect, and act with consideration for patients'/clients' differences, values, preferences, and expressed needs in all work-related activities.
  - a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 4 Cultural Competence on the PTA CPI
9. (3-5) 7D9 Apply current knowledge, theory, and clinical judgment while considering the patient/client perspective and the environment, based on the plan of care established by the physical therapist.
  - a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 4 Cultural Competence on the PTA CPI
10. (5) 7D11 Identify and integrate appropriate evidence based resources to support clinical decision- making for progression of the patient within the plan of care established by the physical

therapist.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 6 Self-Assessment and Lifelong Learning on the PTA CPI

11. (1)7D12 Effectively educate others using teaching methods that are commensurate with the needs of the patient, caregiver or healthcare personnel.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 5 Communication on the PTA CPI

12. (2) 7D13 Participate in professional and community organizations that provide opportunities for volunteerism, advocacy and leadership.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 3 Accountability on the PTA CPI

13. (2) 7D14 Identify career development and lifelong learning opportunities, including the role of the physical therapist assistant in the clinical education of physical therapist assistant students.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 6 Self-Assessment and Lifelong Learning on the PTA CPI

14. (1, 3) 7D15 Interview patients/clients, caregivers, and family to obtain current information related to prior and current level of function and general health status (e.g., fatigue, fever, malaise, unexplained weight change).

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 7 Clinical Problem Solving on the PTA CPI

15. (5) 7D16 Use the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) to describe a patient's/client's impairments, activity and participation limitations.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 13 Documentation on the PTA CPI

16. (1, 5) 7D17 Communicate an understanding of the plan of care developed by the physical therapist to achieve short and long term goals and intended outcomes.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 7 Clinical Problem Solving on the PTA CPI

17. (3) 7D18 Review health records (e.g., lab values, diagnostic tests, specialty reports, narrative, consults, and physical therapy documentation) prior to carrying out the PT plan of care.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 7 Clinical Problem Solving on the PTA CPI

18. (3, 5) 7D19 Monitor and adjust interventions in the plan of care in response to patient/client status and clinical indications.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 7 Clinical Problem Solving on the PTA CPI

19. (1, 3, 5) 7D20 Report any changes in patient/client status or progress to the supervising physical therapist.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 3 Accountability on the PTA CPI

20. (3, 5) 7D21 Determine when an intervention should not be performed due to clinical indications or when the direction to perform the intervention is beyond that which is appropriate for the physical therapist assistant.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under

the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 7 Clinical Problem Solving on the PTA CPI

**21. (6) 7D22** Contribute to the discontinuation of episode of care planning and follow-up processes as directed by the supervising physical therapist.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria #14 Resource Management on the PTA CPI

**Intervention**<sup>49</sup>

**22. (4) 7D23** Demonstrate competence in implementing selected components of interventions identified in the plan of care established by the physical therapist. Interventions include:

a. **Airway Clearance Techniques: breathing exercises, coughing techniques and secretion mobilization**

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 9 Interventions: Therapeutic Techniques and Criteria #12 Interventions: Functional Training and Application of Devices and Equipment on the PTA CPI

b. **Application of Devices and Equipment: assistive / adaptive devices and prosthetic and orthotic devices**

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria #12 Interventions: Functional Training and Application of Devices and Equipment on the PTA CPI

c. **Biophysical Agents: biofeedback, electrotherapeutic agents, compression therapies, cryotherapy, hydrotherapy, superficial and deep thermal agents, traction and light therapies**

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria #10 Interventions: Physical Agents and Mechanical Modalities and also Criteria # 11 Interventions: Electrotherapeutic Modalities on the PTA CPI

d. **Functional Training in Self-Care and in Domestic, Education, Work, Community, Social, and Civic Life**

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria #12 Interventions: Functional Training and Application of Devices and Equipment on the PTA CPI

e. **Manual Therapy Techniques: passive range of motion and therapeutic massage**

