



Program Goals

The goals of UNLVPT are as follows:

1. To provide an environment in which the student may develop responsibility for professional behaviors as outlined in the APTA Code of Ethics (see *Code of Ethics for the Physical Therapist*) and the APTA Professional Behaviors (see *Professional Behaviors*).
2. To provide the educational experience necessary for students to be competent in evidence-based physical therapist practice, to be excellent purveyors of the scientific literature, and to be committed to maintaining continued competence through life-long learning.
3. To create an appreciation for the physical therapist as an autonomous practitioner who embraces a collaborative approach to healthcare provision that reflects the quadruple aim.
4. To develop students who exhibit sound reasoning skills allowing them to be efficient and effective in clinical decision making.
5. To develop students who have the necessary educational and clinical skills to practice in any physical therapy setting.
6. To create an educational experience wherein students gain an appreciation for practice in rural and underserved areas.
7. To provide an educational experience wherein students will develop the skills and the desire to give back to the profession through service, education and research.

Program Outcomes

Upon completion of the DPT degree, students should be prepared to:

1. Commit to and demonstrate the professional behaviors as outlined by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) (Goal 1)
2. Engage in the ethical practice of physical therapy reflecting the core values as outlined by the APTA and other key documents including Guide to Physical Therapist Practice, Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics, and Guide for Professional Conduct (Goal 1)
3. Achieve entry-level competence in all areas of clinical practice as measured by the Clinical Performance Instrument (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5)
4. Competently address all areas of physical therapy patient/client management including
 - a. Examination
 - b. Evaluation
 - c. Diagnosis

- d. Prognosis
 - e. Intervention
 - f. Outcome measurement (Goals 1, 2, 4, and 5)
5. Facilitate patient progress toward improved outcomes across all levels of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health including
 - a. Health conditions
 - b. Body structure and function
 - c. Activities
 - d. Participation (Goals 1, 2, 4, and 5)
 6. Assume professional roles including those in the areas of education, critical inquiry/research, administration, and consultation (Goals 1 and 7)
 7. Engage in evidence-based practice based on sound, critical reasoning processes (Goal 2)
 8. Become autonomous primary health care providers within the scope of physical therapy practice to include screening/systems review, differential diagnosis, referral, and teaming as appropriate (Goal 3)
 9. Engage in physical therapy roles in prevention, and the promotion of health, wellness, and fitness (Goal 5 and 6)
 10. Provide care to rural and underserved populations (Goal 6)