PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

LAGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PTA ADMISSION HANDBOOK

REVISED BY

DEBRA ENGEL PT, DPT
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INTRODUCTION

The faculty of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program would like to thank you for your interest in the Physical Therapist Assistant program.

LaGuardia Community College offers an AAS Degree (Associates in Applied Science) for students who successfully complete the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Physical Therapy Education. Students who graduate from the Physical Therapist Assistant Program are eligible for New York State Certification and must take the National Certification Exam, to practice in New York State. Passing a National PT Exam is required in order to practice in most states including New York State. Federal law limits the issuance of professional licenses, registrations and limited permits to United States citizens or qualified aliens. Students with criminal records are examined on a case by case basis in regards to New York State licensure.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program has two phases, the pre-clinical and clinical phase. Students must file for and be accepted into PTA candidacy in order to progress to the clinical phase. You are responsible to familiarize yourself with the information in this Handbook and obtain further information by attending a PTA Orientation Session. The clinical phase is a full time day program.

Orientation sessions are scheduled in the Fall I and Spring I Semesters.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program offers admission to the program in January and June of each academic year. Class size is limited. Students entering the PTA Program are required to follow a specific program sequence. Students who do not follow the program sequence will be assigned classes on a seat availability basis.

Other sources of information provided for students are the LaGuardia Community College Catalogue, the Student Handbook and the PTA Program Website @ www.lagcc.cuny.edu/ptaprogram. Information about the field of physical therapy is available at www.apta.org and www.nypta.org.

For those students applying for candidacy, 50 hours of volunteer work in a Physical Therapy Department is required prior to starting the clinical phase. A supervisor’s letter on letterhead must be presented to the PTA Program Director prior to registering for SCT101-Introduction to PT and SCT 102-Ethics for PTAs.

Updated accreditation status of the PTA program and institution, acceptance rates, graduation rates, employment rates and pass rates on the NPTE can be found at www.APTA.org under CAPTE accredited PTA programs and on the program website: www.lagcc.cuny.edu/ptaprogram under accreditation status.
ADMISSION INFORMATION

Students interested in applying to LaGuardia Community College should contact the Admissions Office located in Room M-147, 31-10 Thomson Avenue, Long Island City, New York 11101. Applications are available for both freshman and transfer students. Transfer students with questions about the evaluation of credits earned at previous attended institutions should contact the Transfer Credit Office located in Room M-149. All inquiries regarding admissions and transfer credit can be made by calling (718) 482-7206.

All new students who are PTA majors are admitted directly into the pre-clinical phase of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program. Progression to the clinical phase of the program is competitive and is by acceptance into candidacy. Students must apply for candidacy and be accepted to enter the clinical phase.

Please note that the Physical Therapist Assistant Program faculty do not directly admit new students into the clinical phase of the program nor does the PTA Program faculty evaluate transfer credits.
PHYSICAL THERAPY FACULTY:

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program has three full-time faculty members as well as an experienced group of adjunct faculty. All instructional staff are New York State Licensed Physical Therapists. The College Lab Technician is a New York State Certified Physical Therapist Assistant. The College Lab Technician assists instructional staff in the laboratory courses and is available during scheduled hours from Monday to Friday. The faculty are all members of their professional organization, The American Physical Therapy Association.

1. Debra Engel, PT DPT MS
   Associate Professor
   Director, Physical Therapist Assistant Program
   Office E-300-R
   (718) 482-5780
   Email: dengel@lagcc.cuny.edu

2. Jackie Ross, PT DPT
   Lecturer
   Clinical Coordinator, Physical Therapist Assistant Program
   Office E-300-AA
   (718) 482-5771
   Email: rossja@lagcc.cuny.edu

3. Clarence Chan PT DPT
   Associate Professor
   Physical Therapist Assistant Program
   Office E-300 – Q
   (718) 482-5943
   Email: cchan@lagcc.cuny.edu

4. Ralph Mitchell
   Physical Therapist Assistant CLT
   Office/Lab E-335
   (718) 482-5781
   E-mail: rmitchell@lagcc.cuny.edu

5. Lori Finz
   CUNY Office Assistant
   Office: E-300
   Phone: (718) 482-5774
   E-mail: lfinz@lagcc.cuny.edu
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM
MISSION STATEMENT

The PTA Program is responsive to the health care needs in New York as well as the United States and is responsive to reflect the mission of LaGuardia Community College.

