



جامعة الأمير سّطام بن عبدالعزيز
PRINCE SATTAM BIN ABDULAZIZ UNIVERSITY

Master Program

of

Physical Therapy for Musculoskeletal Disorders

Guidebook

Introduction

The Master's Degree in Physical Therapy for Musculoskeletal Disorders at Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University represents a distinguished opportunity for advanced education and specialization in the field of musculoskeletal rehabilitation. This specialized program is designed to equip students with an in-depth understanding of musculoskeletal disorders, their underlying mechanisms, and the latest therapeutic interventions for effective patient care.

Through a rigorous curriculum, students enrolled in the Master's program gain a comprehensive knowledge base in anatomy, biomechanics, pathophysiology, and advanced assessment techniques specific to musculoskeletal conditions. The program places a strong emphasis on evidence-based practices, ensuring that students are well-versed in the latest research and treatment modalities that drive optimal patient outcomes.

Hands-on training is a hallmark of this Master's program, allowing students to develop advanced clinical skills through practical sessions, clinical rotations, and exposure to cutting-edge technologies used in musculoskeletal rehabilitation. Collaborating with experienced faculty and clinical mentors, students not only refine their manual therapy techniques but also cultivate critical thinking and decision-making skills necessary for complex patient scenarios.

Furthermore, the Master's program at Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University places a high value on research and scholarly activities. Students are encouraged to engage in research projects that contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the field of musculoskeletal disorders. This focus on research not only enhances students' analytical abilities but also equips them with the tools to critically evaluate and implement evidence-based practices in their clinical work.

The program's commitment to excellence extends beyond the classroom, as it fosters a collaborative learning environment that encourages interdisciplinary interactions. Networking opportunities, seminars, workshops, and conferences enhance students' exposure to diverse perspectives and emerging trends in musculoskeletal rehabilitation.

Graduates of the Master's Degree in Physical Therapy for Musculoskeletal Disorders from Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University are well-prepared to become leaders in their field. Armed with specialized knowledge, advanced clinical skills, and a research-oriented mindset, they are equipped to make a significant impact in enhancing musculoskeletal health and well-being, both for individual patients and for the broader community.

Program Mission:

Empowering scientifically and professionally qualified post-graduates in musculoskeletal physical therapy, by offering cutting-edge education, pioneering research in musculoskeletal physical therapy, and impactful community engagement.

Program Goals:

1. Prepare postgraduates with advanced skills and knowledge in musculoskeletal physical therapy, ensuring their competence and readiness to excel in a competitive job market.
2. Conduct innovative musculoskeletal physical therapy research compatible with national research priorities.
3. Enhance community services related to musculoskeletal physical therapy practices.
4. Develop a strong foundation of ethical and professional conduct among physical therapy professionals, instilling values that uphold the highest standards of integrity, compassion, and patient-centered care.

Graduate Attributes:

1. Professionally Knowledgeable
2. Efficient clinical decision-maker
3. Self-learner
4. Skillful researcher
5. Critical and creative thinker,
6. Interactive, and collaborative graduate
7. Effective practitioner
8. Ethically responsible
9. Socially responsible
10. Confident and adaptable

Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Recognize advanced knowledge of rehabilitation in musculoskeletal disorders.
2. Describe the clinical principles of evaluation, differential diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of musculoskeletal disorders.
3. Acquire knowledge of scientific research methods and biostatistics applications in rehabilitation.
4. Show advanced and comprehensive proficient skills in physical examination and treatment for musculoskeletal disorders.
5. Utilize critical thinking, self-learning, and evidence-based practice to make clinical decisions about physical therapy for musculoskeletal disorders.
6. Develop clinical knowledge and practice by reading and conducting experimental scientific research
7. Demonstrate ethics and professional behaviors to enhance patients' safety and experience and improve quality of service in clinical settings.
8. Communicate effectively and work collaboratively for optimal health care in the field of physical therapy for musculoskeletal disorders.

Admission requirements

Admission criteria for the program is announced on university site. An electronic portal (E-services) which provides prospective students with admission. Requirements and information about all programs in addition to their enrolment status.

The following are the admission requirements:

- 1-The applicant must be a Saudi citizen or, if non-Saudi, have an official scholarship for graduate studies.
- 2-The applicant must have a Bachelor of Physical Therapy from a Saudi or any accredited university.
- 3-The grade at the undergraduate level should be at least “good”
- 4-Must have an ILETS score of 4.5 or equivalent.
- 5-The applicant must be of good behavior, fair reputation and medically fit.
- 6-The applicant must submit two letters of recommendation from professors who have taught him/her.
- 7-The applicant, if employed, must provide a letter of consent from his current employer to join the program.
- 8-Passing the personal interview in the department.

Transfer Requirements & Course Equivalency

Student transfer to the program from another recognized university may be accepted upon the recommendation of the departmental and college councils and the approval of the council of the Deanship of Post-Graduate Studies considering the following:

1. Admission requirements are provided for the transferred student and any other requirements deemed necessary by the department.
2. That the student not be expelled from the university from which he was transferred for any reason.
3. The number of academic units studied may be calculated according to the following.
 - Studies for the equivalent units should not have passed more than six semesters.
 - Conform with the requirements of the program being referred to.
 - The percentage of these units shall not exceed thirty percent of the units of the transferred program
 - Rating in the equivalent units should not be less than (Very Good).
 - Equivalent units are not included in the GPA calculation.

