



**UNIVERSITY
OF ALBERTA**

PTHER 517A

Fall2025

CLINICAL PLACEMENT I

Territorial Acknowledgement

The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional gathering place for diverse Indigenous peoples including the Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, Ojibway/ Sauteaux/Anishinaabe, Inuit, and many others whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community.

L'Université de l'Alberta reconnaît respectueusement qu'elle est située sur les terres du Traité 6, territoire traditionnel des Premières Nations et du peuple métis."

L'Université de l'Alberta reconnaît qu'elle est située sur les terres du Traité 6 et respecte les histoires, les langues et les cultures des Premières Nations, des Métis, des Inuits et de tous les peuples autochtones du Canada, dont la présence continue d'enrichir notre communauté si vivante.

L'Université de l'Alberta reconnaît respectueusement qu'elle est située sur les terres du Traité 6, lieu de rassemblement traditionnel pour de nombreux peuples autochtones dont les Cris, les PiedsNoirs, les Métis, les Sioux des Nakotas, les Iroquois, les Dénés, les Ojibwés/Saulteaux/ Anichinabés, les Inuits et bien d'autres encore, dont les histoires, les langues et les cultures continuent d'influencer notre communauté si vivante.

Instructor Information

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Clinical Education Administrator Information

Clinical Education Administrator

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Calendar Description

An introduction to clinical practice including coursework, clinical visits and a one week placement in approved clinical affiliations.

Class Times and Location

Day	Time	Location
October 15, 2025	2:30-4:00pm	Edmonton: CS 2-191 Calgary: 318 Augustana: L1-164
November 19, 2025	2:30-4:00pm	Edmonton: CS 2-191 Calgary: 318 Augustana: L1-164

Course Schedule

Shadow Day	October 1, 2025	8:00 am -12:00 pm	Various clinical sites within 45 minutes of your home campus *please note students will only complete one shadow day
Shadow Day	October 8, 2025	8:00 am-12:00 pm	Various clinical sites within 45 minutes of your home campus *please note students will only

			complete one shadow day
In-person session	October 15, 2025	2:30 pm-4:00 pm	see above
In-person session	November 19, 2025	2:30 pm-4:00 pm	see above
One-week placement	December 15-19, 2025	Full time - hours will vary depending on your Clinical Instructor	Various clinical sites across Alberta.

Course Objectives/Outcomes

- The primary goals of the course are to provide orientation to the healthcare environment, expose you to clinical practice and to expand your knowledge of the role of the physical therapist and other healthcare workers. You will be expected to bring your clinical learning back to the classroom.
- Model professional behaviour in all interactions written and verbal

Learning Objectives

- Name: Consistently display appropriate Professional behaviors, including: Comply with legal and ethical requirements(7.1, 7.2)) Behave with honesty and respect for others (7.4.1) Work within physiotherapy scope of practice and personal level of competence. (7.4.3)
- Name: Promote learning and scholarship in physical therapy practice: Integrate self-reflection and external feedback to improve personal practice.: Seek feedback from others on personal performance and behaviour. (6.3.1) Identify learning needs based on self-reflection and external feedback (6.3.3) Develop and implement a plan to address learning needs. (6.3.4) Access reliable sources of information. (6.2.3)

- Name: Through effective Communication develop professional relationships with clients, families, care providers and team members by: Developing, building and maintaining rapport, trust and ethical professional relationships through effective communication (6.2.1) Beginning to use effective oral and non-verbal communication effectively (2.1), written communications(2.2)
- Name: Work Collaboratively and effectively to promote interprofessional practice and achieve optimal client centered care by: Beginning to facilitate collaborative relationships with CI and other team members which foster effective client centered collaboration (3.1) Interact with others in a way that promotes inclusion (3.2.5)
- Name: Manage time, resources and priorities for individual practice to ensure optimal client care through: Beginning to manage your own time effectively (4.2.3) Start to consider how to provide services that balance client needs and available resources. (4.2.1) Adhere to individual, team and system-level safety practices (4.3.3) Apply best practices for infection control (4.3.3)
- Name: Advocate for the health and well-being of clients, communities and populations as well as the promotion of the profession by: promote the value of physiotherapy to client health (5.3.1)
- Name: 7. Demonstrate appropriate skills: a. Assessment of range of motion b. Assessment of muscle strength c. Simple patient transfers d. Appropriate provision of gait aids e. History taking or in-depth chart review and follow up

