

To: Senate Council

Contact: Dr. Karen Badger, Associate Dean (kbadger@uky.edu); Dr. Tony English, PT Dept. Chair (tenglish@email.uky.edu)

Submitted: February 25, 2020

RE: Request for nonstandard Academic Calendar: Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT)

Action Requested: The Doctorate of Physical Therapy professional program requests approval for use of a nonstandard academic year calendar for courses listed below in perpetuity.

Background: The Physical Therapy professional program has operated on a program-necessary calendar course schedule that has fallen outside of the approved academic calendar since the program began in 2006. Because the original DPT program approval indicated such a calendar, we have been operating with the assumption that the use of this calendar was approved. However, while preparing a COVID-19 related nonstandard calendar request for the Spring 2021 semester we realized that approval does not appear to be in place and University Senate may want to formally review and approve our specific calendar structure. In order to meet the accreditation standards, needs of DPT students and align with the availability of clinical rotations provided by our community partners, the program needs to be able to continue to operate with a calendar similar to what we have used in the past. We indicated in fall 2020 when submitting our request for a modified spring 2021 calendar that we would present this calendar to Senate Council for their consideration.

Accordingly, we submit this proposal and request approval for the use of a nonstandard calendar for the DPT courses in perpetuity as outlined below. Course blocks and time frames are presented according to DPT student year and within the context of the AY 2021-22 and specific calendar dates/timeframes. ANA and PHY courses are included only to present all required courses and is not part of this request. Descriptions of timeframes to be used to create calendars in future academic years area also provided.

FALL SEMESTER

Curriculum of DPT third year students:

These part-of-term courses begin one week before the regular UK fall semester calendar and end approximately 9 weeks later, taking into account fluctuations based on calendar years. (Fall 2021 dates: Aug 16- Oct 15)

PT 651 (3)	Dysfunction of Vertebral Joints
PT 655 (3)	Neuromotor Development
PT 668 (1)	Evidence Informed Practice III: Analysis
PT 827 (2)	Management of Neurological Systems II

This part-of term course begins approximately 10 weeks after the start of the fall semester and ends 9 weeks later, usually coinciding with the last day of finals week in the standard UK academic calendar. (Fall 2021 dates: Oct 18- Dec 17)

PT 838 (9)	Intermediate Full-Time Clinical II
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Curriculum of DPT second year students:

These full-term courses begin one week before the regular UK course calendar, ending usually coincides with the ending of finals week according to the standard UK academic calendar. (Fall 2021 dates: Aug 16- Dec 17)

PT 652 (3)	Pathomechanics
PT 831 (2)	Neurophysiology
PT 676 (3)	Electrophysiologic Testing and Therapeutics
PT 825 (2)	Prosthetics
PT 826 (2)	Orthotics
PT 887 (1)	Introduction to Administration
PT 835 (1)	PT Integrated Clinical 1 (clinical time away justifies the need for the extra week of classes)
[ANA 802 (2)]	Neuroanatomy]

Curriculum of DPT first year students:

Courses begin on Monday of the first week of UK classes and end during the regular final exam week for the university: **(Fall 2021 dates: Aug 23-Dec 17)**

PT 804 (3)	Behavioral Factors Across the Lifespan
PT 854 (4)	Pathology and Clinical Application
PT 834 (3)	Intro to PT and Bioethics
PT 770 (2)	Public Health and Wellness
[PGY 412G (4)	<i>Physiology</i>

SPRING SEMESTER

Curriculum of DPT third year students:

These part-of-term didactic courses begin the first weekday after the New Year holiday and end approximately 9 weeks later taking into account fluctuations based on calendar years. **(Spring 2022 dates: Jan 3- March 4)**

PT 850 (3)	Advanced Manual Interventions
PT 860 (3)	Diagnosis and Management of the Complex Patient
PT 686 (1-3)	Specialty Electives
PT 888 (3)	Advanced Physical Therapy Management

This part-of-term course begins approximately 10 weeks after the start of the spring semester and end 9 weeks later, usually coinciding with the last day of finals week in the standard UK academic calendar. **(Spring 2022 dates: March 7- May 6)**

PT 839 (9)	Terminal Full-Time Clinical III
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Curriculum of DPT second year students:

These part-of-term courses begin the first weekday after the New Year holiday and end approximately 12 weeks later taking into account fluctuations based on calendar years. **(Spring 2022 dates: Jan 3 – April 2- April 2 is a make-up day)**

PT 836 (3)	PT Integrated Clinical II (every Tuesday for 8-9 weeks)
PT 650 (3)	Dysfunction of Peripheral Joints
PT 654 (4)	Motor Control Theory and Intervention
PT 847 (3)	Management of Neurological Systems I
PT 628 (2)	Gerontology

This part-of-term course begins approximately 13 weeks after the start of spring semester and ends 9 weeks later, at the end of the first week of June **(Spring 2022 dates: April 4- June 3)**

PT 837 (9)	Full-Time Clinical I
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Curriculum of DPT first year students:

These courses begin the first Tuesday or Thursday after the New Year's holiday (whichever is first) due to the ANA 811 Gross Anatomy schedule and end during the regular final exam week for the university: **(Spring 2022 dates: Jan 4- May 6)**

PT 814 (2)	Foundational Skills
PT 603 (1)	Pharmacology
PT 805 (3)	Normal Functional Anatomy
PT 645 (3)	Evidence Informed Practice I: Fundamental Principles
[ANA 811 (5)	<i>Gross Anatomy</i>

SUMMER SEMESTER 2022

Curriculum of DPT third year students:

Students have a one week break after the end of PT 839 and then return for two weeks of class (PT 669) starting around the 3rd full week of May.