The equation shall be upon the recommendation of the department council that follows the course and the approval of the college council and the deanship of post-graduate studies.

Study plan:

Level	Course Code	Course Title	Required or lective	Pre-Requisite Courses	Credit Hours
Level 1	RHPT 0611	Exercise physiology	Required	-	2
	RHPT 0612	Research methodology	Required	-	3
	RHPT 0613	Evidence based practice	Required	-	2
	RHPT 0614	Statistics in clinical research	Required		3
	RHPT 0615	Rehabilitative psychology	Required		2
Level 2	SKEL 0621	Advanced studies in physical therapy for musculoskeletal disorders	Required		3
	SKEL 0622	Scientific seminar in musculoskeletal disorders	Required	RHPT 0612	3
	SKEL 0623	Differential diagnosis in musculoskeletal disorders	Required		3
	RHPT	Elective course	Elective		3
Level 3	SKEL 0631	Physical examination for musculoskeletal disorders	Required		3
	SKEL 0632	Advanced clinical practice in physical therapy for musculoskeletal disorders 1	Required		3
	RHPT 0642	Research Project-1	Required		3
	RHPT	Elective course	Elective		3
Level 4	SKEL 0641	Advanced clinical practice in physical therapy for musculoskeletal disorders-2	Required	SKEL 0632	3
	RHPT 0643	Research Project-2	Required	RHPT 0642	3

Elective courses:

Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours
RHPT 0616	Child growth and development	3
RHPT 0617	Geriatric rehabilitation	3
RHPT 0618	Pathomechanics	3
RHPT 0619	Sports injuries	3

Study and Exams

Master, in Physical therapy for Musculoskeletal Disorders, is offered on full-time basis requiring fourteen (14) modules consist of 42 credits, for four semesters with each semester consisting of 9-12 credits.

One midterm is conducted in the mid time of the semester and one final theory exam at the end of every semester. The other part of continuous assessment; quizzes, class presentation, group discussion, assignments are conducted on regular basis throughout the semester.

Regulations or policies for allocation and distribution of grades: The academic grade is a statement of a student's academic progress that includes all the courses he studies in each semester with their codes, numbers, credit hours, the obtained grades, the values, and the codes of those grades. The record also shows the Grade Point Average (GPA) and the Cumulative Grade Point Average and statement of the general grade in addition to the courses a transferred student has been exempted from. In all categories of courses, the students are assessed by a grade according to the following scale:

Code	Score	Point	Meaning
A+	95-100	5	Exceptional
A	90-94	4.75	Excellent
B+	85-89	4.5	Superior
B	80-84	4	Very Good
C+	75-79	3.5	Above Average
C	70-74	0	Fail
F	Less than 70	0	Fail

Key Performance Indicators

No	KPIs Code	KPIs	Measurement Methods	Measurement Time
1	KPI-PG-1	Students' Evaluation of quality of learning experience in the program	Average of overall rating of final level students for the quality of learning experience in the program on a five-point scale in an annual survey.	End of academic year
2	KPI-PG-2	Students' evaluation of the quality of the courses	Average students' overall rating of the quality of courses on a five- point scale in a course survey.	End of academic year
3	KPI- PG-3	Students' evaluation of the quality of scientific supervision	Average students' overall rating of the quality of scientific supervision on a five-point scale in an annual survey.	End of academic year
4	KPI-PG-4	Average time for students' graduation	Average time (in semesters) spent by students to graduate from the program.	End of academic year
5	KPI-PG-5	Rate of students dropping out of the program	Percentage of students who did not complete the program to the total number of students in the same cohort	End of academic year
6	KPI-PG-6	Employers' evaluation of the program graduates' competency	Average of overall rating of employers for the competency of the program graduates on a five-point scale in an annual survey.	End of academic year
7	KPI-PG-7	Students' satisfaction with the services provided	Average of students' satisfaction rate with the various services provided by the program (food, transportation, sport facilities, academic advising, ...) on a five-point scale in an annual survey.	End of academic year
8	KPI-PG-8	Ratio of students to faculty members	Ratio of the total number of students to the total number of full-time and full-time equivalent faculty members participating in the program.	Every academic year
9	KPI-PG-9	Percentage of publications of faculty members	Percentage of faculty members participating in the program with at least one research publication during the year to total faculty members in the program.	Every academic year
10	KPI-PG-10	Rate of published research per faculty member	The average number of refereed and/or published research per each faculty member participating in the program during the year (total number of refereed and/or published research to the total number of faculty members during the year)	Every academic year
11	KPI-PG-11	Citations rate in refereed journals per faculty member	The average number of citations in refereed journals from published research (total number of citations in refereed journals from published research for faculty members to the total published research)	Every academic year
12	KPI-PG-12	Percentage of students' publication	Percentage of students who a. Published their research in refereed journals. b. Presented papers in conferences. to the total number of students in the program during the year.	Every academic year

No	KPIs Code	KPIs	Measurement Methods	Measurement Time
13	KPI-PG-13	Number of patents, innovative products, and awards of excellence	Number of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Patents and innovative products b. National and international excellence awards obtained annually by the students and staff of the program.	Every academic year