Join our growing team

GRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM

Old Dominion University
College of Health Sciences
The School of Rehabilitation Sciences is inviting applications for a Graduate Program Director for the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. This is a full time, ten-month position at the rank of Associate Professor (tenured/tenure track) or Clinical Associate Professor. The Doctor of Physical Therapy Program is situated in the School of Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Health Sciences at Old Dominion University (ODU) and graduates approximately 40 students per year. The program employs 8 full-time core faculty and is additionally supported by faculty from within the School of Rehabilitation Sciences. Physical Therapy faculty also contribute to advising, instruction, and research in the School’s PhD program in Kinesiology and Rehabilitation and in the College’s PhD Program in Health Sciences Research. We are committed to maintaining a diverse and stable faculty.

In addition to serving as Program Director, the position includes teaching and scholarship responsibilities in content areas that match the applicant’s scholarly interests, areas of contemporary practice expertise, as well as Program and School mission, goals and curricular needs. Additional responsibilities include advising and mentoring students, engaging in Program, School, College and University service, and professional development.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

- Demonstrates a record of impactful scholarly accomplishment
- Exhibits knowledge of CAPTE requirements and accreditation processes
- Demonstrates effective communication skills
- Has earned an academic doctoral degree
- Holds or is eligible to hold the rank of associate professor or clinical associate professor
- Has a minimum of six years of higher education experience and a record of teaching excellence in an accredited entry-level DPT program
- Licensed physical therapist or eligible for PT licensure

**PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- Active APTA membership
- A record of demonstrated advocacy and leadership in physical therapy education and practice at the state and/or national level
- Experience in curricular evaluation and design and programmatic fiscal and personnel management
Old Dominion University was found in 1930 as an extension of the College of William and Mary and Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Initially focused on educating teachers and engineers, the two-year school rapidly evolved into a four-year institution. It was granted independence as Old Dominion College in 1962, and began offering its first graduate degree two years later. Before the turn of the decade, Old Dominion would realize its dream of achieving status as a university.

Today, Old Dominion University is an entrepreneurial-minded research university with nearly 24,000 students, rigorous academics and initiatives that contribute $2.6 billion annually to Virginia’s economy. On campus and online, ODU is Virginia’s most affordable public doctoral university. *U.S. News & World Report* ranks ODU No. 126 out of 1,500 public universities, has repeatedly named it a top university for social mobility, and recognizes ODU’s undergraduate business and engineering programs as among the best across doctoral institutions in the U.S.

ODU offers more than 150 programs available on campus and more than 100 programs through online learning at ODUOnline, including 91 bachelor’s, 41 master’s, 22 doctoral and two educational specialist degrees. Approximately half of ODU’s students are people of color, and one-quarter are military-affiliated. With more than 150,000 alumni across all 50 states and 67 countries, ODU pride stretches across the nation and around the world. Learn more about the university at www.odu.edu.

**Mission and Vision**

Old Dominion University, serves its students and enriches the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation and the world through rigorous academic programs, strategic partnerships and active civic engagement. The university’s vision is to be recognized nationally and internationally as a forward-focused metropolitan university with a collaborative and innovative approach to education and research that spurs economic growth, focuses on student success, engages civic and community partners, and uses its connections with the military and maritime industries and its exceptional strengths and leadership in related areas to provide practical solutions to complex, real world problems.
The ODU College of Health Sciences is committed to excellence and innovation in education, research, and service. The college prepares outstanding health professionals for workforce needs in the region and conducts research for the advancement of health and wellness at this critical time in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world. The college has established national and international prominence in our core disciplines through research and the preparation of outstanding health and public health professionals who are leaders in their disciplines and communities.

The college houses five schools:

- Community & Environmental Health
- Dental Hygiene
- Medical Diagnostic & Translational Sciences
- Nursing
- Rehabilitation Sciences

The School of Rehabilitation Sciences considers its fundamental mission to be consistent with that of the College of Health Sciences. Specifically, the school seeks to address the needs of the community, state, and nation by graduating practitioners who are cultivated in evidence-based practice, patient-centered care, and inter-professional healthcare; generating and disseminating new knowledge by conducting innovative and translational research; and providing services to the academic, professional, and general communities in which the school is involved.

The School of Rehabilitation Sciences offers the following degree programs:

- Master of Science in Athletic Training
- Ph.D. in Kinesiology & Rehabilitation
- Doctor of Physical Therapy

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program is a full-time three-year course of study that includes classroom instruction, laboratory instruction and practice, online interactions, readings and homework assignments, discussions, peer-teaching, seminars and clinical internships. Our faculty are dedicated to excellence in professional teaching, research, and service to the profession, to the university, and to the community. We push students to develop their ability to think critically in evaluating ideas, new discoveries and techniques, thereby providing a basis for a lifetime of learning and a vibrant career of patient-centered care.

