



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. Donald Rodd
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The exercise science major (pre professional track) comprises a strong natural science curriculum that focuses on the scientific aspects of exercise related to healthy, injured, and high-risk populations. As an applied discipline, the exercise science major emphasizes an experiential approach in which the goal is to understand the physiological and biomechanical consequences of human movement. Due to the emphasis on the sciences in this curriculum, the pre professional track is an excellent major for further study in physical therapy, exercise physiology, biomechanics, medicine, podiatry, occupational therapy, and other professional schools.

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

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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 managers who can deal with a multitude of challenges specific to the health care industry. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the demand for health services administrators is projected to increase faster than the average for all occupations through the next five to 10 years. Health care administrators are employed by a wide

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)

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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 or Public Health with a Nutrition Emphasis (3+3 or 4+3 track)

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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.