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria #9 Interventions: Therapeutic Techniques on the PTA CPI

f. **Motor Function Training (balance, gait, etc.)**

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria #12 Interventions: Functional Training and Application of Devices and Equipment on the PTA CPI

g. **Patient/Client Education**

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 8-12 Interventions (all) on the PTA CPI

h. **Therapeutic Exercise**

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 8 Interventions: Therapeutic Exercise and Criteria #12 Interventions: Functional Training and Application of Devices and Equipment on the PTA CPI

- i. **Wound Management:** isolation techniques, sterile technique, application and removal of dressing or agents, and identification of precautions for dressing removal
- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by **Criteria #9 Interventions: Therapeutic Techniques on the PTA CPI**

**Test and Measures<sup>50</sup>**

**23. (3) 7D24 Demonstrate competence in performing components of data collection skills essential for carrying out the plan of care by administering appropriate tests and measures (before, during and after interventions) for the following areas:**

- a. **Aerobic Capacity and Endurance:** measurement of standard vital signs; recognize and monitor responses to positional changes and activities (e.g., orthostatic hypotension, response to exercise)
- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by **Criteria #1 Safety on the PTA CPI**
- b. **Anthropometrical Characteristics:** measurements of height, weight, length and girth
- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by **Criteria #10 Interventions: Physical Agents and Mechanical Modalities on the PTA CPI**
- c. **Mental Functions:** detect changes in a patient's state of arousal, mentation and cognition)
- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by **Criteria #1 Safety on the PTA CPI**
- d. **Assistive Technology:** identify the individual's and caregiver's ability to care for the device; recognize changes in skin condition and safety factors while using devices and equipment
- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by **Criteria #1 Safety on the PTA CPI**
- e. **Gait, Locomotion, and Balance:** determine the safety, status, and progression of patients while engaged in gait, locomotion, balance, wheelchair management and mobility
- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by **Criteria #1 Safety, Criteria # 8 Interventions: Therapeutic Exercise and Criteria # 12 Interventions: Functional Training on the PTA CPI**
- f. **Integumentary Integrity:** detect absent or altered sensation; normal and abnormal integumentary changes; activities, positioning, and postures that aggravate or relieve pain or altered sensations, or that can produce associated skin trauma; and recognize viable versus nonviable tissue
- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by **Criteria #9 Interventions: Therapeutic Techniques on the PTA CPI**
- g. **Joint Integrity and Mobility:** detect normal and abnormal joint movement
- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by **Criteria # 8 Interventions: Therapeutic Exercise and Criteria #9 Intervention: Therapeutic Techniques on the PTA CPI**
- h. **Muscle Performance:** measure muscle strength by manual muscle testing; observe the presence or absence of muscle mass; recognize normal and abnormal muscle length, and changes in muscle tone
- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by **Criteria #9 Interventions: Therapeutic Techniques on the PTA CPI**
- i. **Neuromotor Development:** detect gross motor milestones, fine motor milestones, and righting

and equilibrium reactions

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria #8 Interventions: Therapeutic Exercise and Criteria # 12 Interventions: Functional Training on the PTA CPI

j. Pain: administer standardized questionnaires, graphs, behavioral scales, or visual analog scales for pain; recognize activities, positioning, and postures that aggravate or relieve pain or altered sensations

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 8-12 Interventions (all) on the PTA CPI

k. Posture: determine normal and abnormal alignment of trunk and extremities at rest and during activities

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 8 Interventions: Therapeutic Exercise and Criteria #12 Interventions: Functional Training and Application of Devices and Equipment on the PTA CPI

l. Range of Motion: measure functional ROM and measure ROM using an appropriate measurement device

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 8 Interventions: Therapeutic Exercise, Criteria # 9 Interventions: Therapeutic Techniques and Criteria #12 Interventions: Functional Training and Application of Devices and Equipment on the PTA CPI

m. Self-Care and Civic, Community, Domestic, Education, Social and Work Life: inspect the physical environment and measure physical spaces; recognize safety and barriers in the home, community and work environments; recognize level of functional status; administer standardized questionnaires to patients and others