Health care today addresses both preventative health care as well as post injury health care. PTA’s entering the field of Physical Therapy are trained to provide therapeutic intervention throughout the rehabilitation process. The PTA Program trains students to work with patients in various settings, including but not exclusive to hospitals, nursing homes, private practices, and the patient’s home.

Students are trained to provide quality technical skills towards functional outcomes of the rehabilitation process. Students will be able to apply therapeutic concepts of exercise, manual techniques, and mobility training, along with the use of therapeutic modalities under the direct supervision of a licensed Physical Therapist.

The PTA program reflects the mission and goals of the college and the field of Physical Therapy including:

* Assisting the student to become a Lifelong Learner who has found ways to develop and grow as a result of formal schooling and has a range of commitments and interests of which you can become passionate.

* Assisting the student to become Socially Responsible and give back to your community.

* To ensure students possess an Intercultural Understanding and understand how to interact with people of various cultures and backgrounds.

* Assisting the student to become an educated person who has fully explored his/her interests, strengths and skills and has exhibited a Career Readiness as a Promoter of Health and Wellness.

* Preparing the student for a Leadership role within the community.

* To promote Compassion and Caring

* To educate the student in legal and ethical professional practice.

* To develop technological research and information literacy.
OUTLINE OF THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program at LaGuardia Community College offers a course of study leading to the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S) degree. The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is a New York State Accredited Program by the American Physical Therapy Association. Upon successful completion of this program and after passing the National Certification Exam, students are eligible to become certified to practice as Physical Therapist Assistants in New York State. Students must file the appropriate certification papers with the New York State Department of Education.

The PTA Program is divided into two distinct phases:

A. Pre clinical – consisting of all required general education and elective courses.
B. Clinical – consisting of all Physical Therapy courses and clinical affiliations.

The total credits required for completion of the program is 68.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT PROGRAM FACT SHEET

ADMISSION TO THE PTA PROGRAM

All students are admitted to the pre-clinical phase and must file for PTA candidacy in order to progress to the clinical phase. Candidates must first complete or be in the process of completing the four key courses with a minimum GPA of 2.50 in the semester they are applying for candidacy. They are then ranked by the Registrar’s Office on a scoring system based on grades in these key courses and other required courses. Since the number of students permitted to progress each semester is limited, this minimum GPA does not guarantee that a student will be selected for progression into the clinical phase of the program. Students are limited to a maximum of two attempts at candidacy.

Students who do progress to the clinical phase are subject to special grading policies and progression standards. The minimum passing grade for all PTA courses is “C” which is 70 % and students must have an average of at least 70 % in both the lecture and laboratory portions of each course. Students who earn less than a C are only permitted to repeat one Physical Therapy course in the entire clinical portion of the program. Students who fail/withdraw from more than one Physical Therapy course will be dismissed from the program.

Due to the candidacy process, the minimum time required to complete this program is two years and three months. This is based on full-time year-round attendance during the day. Students who must take developmental courses, attend part-time, or are not selected for progression on their first attempt at candidacy will require a longer time for completion. Physical Therapy courses are held during the day. The clinical affiliations are completed during the day and are accompanied by one evening seminar.
Students are required to complete a Physical Therapy Level I affiliation of 100 hours after completion of the first five clinical PTA courses. In addition, following completion of all classroom courses, students must complete two seven-eight week full-time affiliations at different clinical facilities. There are no waivers or exemptions from this requirement. It is usually not feasible for students to continue working while they are on their clinical affiliations, so it is advisable that they begin financial planning for this period as soon as they are selected for the clinical phase of the program.