Additional Course Information (General Content)

Professionalism Expectations

1. Adheres to local dress code
2. Demonstrates respect for the time of others.
 - a. Arrives on time each day and fully prepared for scheduled activities and appointments
 - b. Gives adequate notice and explanation for absenteeism. Contacts CI and ACCE in a timely manner.

- c. Responds promptly when contacted by ACCE/CECC or CI
- 3. Demonstrates effective time management skills.
 - a. Completes assigned tasks and patient care activities on time
 - b. Meets all deadlines for assignments and placement documentation.
- 4. Shows the ability to balance own needs with the needs of others
 - a. Suspends external personal needs to focus on the task or interaction
 - b. Takes responsibility for own physical and mental health and refrains from practicing physiotherapy while their ability to provide appropriate and competent care is compromised.
- 5. Maintains confidentiality of patient information
 - a. Demonstrates ethical, responsible and respectful use of electronic communication, social media and other forms of digital technology, conforming to confidentiality guidelines in line with local site policies and standards of practice of the College of Physiotherapists of Alberta.
 - b. Exchanges using electronic communication and social media are appropriate for therapeutic relationships established with patients and supervising therapists.
 - c. Accesses only relevant patient information/data when providing professional services for the specific patient, in keeping with legislative compliance.
- 6. Demonstrates non-biased, non- discriminatory behaviour and communication, and is inclusive of all people. Demonstrates tolerance of and respect for others with differing opinions.
- 7. Maintains professional boundaries that honour and respect the therapeutic relationship with patients.
 - a. Establishes and maintains professional boundaries and does not make abusive, suggestive or harassing comments or engage in inappropriate physical contact or sexual advances with patients, colleagues, students, and others.
- 8. Acts honestly, transparently and with integrity in all professional and business practices to uphold the reputation of the profession.
- 9. Accepts constructive feedback and modifies behavior appropriately
 - a. Takes steps to prevent repetition of errors
 - b. Maintains composure during difficult interactions with colleagues
 - c. Takes personal responsibility for expressing own feelings
- 10. Commits to maintaining and enhancing the reputation and standing of the physiotherapy profession, and to inspiring public trust and confidence by treating everyone with dignity and respect in all interactions.

Adapted from the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethical Conduct for Physiotherapists in Alberta and Professional Behaviour Rubric MacKenzie et al, 2004.

Required Course Materials

Clinical education section of MScPT Student Manual found on the MScPT Home page in Canvas

Other Course Fees

Students are responsible for all costs associated with Clinical Placements.

Student Expectations

As responsible learners, students are expected to:

- Behave professionally
- Prepare for class
- Attend
- Participate
- Practice in labs and use your time productively
- Work collaboratively
- Use learning resources
- Seek out supplementary resources to enhance your learning

Please Note: Learning is a partnership between the student and the facilitator (professor, instructor, teaching associates, preceptor, personal advisor, etc). Learning opportunities have been designed and resource materials have been identified to help you achieve the course objectives and outcomes. **Not all material will be covered in class.** Reading, videos, voice-over PowerPoints, exercises, and other forms of directed and self-directed study will be required to achieve the depth of learning. It is the student's responsibility to use these opportunities and material and ensure that they can achieve

the stated objectives and specific physical therapy outcomes. This is an essential component of the accountability that is associated with becoming a professional.