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria #1 Safety and Criteria #12 Interventions: Functional Training and Application of Devices and Equipment on the PTA CPI

n. Ventilation, Respiration and Circulation: detect signs and symptoms of respiratory distress, and activities that aggravate or relieve edema, pain, dyspnea, or other symptoms; describe thoracoabdominal movements and breathing patterns with activity, and cough and sputum characteristics

- student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 9 Interventions: Therapeutic Techniques and Criteria #12 Interventions: Functional Training and Application of Devices and Equipment on the PTA CPI

24. (1, 2, 6) 7D25 Complete accurate documentation that follows guidelines and specific documentation formats required by state practice acts, the practice setting, and other regulatory agencies.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 13 Documentation on the PTA CPI

25. (1-5) 7D26 Respond effectively to patient/client and environmental emergencies that commonly occur in the clinical setting.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 1 Safety on the PTA CPI

#### **Participation in Health Care Environment**

26. (1, 2, 6) 7D27 Contribute to efforts to increase patient and healthcare provider safety.

- a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 1 Safety on the PTA CPI

27. (1, 2, 6) 7D28 Participate in the provision of patient-centered interprofessional collaborative care.  
a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 5 Communication on the PTA CPI

28. (1, 2, 6) 7D29 Participate in performance improvement activities (quality assurance).

a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 14 Resource Management on the PTA CPI

#### **Practice Management**

29. (1, 6) 7D30 Describe aspects of organizational planning and operation of the physical therapy service.

a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 14 Resource Management on the PTA CPI

30. (1, 2, 6) 7D31 Describe accurate and timely information for billing and payment purposes.

a. student will proficiently demonstrate the standard while on full time clinical experience under the direction of clinical instructor as outlined by Criteria # 14 Resource Management on the PTA CPI

#### **Assessment/ Grading**

##### **Evaluation Methods:**

- Weekly Planning Forms
- Midterm evaluation PTA CPI (CI and student)
- Final evaluation PTA CPI (CI and student)
- Service-based learning project
- Online Discussion Board and Assignments

##### **Grading:**

**Student Clinical Performance Evaluation:** Students completing their clinical experiences will be evaluated by their CI online with the Physical Therapist Assistant Clinical Performance Instrument (PTA CPI). This is the evaluation tool to be used to assess student competence at the mid-term and during the final week of the clinical experience. It is required that students also self-assess at these times. The final assessments should reflect the student's performance during the last week of the affiliation. Mistakes made in the early part of the clinical experience should not be held against the student or averaged. The ACCE will issue the final grade for the student clinical based on the CI's PTA CPI final assessment and any other objective information gathered from personal communication with the student, CI, CCCE, or other clinical site staff, or personal observations made by PTA faculty during site visits. The PTA program (ACCE or Program Director) reserves the right to adjust student grades up or down.

**The following grading formula will be used by the ACCE to determine each student's final grade for the clinical affiliation:**

**Terminal clinical II: PTA 220**

Letter Grade	Description
A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 5 red flag items rated at or near entry level and all other criteria rated advanced intermediate performance or beyond</li> <li>2. All online discussions or work on time</li> <li>3. All post clinical paperwork completed correctly and passed in on time</li> <li>4. Communication with ACCE as needed and necessary</li> </ol>
A-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 5 red flag items rated at or near entry level and 8 of 9 other criteria rated advanced intermediate or beyond</li> <li>2. Communication with ACCE as needed and necessary</li> </ol>
B+	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 5 red flag items rated at or near entry level and 7 of 9 other criteria rated Advanced intermediate or beyond</li> <li>2. Communication with ACCE as needed and necessary</li> </ol>
B	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 5 red flag items rated at or near entry level and 6 of 9 other criteria rated advanced intermediate More than 2 late or missing online discussions or work</li> </ol>
B-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 5 red flag items rated at or near entry level and 5 of 9 other criteria rated advanced intermediate</li> </ol>
C+	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 5 red flag items rated entry level and 4 of 9 other criteria rated advanced intermediate</li> </ol>
NP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Any PTA CPI criteria rated below intermediate</li> <li>2. Absence or tardiness regarding online discussions or work during clinical experience to exceed 5 instances</li> <li>3. Any Red Flag criteria not rated advanced intermediate by the final evaluation will result in a “NP” for the clinical affiliation</li> <li>4. Each other criteria marked below intermediate performance by the final evaluation will result in a “not proficient” for that criteria and student may be required to repeat or extend clinical</li> <li>5. Post clinical paperwork not completed (CPI, site/CI assessment, etc)</li> <li>6. Absence of communication from student when initiated by ACCE</li> <li>7. Absence greater than 8 hours from clinical site or any unexcused absences</li> </ol>
PROBATION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Any CI concerns noted with flag criteria (# 1,2,3,5, and 7) reported on the mid term CPI or otherwise documented by the CI at any time regarding serious concerns of lack of student response to previous concern.</li> <li>2. Absence 8 hours from clinical rotation</li> </ol> <p><i>*Students on probation will be removed from the clinical rotation at the next instance of negative behavior. Probation will be removed upon successful completion of the clinical affiliation.</i></p>