Individuals who are interested in entering the program should obtain an application from LaGuardia’s Admissions Office. The telephone number for LaGuardia’s Admissions Office is (718) 482-7206. Those who previously attended college must have a GPA of at least 2.50 and may receive up to a maximum of 30 transfer credits for courses in the pre-clinical phase of the program. Effective in Fall 2008, students who transfer science credit for sequential courses must transfer both parts to receive the science credit. This applies to the following science courses:

SCB201/SCB202 – FUNDAMENTALS OF BIOLOGY I & II
SCB203/SCB204 – HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY I & II
SCC201/SCC202 – FUNDAMENTALS OF CHEMISTRY I & II
SCC251/SCC252 – ORGANIC CHEMISTRY I & II
SCP201/SCP202 – FUNDAMENTALS OF PHYSICS I & II
SCP231/SCP232 – GENERAL PHYSICS I & II

No transfer credits will be granted for courses in the clinical phase of the program. All applications are processed by CUNY’s central admissions processing center and the only requirement is a high school or GED diploma and completion of admission testing requirements. Please do not contact the PTA program itself concerning the status of your application, as we do not participate in the admissions process.

Students applying for Physical Therapist Assistant candidacy should review the attached documentation on Essential Functions, for successful completion of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program.
**Essential Functions**

The field of Physical Therapy is both intellectually and physically challenging. A candidate for the profession of physical therapy must have abilities and skills in five different areas. The list below is illustrative and may not be inclusive of all of the essential abilities that the Physical Therapist Assistant must demonstrate.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ensure that qualified applicants have the ability to pursue admission to this program. However, in order to be qualified for the PTA program, an applicant must be able to perform certain essential functions as set forth below. Every student in PTA program will be held to the same standards, with or without reasonable accommodation.

**Observation:**
Students must be able to observe a patient from a distance and close by. Students must be able to recognize non-verbal responses including facial expressions and body language. Students must be able to observe changes in physical status including increased breathing, sweating, and changes in skin color. Students must be able to adjust exercise equipment, measure assistive devices, adjust equipment parameters and observe gait and mobility skills. Students must be able to document and to read documentation in a patient chart from other health care personnel. Students must be able to recognize voices/sounds, measure vital signs, hear equipment alarms and hear calls for assistance up to 10 feet away.

**Communication:**
Students must be able to communicate well in English not only in speech but also in writing. Students must be able to demonstrate appropriate communication skills when interacting with patients, peers, family members and other professionals.

**Mobility:**
Students must be able to stoop, bend, twist, and reach. Students must be able to walk and balance well to help patients walk and transfer safely with or without equipment. Students must be able to maintain patient safety on even and uneven surfaces (stairs, ramps and curbs). Students should have the motor function necessary to obtain information from patients by palpation, joint measurement, circumferential measurement and strength assessment. Students should be able to provide general care and emergency treatment of patients. Students should have enough fine motor dexterity to manipulate small equipment, manipulate dials, adjust resistance on equipment, and manage lines and tubes. Students should possess tactile ability sufficient for treating and assessing patients.
**Behavior/Social:**
Students must be able to manage all patients and exercise good judgment. They must attend to patients with compassion, integrity and a concern for others. Students must demonstrate socially appropriate behavior and remain calm and rational during emergency situations. Students should maintain cleanliness and personal grooming consistent with close personal contact. Students should be able to identify and manage stress in a mature and healthy manner.

**Academic Proficiency:**
Students should maintain a minimum of a 2.0 GPA in the clinical phase of the program, including 70% in both the practical and written portions of all core courses. Students should be able to relate and integrate information from several sources. Students must apply critical thinking in both class work and in the clinic and be able to follow safety procedures.
CHANGE OF MAJOR

Students who are already attending LaGuardia and wish to change their major must attend an orientation session about the program. PTA orientation sessions are usually held during Fall I and Spring I semesters. A schedule of specific dates, times and places can be obtained from the Health Science office in Room E-300.

