

This checklist has been provided to assist you with determining if you have taken the required prerequisite courses for Columbia University's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program.

Each prerequisite is listed below with specific requirements. For on-line classes with labs, we will accept pass/fail or credit/no credit grades for courses taken in Spring 2022 in addition to Fall 2021. Beginning in Fall 2022, all science prerequisites courses are preferred to be in person. However, hybrid courses with on-line lecture but in-person lab experiences will be considered.

It is highly recommended that a minimum of 14 of the 17 prerequisites for admission, including all coursework in the sciences, be completed by the October 1st application due date. Students on the quarter system must take a 3-part series or 3-part courses to fulfill requirements. Please note that AP and IB courses accepted by your University are **not accepted** as a replacement for our prerequisites.

*Please review the following pre-requisite check list in detail. If you find that you still have questions, please follow the instructions provided at the end of this document. When you apply to PTCAS specific class examples are provided.*

### BIOLOGY I (4 CREDITS)

- One 4-credit Biology course with laboratory required.
    - Courses for science majors are recommended.
    - Course must be taken within **10** years of application.
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### BIOLOGY II (4 CREDITS)

- One 4-credit Biology course with laboratory required.
    - Courses for science majors are recommended.
    - Course must be taken within **10** years of application.
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### CHEMISTRY I (4 CREDITS)

- One 4-credit Chemistry course with laboratory required.
    - Courses for science majors are recommended.
    - Course must be taken within **10** years of application.
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### CHEMISTRY II (4 CREDITS)

- One 4-credit Chemistry course with laboratory required.
    - Courses for science majors are recommended.
    - Course must be taken within **10** years of application.
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### PHYSICS I (4 CREDITS)

- One 4-credit Physics course with laboratory required.
  - Courses for science majors are recommended.
  - Course must be taken within **10** years of application.



## PHYSICS II (4 CREDITS)

- One 4-credit Physics course with laboratory required.
    - Courses for science majors are recommended.
    - Courses must be taken within **10** years of application.
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## HUMAN ANATOMY (3 CREDITS)

- One 3-credit Anatomy course or 2 semesters (total 6-8 credits) of combined Anatomy and Physiology I and II.
    - Laboratory is not required but is recommended.
    - Course must be taken within **5** years of application.
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## HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY (3 CREDITS)

- One 3-credit Physiology course or 2 semesters (total 6-8 credits) of combined Anatomy & Physiology I and II.
    - Laboratory is not required but is recommended.
    - Course must be taken within **5** years of application.
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## ONE ADDITIONAL SCIENCE COURSE (3 CREDITS)

- One additional 3-credit Science course is required.
    - Any Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Exercise Physiology, Motor Learning, Kinesiology or Motor Control course beyond the prerequisites is acceptable.
    - Course must be taken within **10** years of application.
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## PSYCHOLOGY (6 CREDITS)

- One 3-credit Psychology course. In total, two courses in Psychology are required.
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## SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE (15 CREDITS)

- One 3-credit Social/Behavioral Science course. In total, five courses in Social/Behavioral Science are required.
    - Motor Learning and Motor Control courses are accepted but can count for only one prerequisite category (additional Science or Social/Behavioral Science).
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## STATISTICS (3 CREDITS)

- One 3-credit Statistics course taken within Biology, Mathematics, Statistics, or Psychology Departments.
    - Business or Economics does not fulfill this requirement.
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## LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please provide 3 references:

- One academic reference from your major. If you are unable to obtain a reference from your major, please submit a reference from a professor in a science course.
  - One academic reference from either your major, non-major class of your choosing.
  - One reference from a licensed physical therapist.
    - Letter of recommendation from a physical therapist (on official letterhead) should provide a brief description of the facility, hours completed, and attributes of the applicant that would make them successful as a physical therapy student.
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## PT OBSERVATION HOURS

- PT observation hours ranging from **75-100** are adequate and are used in the overall assessment of the applicant.
    - PT observation hours are used to gauge the student's awareness of and interest in the profession. Diversity of physical therapy practice settings is preferred.
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## CERTIFICATION IN CPR AND FIRST AID

- In-person** American Heart Association CPR Certification required once accepted into the program.
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## RESUME

- Resume submitted by the deadline in PTCAS.
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## GRE

- The GRE is required for admission and official GRE, scores must be submitted by **October 1st** to be considered for an interview. If you have not taken the GREs, you will not be considered for an interview.
    - GRE General Test and GRE Revised General Test are accepted.
    - The last acceptable GRE test date for this cycle is September 17th.
    - Our Program code is 7745.
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*If you are still unsure whether a course is acceptable, please email [ptadmissions@cumc.columbia.edu](mailto:ptadmissions@cumc.columbia.edu), including the information requested below.*

*Please provide the following details about the course in question:*

1. *Course name:* \_\_\_\_\_
2. *School where course was taken:* \_\_\_\_\_
3. *Date Course Completed:* \_\_\_\_\_
4. *Course Number:* \_\_\_\_\_
5. *Prerequisite category this course would fulfill (i.e. Biology, Psychology, etc.):*

6. *Course description (from syllabus or course catalogue):*  
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