Grading/Assessment Overall

Assessment Method	Assessment Type	Date of Evaluation	Weight
Shadow day attendance (you will be assigned to this day OR October 1st, not both)	Participation	10/8/25	
Shadow day attendance (you will be assigned to this day OR October 8th, not both)	Participation	10/1/25	
One week placement attendance December 15-19, 2025	Participation	12/19/25	
Shadow day reflection	Assignment	10/15/25	
One week placement reflection - guidelines on Canvas	Assignment	12/21/25	
Clinical Placement Evaluation - Student Self Evaluation - linked on Canvas	Assignment	12/19/25	
Student Evaluation of Clinical Placement linked on Canvas	Assignment	12/19/25	

Final Letter Grades

Grades reflect judgments of student achievement made by instructors and must correspond to the associated descriptor. These judgements are based on a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class. Faculties may define acceptable grading practices in their disciplines. Such grading practices must align with the University of Alberta Assessment and Grading Policy and its procedures, which are available online at the [University of Alberta Policies and Procedures Online \(UAPPOL\)](#) website.

Department of Physical Therapy Grading Policy

Evaluation Methods

Your CI(s) will make a recommendation that you pass or fail the placement.

Grade:

Credit/ No credit

As this course is the first half of PTher 517 your grade on your official transcript will be IP (in progress). You will get a grade (Credit/No Credit) at the end of PTher 517B.

Marking Scheme

In order to pass this clinical course, you must:

- attend consistently
- consistently demonstrate safe physical therapy practice
- **consistently display appropriate professional behaviour and communication skills**

You will fail the clinical placement if you:

- are absent without acceptable reasons and/or
- display behaviour that is unsafe or has the potential for causing harm and/or
- display unprofessional behaviour and/or
- display clinical competency that does not meet the expectations of your level

The Department of Physical Therapy expects all students to maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 throughout the MScPT program. The Department of Physical

Therapy will consider recommending to the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS) that a student be placed on academic probation if a student's cumulative GPA is below 3.0.

Practicum Intervention

The University has an obligation to protect the public interest, public safety, and public health by ensuring that Students in Practicums conform to accepted standards of professional, competent, and safe practice in their work with patients, clients, and co-workers. [This Policy](#) provides Deans with the authority to intervene in the Practicum of a Student and/or an associated Professional Program because of such concerns. The Dean's authority is balanced by the granting of appeal rights to a Student who is the subject of a Practicum Intervention.

Deferred Final Exams

The following information is for students who have received approval for deferred final examination(s) in accordance with [Absence from Final Exams](#).

1. **Fall/Winter Deferred Final Exams:** Within the timelines described below, the time and place of the deferred final exam will be determined by the instructor. Instructors are encouraged to include the date, time and place of a deferred exam in the course outline should one be required.
 - a. **Fall Term Deferred Final Exams:** Fall Term deferred final exams must be held by the end of Reading Week in accordance with the following provisions:
 - i. If the date and time of the deferred exam are included in the course outline, the exam may be scheduled at any time prior to the end of Reading Week.
 - ii. If the date is not included in the course outline, the deferred exam may be scheduled prior to January 19 if all eligible students and the instructor agree to a date.
 - iii. In the absence of either of these two arrangements, the instructor will choose a deferred exam date between January 19 and the end of Reading Week. The time and place of the exam must be submitted to

the department office no later than January 12. Students must contact the department to obtain this information by January 15.