The following requirements are necessary for Change of Major:

1. Completion of all Basic Skills Requirements.
2. GPA of 2.5 or higher
3. Attend LaGuardia, (actively taking classes) for at least one 12 week semester.
4. Complete two of the four Key Courses with a minimum grade of B or better.

KEY COURSES:

ENG101  Composition I
SCB203  Fundamentals of Human Biology I
SSY101  General Psychology
SCN195  Community Health

Only the director of the PTA Program can authorize a change of major. Change of Major applications can be picked up at the registrars’ office in C-107 and must be accompanied with a copy of the students transcript.
LAGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
City University of New York

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT CURRICULUM

These courses may be taken in the pre-clinical phase of the program.

**COUNSELING**

New Student Seminar 0

**ENGLISH**

ENG101 - Composition I* 3
ENG102 - Writing Through Literature 3

**NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES**

SCB203 - Fundamentals of Human Biology I* 4
SCB204 - Fundamentals of Human Biology II 4
SCN195 - Community Health* 2
SCO230 - Functional Pathology 3

**SOCIAL SCIENCE**

SSY101 - General Psychology* 3
SSY240 - Developmental Psychology 3

**NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES**

SCH111 - Aging and Health 3

**LIBERAL ARTS ELECTIVE COURSES (CHOOSE ONE)** 3

HUC 101 - Oral Communication
HUP 102 – Critical Thinking
SSY 260 – Group Dynamics

*These courses may be taken by PTA majors only if they are accepted into the program’s clinical phase.*

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT**

SCT101 - Introduction to Physical Therapy 2
SCT102 – Ethical Concepts for PTA’s 2
SCT203 - Clinical Kiniesiology 4
SCT211 - Therapeutic Procedures I 4
SCT212 - Therapeutic Procedures II 3
SCT220 - Mobility Skills in Physical Therapy 3
SCT221 – Functional Gait Training Skills 3
SCT230 – Orthopedic Therapeutic Exercises 4
SCT231 – Neuromuscular Rehabilitation 4

**CLINICAL AFFILIATIONS**

SCT290 – Physical Therapist Assistant Affiliation Level I 2
SCT291 - Physical Therapist Assistant Affiliation Level II 3
SCT292 - Physical Therapist Assistant Affiliation Level III 3

Basic Life Support
Volunteer Work
50 hours of volunteer work in a Physical Therapy Department (to be completed prior to starting the clinical phase) 0

**TOTAL CREDITS*** 68

**NOTES:**

(1)* Key Courses
(2)** Affiliations are available during the day only, and are accompanied by an evening seminar class.
(3)*** A change in curriculum has been approved with an increase in course credits to 68. Implementation of new curriculum began in Spring II 2006.
PROGRESSION INTO THE CLINICAL PHASE

APPLYING FOR PTA CANDIDACY

1. In order to apply for PTA candidacy (progression to the clinical phase of the PTA Program), you must be a PTA Major.

2. You apply by registering for PTA000.4499 - Intent to PTA in the first three weeks of a 12-week term. There are no credits, no meetings and no charges involved in registering for this “course”, it is merely an administrative designation.

3. You should only register for PTA000.4499 if you have already completed all four “key” courses or if you are going to complete all four by the end of the 12-week term in which you are applying for candidacy.

4. If you are enrolled in one of the four “key” courses and you withdraw from that course, you must also withdraw from Intent to PTA (PTA000.4499). Withdrawal from a course is according to the college calendar. Check the college calendar for semester withdrawal dates.

5. Please note that if you received a D, F or WU for any of the key courses and have repeated the course, all grades received for the key courses will be used in evaluating your candidacy. Also, if you received a grade of D on any of your pre clinical courses, the course can only be repeated with the permission of the Department Chair.