PT 669 (1)	Evidence Informed Practice IV: Outcomes (Summer 2022 dates: May 16- May 27)
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Students then begin PT 840 (around the last Monday in May avoiding Memorial Day)

PT 840 (12)	Terminal Full-time Clinical IV (12 weeks) (Summer 2022 dates: May 31- Aug 19)
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Students then take PT 890 - which includes the comprehensive program examination- usually the last week of August:

PT 890 (1)	Professional Seminar (Summer 2022 dates: Aug 22- Aug 26)
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Curriculum of DPT second year students:

Once PT 837 ends (in first week of June) students have a one week break and then take part-term courses that last 8 weeks and begin approximately the second week of June and end the last day of the standard UK academic calendar summer session.

(Summer 2020 dates: June 13-Aug 4)

PT 686 (1-2)	Specialty Electives
PT 821 (2)	Management of Vascular & Integumentary Disorders
PT 830 (2)	Diagnostic imaging, screening & instrumentation

Curriculum of DPT first year students:

Courses begin before or immediately after Memorial Day for 10 weeks and end the last day of the standard UK academic calendar summer semester (Summer 2020 dates: May 31- Aug 4)

PT 867 (1)	Evidence Informed Practice I: Design
PT 815 (3)	Basic Clinical Skills
PT 856 (2)	Therapeutic Exercise
PT 877 (3)	Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy
PT 604 (1)	Pharmacology II

Calendar and Curriculum Rationale: The DPT program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) with standards that govern didactic and clinical components of the curriculum, as well as student learning outcomes and competencies. Standards require students complete intensive clinical rotations (after completing didactic coursework) and synthesize this learning through applied classroom instruction. Thus, students must demonstrate knowledge/skill proficiency before entering clinical placements and complete those placements according to CAPTE's expectations. Mastery of this material sets a foundation for clinical and future didactic learning for each DPT cohort.

The DPT program is delivered to students on the Lexington campus and a distant site campus in Hazard, KY via interactive television technology. We have two rooms available to use for lecture/discussion classroom activities and three cohorts of students. Hands on techniques are taught in one laboratory classroom on each campus. The Lexington campus laboratory is shared among the three cohorts of 48 students each. This requires great detail in scheduling labs and is one reason for a slightly extended semester framework. Faculty and students must be accounted for and many faculty teach more than one cohort adding to the complexity. Due to this and the need to consider the energy and overall needs of our clinical partners who provide clinical education, we understand the need for a more long-term nonstandard calendar.

Additional Notes: CAPTE standards require DPT students complete a minimum of 30 total weeks of full-time clinical experiences prior to graduation. The students must also demonstrate they are entry-level practitioners with experiences in an appropriate variety of clinical facilities that represent common areas of physical therapy practice. Our UK DPT program goes beyond this 30-week minimum to 39 weeks to provide a competitive level of excellence in our clinical education program. Hence, in their **third year, DPT students** will be in a variety of clinical experiences (both on campus and off). In the fall this occurs from mid- October until mid-December and in the spring from early March until the first week of May 7. Our clinical community partners are prepared for this calendar adjustment. We have Memorandums of Agreement with our clinical sites that lay out expectations of when our students will be on site in order to fulfill experiential education requirements for clinical education. Summer courses are timed to begin after completion of spring semester courses. Fall part-of term courses are scheduled for completion prior to the part-of-term clinical course offered the latter part of that semester.

Second year DPT students begin their fall courses one week early in the fall to help them pace learning of course material. They are also scheduled to first have in-class applied instruction to synthesize the semester's learning the first part of the Spring semester. Then they engage in their accreditation-required clinical experience scheduled from early April to early June. This 9-week clinical experience is the first of four full time experiences in the total program. In order to fully prepare the students to function at the expected level, didactic and clinical coursework must be completed prior to the start of clinical rotations, which the nonstandard calendar request supports. Summer courses are timed to begin after completion of spring semester courses.

First year DPT students begin their PT courses one week early in January so that they can fully engage in the curriculum when they arrive on campus to begin ANA 811 Human Gross Anatomy course. ANA 811 is a human cadaver dissection course that has typically started a week early due to the number of weeks required to cover the entire human body. It is essential for Physical Therapy students to have a strong foundation and working knowledge of the human body for use throughout the rest of the curriculum and their careers and this extra time helps pace their learning. Summer courses are timed to begin after completion of spring semester courses. Fall courses are scheduled according to the usual UK standardized academic calendar.

The proposed nonstandard calendar is compliant with SR 5.2.2 concerning student load.