The College of Health Sciences also oversees four patient care clinics including the Monarch Physical Therapy Clinic.

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“They can take the most infirmed, and bring them so far. They are magical. They do great things, and I am so happy to be able to be part of this clinic.”

- Andy Wallach
The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program at Old Dominion University is a full-time three-year curriculum that includes classroom instruction, laboratory instruction and practice, online interactions, readings and homework assignments, discussions, peer-teaching, seminars and clinical experiences.

Our mission is to prepare graduates to prevent, diagnose, and treat dysfunction and to enhance the well-being of individuals and the community. Upon successful completion of this program, graduates are eligible to take the licensing exam to be able to practice as physical therapist.

What makes Physical Therapy at ODU unique?

• Our faculty are dedicated to excellence in professional teaching, research, and service to the profession, the university, and the community
• Faculty continually review and modify learning activities to reflect emerging discoveries in best care practices and changing modes of communication
• Students work with standardized patients to develop their interactive skills, because what good is knowledge if you cannot apply it in a socially skillful way?
• The program provides opportunities for clinical education experiences in a variety of health care institutions, agencies, and practice settings
• The Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Old Dominion University is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

Read stories from some of our program alumni.

odu.edu/rehabsci/dpt/alumni
The Center for Brain Research and Rehabilitation, directed by Steven Morrison, PhD, is utilized for human research and physical therapy coursework. Located in Innovation Research Park building II, this research area covers approximately 3,800 square feet and is outfitted with state-of-the-art equipment for measuring various aspects of movement, including:

- Falls risk using the Physiological Profile Assessment
- Foot pressure during walking using three Zeno pressure sensitive walking surfaces and a h/p/ Cosmos treadmill fitted with the Zebris pressure measuring system
- Balance control with portable Bertec balance platforms
- Muscle electrical activity via wireless electromyography (EMG) systems by Delsys, Noraxon and Zerowire
- Joint and whole-body kinematics and kinetics through an 18 camera VICON motion capture system and four AMTI force platforms
- Gait kinetics with an instrumented, split-belt, dual force platform treadmill
- Kinematic, kinetic and muscle activity responses to a virtual environment using D-flow software by Motek Medical

Research in this facility focuses on understanding the control of movements, particularly balance and gait, in healthy individuals and how it changes with increasing age, disease or injury. In particular, we are interested in understanding the mechanisms underlying falls and their prevention for older persons and those with diseases such as Parkinson’s disease and type 2 diabetes.

CURRENT RESEARCH AREAS
- Assessment and prevention of falls
- Control of balance and gait
- Mechanisms of tremor in clinical populations
- Prediction of injury and chronic joint instability
- Evidence-based practice and patient centered care
- Educational outcomes and competency
- Sports-related concussions
- Perceptual information in action and virtual reality
- Sensorimotor compromise following joint injury

Evidence-based practice and patient-centered care are emergent concepts in both Athletic Training and Physical Therapy. To contribute to these concepts, several lines of research within our School are dedicated to advancing our knowledge of the best practices related to the evaluation, management, and prevention of injuries; particularly related to the lower extremity. Another emphasis area is specifically related to patient-centered healthcare and understanding how patient-reported outcome measures can be best incorporated into injury evaluation and management. In addition to the original research studies dedicated to this area, faculty and students are regularly performing systematic reviews, meta-analyses, and critically appraised topics to synthesize and interpret the existing evidence in the field.

Advancing the outcomes related to educational competency development and implementation for students currently enrolled in AT and PT programs is pivotal for advancement in each respective field. Understanding effective methods to provide continuing education to practicing clinicians is also critical for professional advancement and provides unique challenges for educators. These areas are particularly concerning for developing competency in evidence-based practice in all clinicians and health professions. Several research projects in our School are dedicated specifically to educational competency development and implementation in the area of evidence-based practice. Other areas of educational research are related to understanding the role of preceptors and clinical education coordinators in educational outcomes and understanding the appropriate entry-level degree for AT education.

Scan for more information about current research.

odu.edu/rehabsci/research
Monarch Physical Therapy Clinic

Serving the Community. Educating Students. Advancing Research.

ODU Monarch Physical Therapy is dedicated to providing the Hampton Roads community with a unique rehabilitation experience that draws on faculty expertise and research.