6. Results of candidacy will not be available until all grades for the 12-week term are submitted. The Registrar’s Office will then do all the calculations and notify you of the results. You will receive a letter from the PTA program telling you when and where to obtain the results.

7. If your candidacy is not successful, you may repeat the registration for PTA 000.4499(PTA candidacy) only once, unless your GPA for the key courses is below 2.50, in which case you are eliminated from the competition.

8. To be certain you are taking the correct courses, it is always best to come to advisement in Room E-300. Days and hours of advisement for PTA Majors are during PTA faculty office hours which are posted in Room E-300. Advisement is ongoing.
RE-ADMISSION TO THE FIRST CLINICAL COURSE

Students who are accepted into the first PTA Course, (SCT101), and do not successfully complete the course because they either:
   1. decline admission
   2. withdraw
   3. withdraw unofficially
   4. fail the course
   5. take a medical leave
must reapply for candidacy within one year of initial acceptance into the first clinical course.

* Students who apply for readmission must meet the previously stated eligibility requirements for candidacy and must be re-ranked according to the stated procedure for admission to the clinical phases of the PTA program.

RE-ADMISSION POLICY

A - Students who are accepted for candidacy and complete at least one SCT Course (PTA core curriculum course), and leave the program for more than one school calendar year, can be re-admitted if the following procedures are approved.

1 - Request in writing, and a meeting with PTA Program Director.

2 - Provide a letter requesting re-admission into the PTA Program. Include in your documentation the reason you left the program and what has changed to allow you to be able to return to the program. Supportive information may be requested to verify documentation presented. After the PTA faculty make their recommendation to the Chairperson of Natural and Applied Sciences, the student will be notified in writing. Keep in mind, if the student is re-admitted to the PTA Program, it will be on a seat availability basis for the SCT courses required upon readmission.

B - Students who leave the PTA Program for less than 1 school calendar year and have completed at least one SCT Course, (PTA core course curriculum), will be re-admitted on a seat availability basis for the intended course sequence. The student must contact the Program Director to arrange a meeting to discuss program progression.

* Students who leave the program will not be assigned a seat in an SCT course until a meeting is held with The Program Director. Seat availability is determined by the course required, section availability and number of students enrolled in a section.
CURRICULUM SEQUENCE

Students who are out of curriculum sequence are not guaranteed a seat in a course each semester. Seat availability is determined by the course required, section availability and number of students enrolled in a section.

TRANSFER FROM OTHER COLLEGES

LaGuardia accepts applicants who have previously attended or graduated from another accredited college or university provided they meet the same basic requirements for new freshman. Applicants must have minimum GPA of 2.50.

A. Applicants may, upon submission of official college transcripts receive transfer credit only for the following general education courses that are required in the LaGuardia PTA Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENG101</td>
<td>Composition I</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG102</td>
<td>Writing Thru Literature</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCB203</td>
<td>Human Biology I</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCB204</td>
<td>Human Biology II</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCN195</td>
<td>Community Health</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCO230</td>
<td>Functional Pathology</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSY101</td>
<td>General Psychology</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSY240</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal Arts Elective</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credit for the above courses taken and passed elsewhere may be granted only if the courses are deemed comparable to those which meet the degree requirements of the LaGuardia PTA Program. Transfer credit will be determined by the Admissions Office through established college policies and procedures.

B. Credit must be transferred for all courses taken at other colleges, which match the general education requirements in LaGuardia’s pre-clinical/clinical sequence. Transfer applicants will not be allowed to select courses for transfer. Transfer credit is awarded for courses with grades of A, A+, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+ and D from any accredited college or university.

C. Applicants who have earned fewer than 24 college credits must submit a high school diploma or it’s equivalent (GED) as well as any official college transcripts.

