



Physical Therapy

Degree Offered:

Students can earn a Bachelor’s degree in Natural Science (BS, NS – Health Science Specialization and Biology minor) at the completion of 4 years and a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree (DPT) at the completion of 6 years.

The Physical Therapy Department at Daemen College will prepare students to become knowledgeable, skilled, and reflective physical therapists who are committed to serving the healthcare needs of a diverse society and to lifelong professional growth. This maturation will occur through contemporary physical therapy professional courses grounded in the humanities, and natural and social science curriculum.

Our History:

- Our physical therapy program has maintained continuous accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education since its beginning in 1974 with first time pass rates on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) at or above both New York state and national averages and a current Three Year Average Ultimate Pass Rate of 100%.
- Daemen College is the first small liberal arts college in New York State accredited to offer the Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree.
- In over 40 years of physical therapy education experience we have graduated more than 3,000 physical therapists.

Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) at Daemen:

- The Doctor of Physical Therapy Program offers the first professional degree and prepares students to sit for the licensure examination and enter the profession of physical therapy as a new graduate.
 - Students may apply to the BS in Natural Science/Doctor of Physical Therapy (BS,NS/DPT) program as freshmen or transfers.
 - Students possessing a baccalaureate degree may apply to the direct entry Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program.
- Students have access to a variety of clinical experiences – local, national and international – at over 500 clinical sites.
- Students are trained by experts in the field. All core faculty teach, practice, and conduct research in their area of specialty, including: orthopedics, pediatrics, geriatrics, tissue mechanics, sports medicine, vestibular, and wound healing.
- Students engage in faculty mentored clinical-based research for over a year which culminates in a poster presentation at Academic Festival and a platform presentation at a Research Symposium.
- The PT curriculum offers courses that are threaded together to provide a rich education in the class room, laboratory, and clinical setting in each of their professional phase semesters.

Direct Entry Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)

Students with an earned baccalaureate degree (BS/BA) in a related field with a minimum overall and science GPA of 2.8 may apply to enter directly into the professional phase of the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. You may apply online. The professional program is comprised of both academic and clinical education including a variety of clinical experiences locally, nationally, and internationally. Students study with a dedicated faculty who teach, practice, and conduct research in a variety of areas including orthopaedics, pediatrics, geriatrics, tissue mechanics, vestibular, and wound healing.

For complete information on the Direct Entry DPT program please visit: daemen.edu/physicaltherapy

did you know...

Daemen Physical Therapy graduates are prepared. All of our students complete 4, 9-week internships in physical therapy settings across the country and across practice areas such as pediatric rehab, adult neuro rehab, cardiopulmonary rehab, orthopaedic rehab, and integumentary care.

In addition, each student conducts clinical based research as a capstone project to complete their DPT under the advisement of a faculty member.

Career Options:

Hospitals, outpatient clinics, private practice, rehabilitation centers, schools, athletic facilities, and more.

Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy Fellowship Program/M.S. in OMPT

As the only program of its kind in New York State, the Daemen M.S. in OMPT Fellowship program is a post-professional physical therapy educational offering that combines on-site academic coursework with clinical mentoring leading to recognition as a Fellow in OMPT. Completion of the fellowship program will earn the graduate the fellowship credential offered by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), as well as a MS degree in OMPT. The Daemen program is one of only 21 APTA accredited OMPT Fellowships in the United States and is one of the only 6 programs in the country affiliated with an academic institution.

The Daemen College Fellowship Program in Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy (M.S. in OMPT) is designed to provide licensed physical therapists with advanced psychomotor and analytical skills in musculoskeletal management. The program is accredited by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists (AAOMPT).

For complete information on the Direct Entry DPT program please visit: daemen.edu/physicaltherapy/OMPT



Sarah, Physical Therapy

"Our dynamic profession of physical therapy is changing and revolutionizing, and we must keep up the pace. Motivated and inspired by PTs and other clinicians, I have personally been transformed through this logic; joined with colleagues, we will optimize our own strengths; and challenged by today's circumstances, we will improve physical therapy. As a future PT I strive to truly change the profession in regards to policy, maintain connections across the country, attend conferences, and rally with the lawmakers, to ultimately transform society.

Most recently I traveled to Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam on a medical mission trip where I experienced a whole new culture and alternate side to medicine. I was able to work alongside the surgeons being both of plastic and orthopedic practice and take patient histories, evaluations, and follow ups while observing in a total of 13 surgeries throughout the week. Aside from the hospital days and scrubbing in, our group also had the opportunity to visit 3 orphanages. We had bags of toys and snacks that we handed out at each site. It was the most eye opening and humbling experience that I have ever had."

Information about the Physical Therapy program contact Greg Ford PT DPT PhD OCS, Chair of the Physical Therapy Department, at 716.839.8345 or gford@daemen.edu

Information about the Fellowship Program in Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy/OMPT, M. S. contact Ronald Schenk PT PhD OCS FAAOMPT Dip MDT, Director of the Fellowship Program, at 716-839-8360 or rschenk@daemen.edu.

Information on Physical Therapy programs, clinical education, courses, faculty, students and graduates visit daemen.edu/physicaltherapy.