- Each late or missing assignment will result in a reduction in final grade by ½ step (example: A to A-)
- Communication that must be initiated by the ACCE versus the student will result in a maximum grade of “B” for the rotation, as this reflects the red flag item, communication.



**WEEKLY PLANNING FORMS:** The use of this form at the end of each week of the experience is strongly urged but not mandatory for CIs. It is mandatory for students to complete for all of their clinical experiences and pass them in at the end of their experience. Students will be filling out these forms near the end of each week and will encourage their CIs to give them feedback on them. It is encouraged for CIs to use the Weekly Planning Forms to give students feedback on their performance at the end of each week, so that they may be successful and attempt to improve upon any identified weak areas. The forms also serve as a great tool to improve CI and student communication.

**Student Evaluation of Clinical Site:** This form will be filled out by the student during their last week of their clinical and reviewed with their CI. The form will be returned to the ACCE at the university within one week of the completion of the clinical experience. Grades for the clinical experience will not be issued until this form is received. The form has 2 parts: (evaluation of the clinical site and evaluation of the clinical instructor). The ACCE will make copies of the Overall Summary Appraisal of the Clinical Experience. One copy will be mailed to the CCCE at the clinical site and the other will be placed in the student file following completion of the student affiliation.

**Service-Based Learning Project:**

It is expected that all students will complete a service-based learning project. A service-based learning project is a method of teaching and learning involving a project that is connected to a classroom or course content. Each project is expected to have an academic/research component and a community/clinical site service component.

The project should NOT create extra work for the clinical site. It is intended to have the student research a topic helpful for the PT department and/or community while at the same time fulfilling the clinical education course objective of educating others (patients, family, caregivers, staff, students, other health care providers) using relevant and effective teaching methods. It is also a means of giving back or thanking the PT department for allowing the student to complete a clinical experience with them.

**How to do it:** Projects are discussed with supervisors regarding what topics would be helpful to the department and of interest to the student.

For PTA 212, the Service Based Learning Project expectations are much lower due to the 3 week duration of the experience.

Examples:

- Case study of current patient scenario
- Research a particular diagnosis or treatment. Condense the material and present it.
- Research and present a recent journal article of interest.
- Create or update home exercise programs for a specific diagnosis or surgery.

Questions or concerns about service based learning projects may be directed to the PTA program ACCE or program director.

\*\*A rubric for grading the service-based learning project will be provided to each clinical instructor and included with the evaluation tool. The project is pass/fail.

### **Where to Get Help**

Matthew Papsadora 768-9678 or 357-6689

Christopher Rolon 768-9542

### **Course Policies**

For Clinical Education policies, please refer to UMPI PTA Clinical Education Handbook

For more information: [http://www.maine.edu/about-the-system/board-of-trustees/policy-](http://www.maine.edu/about-the-system/board-of-trustees/policy-manual/section402/)

[manual/section402/](http://www.maine.edu/about-the-system/board-of-trustees/policy-manual/section402/)