D. If students are not accepted into the clinical phase of the PTA Program, or decide to change their majors, a maximum of 30 transfer credits may be granted toward any other degree. Student may request a re-evaluation of their transcripts to determine transfer credit for a different major.

E. If more than one course, which meets a requirement, has been passed, credit will be granted for the course with the highest grade.
F. Courses accepted for the transfer credit may not be retaken.

G. All grades earned in the courses, which have been transferred to LaGuardia, will be included in the calculations to determine eligibility for movement from the pre-clinical to the clinical phase of the PTA Program. However, grades will not appear on the official LaGuardia transcript.

H. Transfer students must be registered for at least one 12-week semester in the pre-clinical phase of the PTA Program prior to entry into the clinical phase.

TRANSFERS FROM OTHER MAJORS WITHIN LAGUARDIA.

1. LaGuardia students enrolled in a program other than PTA may file for Change of Major, provided they have been a student at LaGuardia for at least one 12-week semester and have a minimum GPA of 2.50.

2. Change of Major forms must be accompanied by a copy of the students’ transcript.

3. Your Change of Major application will be accepted if you meet the following Criteria:

   a. Completion of all basic skill courses.
   b. Completed a minimum of two key courses with at least a B average.
   c. Overall GPA of at least 2.50.
   d. If you received transfer credit for any of the four key courses, you must include a copy of a transcript showing your grades for the courses.
GENERAL INFORMATION AND POLICIES

Academic Advisement

1. Advisement for all PTA Majors is on going by the PTA Faculty. It is strongly recommended that PTA Majors see a PTA faculty member for advisement during scheduled office hours. This will ensure your progression sequence into the PTA Program.

2. Counselors and others will not be able to admit students to Change of Major, PTA Candidacy or progression into the SCT courses. Admission into the above areas is possible, only by meeting with a PTA faculty member.

3. Due to demand and the large numbers of students, not all eligible students may be enrolled in SCT101 and SCT 102 and may be placed on a waiting list. Students are then computer ranked based on their key courses to determine eligibility for future placement.

Each entering LaGuardia Community College student should consult a college counselor to plan a program of study based on the curriculum as outlined in the college catalog. Students should register only for those courses required for the program. Registering for unneeded courses may deplete financial aid resources.

Students who are ready to enter SCT101 and SCT 102 should meet with a physical therapist assistant program faculty advisor to plan a course of study. This will help the student develop an efficient route for completing program requirements.

An academic advisor or other faculty and staff may suggest that students with weak skills in oral or written communication take particular courses designed to cultivate these skills. This may be particularly important for a student for whom English is a second language.

All faculty advisors have posted office hours when they are available to meet with students. Times other than those posted may be arranged by mutual agreement. It is the student’s responsibility to make and keep the appointment. If unable to keep an appointment, the student is expected to call to cancel the appointment.
Attendance

Attendance policies for class and campus laboratory sessions are those stated in the LaGuardia College Catalog. Students are expected to meet the attendance requirements of the fieldwork site. Students who are too ill to report for clinical assignments must notify the clinical supervisor and the college fieldwork coordinator as well. Students may subsequently be required to submit a doctor’s note in order to return to the clinical setting. All time missed from fieldwork must be made up.

Attendance policy for each SCT course is listed in the PTA student handbook and should be followed as indicated.

Bulletin Boards

The bulletin boards outside E-300-R contain posted information about the program itself, job openings, and local and regional physical therapy events.

Career Involvement

Students in the clinical phase are required to participate in the PTA club. There is no separate charge for membership as student activity fees paid at the time of registration cover all costs.

Student membership in the American Physical Therapy Association entitles the PTA student to receive the newsletter of the association and to attend all meetings as well as other benefits. Membership information is available from the PTA Program Faculty.

Costs

The following information will help students entering the physical therapist assistant program to calculate the cost of attending and completing the program.

