

Physical Therapy Department Academic Performance Expectations

The Physical Therapy (PT) Department supports and adheres to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) policies outlined in the Graduate Program Manual available at: <http://www.gradstudies.ualberta.ca/gradmanual/> . In addition, the PT Department has set specific additional expectations regarding student performance and academic standing, as follows:

- Each student must successfully complete all courses (academic and clinical) in the MScPT program; and
- Each student must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 throughout the MScPT program.

Physical Therapy Department Academic Probation Policy

If any one or more of the following occur, the PT Department will consider making a recommendation to FGSR to place the student concerned on Academic Probation:

- First failure of a MScPT academic or clinical course
- Recommendation of a 'Borderline Pass' from a Clinical Instructor in a clinical course
- Cumulative GPA is below 3.0

Physical Therapy Department Failure Policy

Note: The PT Department has an additional policy for failure of a clinical course (see Failure of a Clinical Course in the Student Academic Handbook).

- The PT Department will recommend to FGSR that a student who fails an academic or a clinical course be allowed to repeat the course once.
- If possible, the PT Department will consider alternative delivery methods for a failed academic course when the student's cumulative GPA (including the failed course) is at or above 3.0 and grades in all the other courses in previous and current terms are at or above a grade of B. However, the PT Department reserves the right to require the student to repeat the failed course when it is next scheduled on the academic timetable. The following components must be met in order for the alternative course to receive department approval:

Physical Therapy Department Academic Performance Expectations cont'd

- o Content must reflect the same goals and objectives as the failed course, e.g. knowledge, application and integration objectives.
- o Evaluation methods must cover the same components as the failed course, e.g. written test, practical exam, reflection-on-learning, assignment requirements.
- o The student and the instructor must each sign a written learning contract that stipulates the requirements for successful completion of the alternative course, e.g. similar to the agreement for completion on an individual study course.
- o The learning contract must include the following within its terms:
 - o Focused objectives
 - o Learning methods, including expected performance levels and timelines for each method
 - o Evaluation methods, including expected performance levels and timelines for each method
 - o Expectations of the student, including conditions of participation and attendance, and required learning outcomes.
- If the repeated course is not passed (including an alternative delivery course), the PT Department will make a recommendation to FGSR that the student be required to withdraw from the program.
- When a student is on academic probation as a consequence of the student failing a course, if there is another failed academic or clinical course, the student's academic standing will be reviewed and the PT Department will consider a recommendation to FGSR that the student be required to withdraw from the program.
- If a student fails another academic or clinical course after a cleared academic probation which was a consequence of the student failing a course, the student's academic standing will be reviewed and the PT Department will consider a recommendation to FGSR that the student be required to withdraw from the program.

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