- b. **Winter Term and Fall/Winter Deferred Final Exams:** Winter Term and Fall/Winter deferred final exams must be held by June 30 in accordance with the following provisions:
- i. If the date and time of the deferred exam are included in the course outline, the exam may be scheduled at any time prior to June 29.
 - ii. If the date is not included in the course outline, the deferred exam may be scheduled prior to May 18 if all eligible students and the instructor agree to a date.
 - iii. In the absence of either of these two arrangements, the instructor will choose a deferred exam date between May 20 and June 30. The time and place of the exam must be submitted to the department office no later than May 8 (exception: students in the MD program should consult the undergraduate office for information on deadlines). Students must contact the department to obtain this information by May 15.
2. **Spring/Summer Deferred Final Exams:** The time and place of the deferred final exam will be determined by the instructor who will make this information available to all students in the course.
- a. The exam must be held within two weeks of the date of the final examination missed and not later than August 31. In the case of 13-week classes in Engineering programs, the exam must be scheduled by September 14 and held prior to October 21.
3. **Exams Scheduled at the Same Time:** If a student discovers that they have two (or more) deferred exams scheduled at the same time, the student shall inform both instructors as quickly as possible and at least five days before the exam date. The instructors will consult with one another and make appropriate arrangements for the student.
4. **Deferred Exams Not Written:** Students who have applied for a deferred final exam in accordance with Absence from Final Exams, but who have, for justifiable cause, not written the deferred exam on the scheduled date must reapply for a second and final opportunity to write the deferred exam. Application deadlines are noted below. Students must apply at their Faculty Undergraduate (Graduate) Office. The

department will determine the date, time and place of the second deferred final exam and will notify the student. For Fall or Winter Terms, the date scheduled must be no later than the end of July. For Spring or Summer Terms, the date scheduled must be no later than the end of November. Once set, the date for a second deferral is final and applications for further deferrals will not be considered or accepted.

Absence from Deferred Exam Without Justifiable Cause: When a student is absent from a deferred final exam without acceptable reason, a final grade will be computed using a raw score of zero for the final exam.

Deadline for Application: The application and the documentation pertaining to the absence must be presented to the Faculty within two working days following the scheduled date of the deferred exam missed or as soon as the student is able, having regard to the circumstances underlying the absence.

If the student receiving the privilege of writing a deferred exam does not write the exam by the scheduled deferred exam date, the privilege will be withdrawn and a final grade in the course will be recorded by the Office of the Registrar according to the grade/remark combination achieved by the student before the deferred final exam was granted. Prior to finalizing the student's grade, the Office of the Registrar will give 30 days written notice to the student's Faculty.

Statements of Expectation for AI Use

In this course, certain assignments will be deemed "AI friendly" along with which AI tools can be used in each AI friendly assignment. Details on how AI can be used, and how it can not be used will be detailed in the assignment instructions during the term.

When allowed, clearly attribute and cite any AI-generated content in your work, including prompts and AI outputs as part of your academic record.

IMPORTANT: Please note that AI use is strictly prohibited in assessments and assignments not approved by the instructor. Failure to abide by this guideline may be considered an act of cheating and a violation as outlined in the relevant sections on cheating in University of Alberta (September 2024) [Student Academic Integrity Policy](#).

Access to Evaluative Material

Access to Evaluative Material Procedure of the Assessment Policy, found at the [University of Alberta Policies and Procedures Online \(UAPPOL\) website](#).

University Policy

Withdrawals

See the University Calendar for the relevant [add/drop deadlines](#) for each term.

Course Outlines

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Academic Regulations, Evaluation Procedures and Grading section](#) of the University Calendar.

Academic Integrity

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

Recordings

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content authors.

Accommodations for Students

In accordance with the University of Alberta's [Discrimination, Harassment, and Duty to Accommodate Policy](#), the University of Alberta provides reasonable accommodations to eligible students who encounter medical or non-medical restrictions to their ability to perform the daily activities necessary to pursue studies at a post-secondary level. Medical restrictions include physical and mental health conditions (i.e., physical and mental disability, or medical, protected grounds); and, non-medical restrictions include differential access or unfair treatment based on characteristics or perceived characteristics of an individual or group of individuals (i.e., non-medical protected grounds).

Any student who wishes to request accommodations needs to complete an application, and provide supporting documentation that explains and verifies the basis of the application. Accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the individual in need of accommodation, and is assessed on the unique circumstances of each individual.

Code of Student Behaviour

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour, which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

Faculty Policy

Students in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine may appeal failing final course grades and/or practicum interventions. Students should refer to the FRM Appeals Policy for more information.