Generally, a student budget consists of the direct educational costs of tuition, fees, books, transportation, meals and supplies including a lab coat and a goniometer. Students should also budget for membership dues in the American Physical Therapy Association and the practice board exam(PEAT). In addition, the PTA student will encounter added costs of transportation to and from clinical centers. Note that the PTA student is required to complete three unpaid clinical experiences. In addition, all students are required to complete a comprehensive physical exam and purchase professional liability insurance prior to the clinical internship. At the completion of the program additional costs will include certification fees and costs of taking the National Certification Exam.

Students are expected to keep their required PTA therapy textbooks rather than reselling them. The texts have been carefully selected by the faculty as the foundation of a personal library for the practice of physical therapy. In addition, they are essential for preparation for the National Certification Examination. In addition, students should keep all handouts and other study materials.
Employment and Finances

Many students hold part-time jobs while attending the PTA program. The program must be taken during the day. Students who are working while going to school should notify their faculty advisors of this at the time of academic advisement, so that a course load that is reasonable and achievable for the student can be scheduled.

Various forms of financial assistance (loans and scholarships) are available through the Financial Aid Office at the college.

Additional information may be researched through the Career and Transfer Center.

Enrichment Opportunities

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the following free services:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Contact # for Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills Lab E-114 D</td>
<td>482-5628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Center E-111</td>
<td>482-5688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Study Center/NAS M238</td>
<td>482-5738</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math Lab E-215</td>
<td>482-5736</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESL Office C-352</td>
<td>482-5360</td>
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<tr>
<td>Counseling Department C-239</td>
<td>482-5250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer Credit Evaluation-Admissions Office M-149</td>
<td>482-6103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Aid Office C-109</td>
<td>482-7218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSTEP</td>
<td>482-5261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DESCRIPTION OF PRE-CLINICAL PHASE COURSES

**FSM000 NEW STUDENT SEMINAR (For P.T. Assistants)**
0 credit; 1 hour

New Student Seminar is designed to provide an orientation for students to LaGuardia and to provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in college. Students will learn college policies and academic requirements, effective study skills, and test-taking strategies. In addition, students will engage in self and career exploration as well as academic planning and advisement.

**ENG101 COMPOSITION I: AN INTRODUCTION TO EXPOSITORY WRITING**
3 credits; 4 hours

In this course students focus on writing as a process to create correct and effective expository essays in response to culturally diverse sources. Emphasis is placed on using various methods of organization appropriate to the writer’s specific writing context. Students use a variety of rhetorical strategies, research methods, and documentation procedures in their essays. Admission to this course is based on college placement test scores.
Prerequisite: CSE095/099 if required; ENA/ENG/ESA099/ENC101 if required; Exemption or Pass on the ACT Writing and Reading Tests

**ENG102 COMPOSITION II: WRITING THROUGH LITERATURE**
3 credits; 3 hours

This course extends and intensifies the work of Composition I, including research methods and documentation procedures. Students are introduced to close-reading techniques to develop critical thinking and writing skills through the study of culturally diverse works in poetry and at least two other literary genres. Writing assignments include a critical research paper applying tools of literary analysis. Admission to the course requires completion of Composition I.
Prerequisite: ENC101/ENG101

**SCB203 FUNDAMENTALS OF HUMAN BIOLOGY I**
4 credits; 6 hours (3 lecture, 1 recitation, 2 lab)

This course is an introduction to the anatomy and physiology of the human body. The architecture and function of cells, tissues and organ systems will be studied. The laboratory includes physiology experiments and gross and microscopic anatomy experiments using the cat as a dissection subject. Topics will include the chemistry of life, the cell, skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, immune and respiratory systems. Students should expect to pay for additional materials.
Prerequisite: CSE099, ENA/ENG/ESA099/ENC101, MAT096
SCB204  FUNDAMENTALS OF HUMAN BIOLOGY II
4 credits; 6 hours (3 lecture, 1 recitation, 2 lab)

