



Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program Undergraduate Options

Students who plan to pursue a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) have options for completing their undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of Evansville.

3+3 Track: Three years of undergraduate course work is best suited for students who meet direct entry admission criteria; have a minimum ACT score of 26 or a 1240 SAT composite score; and seek an undergraduate degree in exercise science, interdisciplinary studies, neuroscience, or public health.

4+3 Track: Four years of undergraduate study may promote a richer educational experience for students who do not meet direct entry admission criteria; who wish to pursue an undergraduate degree in biology, health services administration, or another area; who desire to study abroad at Harlaxton for a full semester; or who will participate in NCAA Division I athletics.

Bachelor's Degree Options

Freshmen entering the University of Evansville declare an undergraduate major as well as their intent to pursue physical therapy. During the first three years (3+3 track) or four years (4+3 track), students complete the prerequisite courses for physical therapy as well as courses required for their majors. All options are followed by three years of professional study and culminate in the awarding of the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree.

For 3+3 track, the bachelor's degree is not awarded until the end of the fourth year. The first year DPT courses round out bachelor's degree requirements. All requirements for the undergraduate degree must be completed prior to the beginning of the first full-time clinical course, Physical Therapy 561 (Clinical I), which takes place in the summer following the first year of the DPT Program.

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Undergraduate Degree Options: The following is a sample of the undergraduate degrees that are available to our students. Students must work with their undergraduate advisors to ensure that all degree and prerequisite requirements can be completed. Other undergraduate degrees are possible but may require an additional semester or two to complete.

Biology (4+3 track)

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Biology is the study of living organisms, how they develop, how they change over time, and how the diverse organisms relate to one another and their environment. Biology covers a broad range from genetics and molecular biology (i.e. how DNA and genes function) to organismal biology and how complex organisms, such as humans, are structurally and functionally organized. Biology appeals to the curiosity and desire for exploration inherent in each of us. The curriculum in biology at the University of Evansville is designed to give students the necessary prerequisites to go on to professional or graduate school or pursue a career in biology.

Exercise Science Pre-Professional (3+3 track or 4+3 track)

Dr. William Miller
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The Exercise Science major (Pre-Professional Track) features a rigorous curriculum rooted in the natural sciences—including biology, chemistry, physics, and human physiology—with a strong focus on the scientific principles of exercise and human movement across healthy, injured, and high-risk populations. As an applied discipline, the program emphasizes experiential learning through laboratory experiences and community-based opportunities that reinforce classroom knowledge.

With a solid foundation in scientific inquiry and hands-on application, graduates of the Pre-Professional Track are exceptionally well-prepared for success in competitive graduate and professional programs in physical therapy, exercise physiology, medicine, occupational therapy, biomechanics, and related fields. Alumni also thrive in clinical, research, and human performance settings, where they apply their knowledge to improve health outcomes and physical function across diverse populations.

Health Services Administration with Business Minor (4+3 track)

Mrs. Barbara Cash
Visiting Assistant Professor Health Services Administration Program
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Health services administration students study a cross-section of politics, business, and science. They learn about health care ethics, planning, organization, finance, marketing, and management. The changes in health care in recent years have created a need for

variety of organizations including hospitals, managed care companies, outpatient care facilities, pharmaceutical companies, mental health organizations, public health agencies, and any organization that has a stake in health care today.

Interdisciplinary Studies (3+3 or 4+3 track)

This undergraduate major is designed for the individual who may have a variety of interests, an unusual career goal, or a highly focused career goal. The key word when discussing the interdisciplinary studies major is *flexibility*. A major in interdisciplinary studies allows the student, with guidance from an advisor and approval of the interdisciplinary studies subcommittee, to select courses from two or more distinct academic disciplines.

Neuroscience (3+3 or 4+3 track)

Dr. Lora Becker
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Established in 1976, the neuroscience program has an interdisciplinary focus and combines courses from psychology, biology, chemistry, and other sciences to understand the structure and function of the nervous system. Completion of this program prepares students for graduate training in neuroscience, including the behavioral, cognitive or molecular fields. This program also fulfills admission requirements for most medical schools and other health care professional schools.

Public Health (3+3 or 4+3 track)

Dr. Payal Patel-Dovlatabadi
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From disaster relief to air quality and disease prevention, public health professionals ensure a healthy, safe, and productive society. The Bachelor of Science degree in public health trains students in multidisciplinary approaches to public health practices. Students learn about a range of issues that impact population health, global health, environmental health, disease prevention, health communication and informatics, health care systems, and health behavior.