

Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant

Suggested Schedule of Courses

Physical Therapist Assistant Program Information:

Physical therapy is a rehabilitative science that focuses on restoring, maintaining, and promoting optimal physical function in humans across the lifespan. Practitioners will assist clients in many practice settings including hospitals, outpatient therapy centers, schools, and more. Upon completion of the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program at MGA, students will be eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) for PTAs in order to earn state licensure to practice physical therapy.

The Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant degree will require a minimum of three (3) years of study. This is a *suggested* schedule of courses based on degree requirements, however this guide is not a substitute for academic advisement. PTA courses are taught in sequence and students must apply for admission to the PTA Program before taking any PTA courses. NOTE: Applicants to the PTA Program are required to have earned a grade of "C" or better in all required courses.

Semester 1 (Fall)

Course	Credit
ENGL 1101 (English Composition I)	3
MATH 1101, 1111, or 1113 (Choose one; Elementary Statistics is preferred)	3
PSYC 1101 (Introduction to Psychology)	3
HIST 2111 or HIST 2112 (US History; choose one)	3
BIOL 2251 (Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab)	4
Totals	16

Semester 2 (Spring)

Course	Credit
ENGL 1102 (English Composition II)	3
PSYC 2103 (Introduction to Human Growth and Development)	3
POLS 1101 (American Government)	3
BIOL 2252 (Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab)	4
Literature Elective	3
Totals	16

NOTE: This suggested program of study includes taking both a U.S. history course and American Government (as required by the University System of Georgia), which increases the overall total credit hours in the program of study to 73. However, students may choose to satisfy the U.S. and Georgia history requirement with the U.S. and Georgia History Exam and/or may satisfy the U.S. and Georgia constitution requirement with the U.S. and Georgia Constitution Exam.

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Apply to the PTA Program:

To be considered for admission to the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Program at Middle Georgia State University, applicants must:

- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Be fully admitted to Middle Georgia State University by May 15th (this will require submission of all official academic transcripts). Apply to MGA and ensure that you are a current student for the fall semester.
- Successfully complete any required university placement tests and learning support courses.
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75.
- Complete of Anatomy and Physiology I and II with lab with a grade of C or better.
- Complete at least 18 additional semester credit hours from the required core classes (see below)
- Have no more than one prior unsuccessful attempt in any health science program in the past two years.
- Submit two letters of recommendation from recent professors or current/recent employers (within the last year). These must be sent from the professional's email address. No letters will be accepted through the mail or from the student's email.
- Submit TEAS exam scores. A minimum score of 58.7% is required.
- All applicants must submit scores from the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS), Version 7, in order to be considered for admission. Only Version 7 scores will be accepted.
- Deadline: TEAS scores must be received by the May 15th deadline. Late submissions will not be considered.
- Electronic Submission: If the TEAS exam is taken at another institution, official score reports must be sent electronically to MGA through ATI. Paper copies will not be accepted.
- Testing Format: MGA accepts only in-person, proctored TEAS exams administered at an approved institution or testing center. "At-home" TEAS exams will not be accepted.
- On-Campus Testing: MGA offers in-person TEAS testing by appointment. For details and scheduling, visit: <https://www.mga.edu/testing-services/index.php>
- Provide a personal statement that addresses the following:
 - Motivation: Why do you want to pursue a career as a Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)?
 - Inspiration: What experiences or influences sparked your interest in the field of physical therapy?
 - Qualities: What personal qualities or characteristics do you believe are essential for success as a PTA, and how do you see those qualities reflected in yourself?

To demonstrate college readiness, students must successfully complete any required university placement exams and learning support courses prior to program admission. These admissions criteria ensure that accepted students are academically prepared, professionally motivated, and aligned with the values and expectations of the physical therapy profession.

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Upon Formal Acceptance into the Physical Therapist Assistant A.S. Degree Program:

Students must complete a criminal background check, physical, drug screen, provide proof of immunizations including TB test, and show proof of American Heart Association BLS CPR Certification good through May of the anticipated graduation year. Students who are unable provide these clinical requirements or who do not meet the qualifications after completing the background check and drug screen will not be allowed to register for PTA classes.

Semester 3 – Fall (PTA Cohort admitted in fall only)

Course	Credit
PHTA 1200 (Intro to PTA)	2
PHTA 1401 (Functional A&K I)	3
PHTA 1431 (Pathophys I)	3
PHTA 1501 (Patient Care Skills)	2
Totals	10

Semester 4 - Spring

Course	Credit
PHTA 1402 (Functional A&K II)	3
PHTA 1432 (Pathophys II)	3
PHTA 1502 (Special Conditions)	2
PHTA 2121 (Ther Ex I)	3
Totals	11

Semester 5 - Summer (Off-site)

Course	Credit
PHTA 2200 (Clinical Education I)	2
Total	2

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*Semester 6 - Fall

Course	Credit
PHTA 2122 (Ther Ex II)	3
PHTA 2250 (Neuro Interventions)	3
PHTA 2340 (PTA Seminar)	2
PHTA 2400 (Physical Agents)	2
Totals	10

*Students should apply for graduation during this semester

*Note: Students may be required to complete additional clinical requirements to comply with assigned clinical education sites at this time. All expenses associated with additional clinical requirements are the student's responsibility. All academic courses must be completed prior to clinical education.

Semester 7- Spring 1st Session (Off-Site)

Course	Credit
PHTA 2651 (Clinical Education II)	4
Totals	4

Semester 7- Spring 2nd Session (Off-Site)

Course	Credit
PHTA 2652 (Clinical Education II)	4
Totals	4