This course is an introduction to the anatomy and physiology of the human body. The architecture and function of cells, tissue and organ systems will be studied. The laboratory includes physiology experiments and gross and microscopic anatomy experiments, using the cat as dissection subject. Topics will include the digestive, nervous, endocrine, urinary, and reproductive systems. A student will need disposable gloves and a dissection kit.
Prerequisites: SCB203

SCN195  COMMUNITY HEALTH
2 credits; 2 hours

This course is a basic orientation to the organization of health care systems in New York City and the position of the health care worker within these systems. Topics will include health careers, the nature of health and disease, prevention of disease, public health measures, types of facilities, payment sources, medical care available, and future trends. Visits to local health facilities (i.e., hospitals nursing homes) are included.
Prerequisites: CSE098 or CSE099, ENA/ENE/ENG099, MAT095/MAB095 major in Allied Health or permission of instructor.

SCO230  FUNCTIONAL PATHOLOGY
3 credits; 3 hours

This course is a systems approach to the study of pathophysiology. Emphasis will be on the normal and abnormal response to disease and injury, and effects on bodily systems. Consideration will be given to selected disorders, including a survey of pathology, symptomatology, management and prognosis. Knowledge of proper terminology will also be emphasized.
Prerequisite: SCB204

SCH111  AGING AND HEALTH
3 credits; 3 hours

This course will discuss the aging process and the effect of biological changes on the mental processes and functioning of the individual. The relationship between aging and chronic disease will be reviewed with special consideration given to prevention of the effects of physical and mental deterioration. Role playing, exercises and group discussions will be used to increase the knowledge of the aging process and consider the relationship between the emotional, social and physical forces of aging.
Prerequisite: CSE099, MAT095, ENC/ENG101
**HUC101: Oral Communication**  
3 credits; 3 hours

This course is designed to introduce the student to communication concepts, theories and skills which people use in personal and in professional settings. Topics include: What is communication? How does culture affect communication patterns? What does self-disclosure mean? What are effective response styles? How do language choices and non-verbal cues affect the image a person projects? How can a verbal confrontation produce its intended result? What are effective ways to organize a message? How does a person prepare for and present a successful interview?  
Prerequisite: CSE099  
Pre- or Corequisite: ENA/ENG/ESA099/ENC101

**HUP102 (Formerly known as HUP100): Critical Thinking**  
3 credits; 3 hours

This course explores the process of thinking critically and guides students in thinking more clearly, insightfully and effectively. Concrete examples from students’ experience and contemporary issues help students’ develop the abilities to solve problems, analyze issues, and make informed decisions in their academic, career and personal lives. Substantive readings, structured writing assignments and ongoing discussions help students develop language skills while fostering sophisticated thinking abilities.

This course is closed to students who have taken HUR100-Lib Arts

**SSY101: General Psychology**  
3 credits; 3 hours

This is an introduction to some of the major fields and theories in the science of psychology, covering a range of topics such as biological foundations, learning, cognition, emotion, perception, theories of personality, psychological disorders and their treatment, and the research methods of psychology.  
Prerequisite: CSE099, ENA/ENG/ESA099/ENC101, MAT095

**SSY240: Developmental Psychology I**  
3 credits; 3 hours

This course examines the physiological and psychological factors in individual development from birth through adolescence. It includes a study of emotional and behavioral disorders of children as well as principles of child guidance. Issues such as battering, drug usage, and discipline will be discussed. The course emphasizes cognitive, moral and personality development.  
Prerequisite: SSY101
**SSY260: Group Dynamics**  
3 credits; 3 hours

This is an introduction to the theory, research and practice of group dynamics, and small group interaction in a variety of settings. Methods and techniques utilized in the investigation of small group processes will be demonstrated and critically examined. Through participation in role playing and small group interaction, students will be introduced to basic principles of interpersonal and group dynamics in families, in groups, and at work.
Prerequisite: SSY101