We incorporate teaching and research in clinical activities that provide advanced assessment and rehabilitation services in an environment designed to aid in the education of students.

We provide:

- Physical, occupational & speech therapy services for patients with orthopedic and neurologic conditions and injuries
- Services for infants, children and adults
- One-on-one care by ODU’s licensed therapists and board-certified specialists
- Evidence-based therapeutic techniques
- Flexible and convenient clinic hours
- Reserved parking for our patients

WE OFFER:

- Physical, occupational and speech therapy services for infants, children, and adults
- On-site and telehealth therapy services
- Individualized treatment programs to enhance recovery
- Standardized gait and balance assessments to reduce falls risk
- Pelvic health physical therapy
- Hand therapy
- Innovative technology:
  - Functional e-stim upper and lower body bike
  - Virtual reality training
  - Body weight support systems to improve walking and balance
  - Robotics to improve function
  - Interprofessional collaboration to optimize outcomes
The ODU College of Health Sciences and the Monarch Physical Therapy Clinic are located on Old Dominion University’s waterfront campus in the heart of vibrant Coastal Virginia. Norfolk is considered the historic, urban, financial and cultural center of the Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News region, which comprises nine cities and seven counties surrounding the Hampton Roads natural harbor at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. It is the third-most populous city in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Approximately 1.75 million people live in the region, which is home to the cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk and Virginia Beach.

Norfolk is rich with history, culture and the arts. A metropolitan city, Norfolk is home to the world’s largest naval base and the North American headquarters for NATO. Colonial Williamsburg and NASA Langley, the birthplace of the U.S. space program, are both nearby, as are the renowned Chrysler Museum of Art and the NEON Arts District. Many of the city’s museums and historic sites can be found within 12 walkable city blocks of the downtown waterfront. Rolling Stone magazine has called downtown’s NorVa Theatre one of the nation’s best live music venues.

While the city’s urban appeal and history lure visitors in, it is often said that Norfolk’s culinary creations — from fresh interpretations of traditional favorites to more adventurous modern fare — make them stay. With a vibrant mix of chefs, farmers and bakers, Norfolk has blossomed into one of the South’s most dynamic foodie destinations, complete with an urban winery and one of the country’s best craft beer bars.

For more information about Coastal Virginia, visit odu.edu/about/visitors/coastal-virginia.
WE’RE GROWING

We are incredibly excited about the new Health Sciences building! This 3 floor state-of-the-art facility will house the Schools of Dental Hygiene, Rehabilitation Sciences, as well as research labs for the School of Medical Diagnostic and Translational Sciences.

The building will also be the home of the Sofia and David Konikoff Dental Hygiene Care Facility which will increase services for the community through the addition of more dental chairs and added services.

Thanks to a generous gift from Andrew Wallach and Cynthia Faschini we will be renaming the Monarch Physical Therapy Clinic to the Faschini Wallach Center for Restorative Therapies. This gift will enable us to increase our footprint to 11,000 square feet and expand our services to provide more comprehensive rehabilitation and post-rehab services as well as include a pediatric gym and community work area.

Our clinical classroom and lab space will be exemplary, allowing for interactive teaching opportunities across the board.

Lastly, our new building will be home to a new cadaver lab which will serve as the foundation for anatomical instruction for our health professions students.

Meanwhile, we will continue to have a presence in Virginia Beach for the School of Nursing, and our other programs in public health, environmental health and medical diagnostic and translational science will expand within our current building. We look forward to preparing more preferred healthcare providers and health professionals!

Second floor study area

New Health Sciences Building, west entry view

The new health sciences building is scheduled for opening in spring 2023. For more information, visit www.odu.edu/hs.
JOIN OUR GROWING COLLEGE

Apply to join our growing college as the Graduate Program Director for the Physical Therapy Program

Applicants can submit all required application materials (letter of application addressing interest in and qualifications for the Program Director position, a current curriculum vitae, statements of scholarly interests and accomplishments and teaching philosophy and approaches, unofficial graduate transcripts, and the names, email addresses and telephone numbers of three references from academic and professional sources) through jobs.odu.edu/postings/14778.

Interested applicants may also contact the Search Committee Chair, Dr. Patricia Laverdure (plaverdu@odu.edu), directly for further information. Application review will begin January 10, 2022 and continue until the position is filled.

It is the policy of Old Dominion University to provide equal employment, educational and social opportunities for all persons, without regard to race (or traits historically associated with race including hair texture, hair type, and protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists), color, religion, sex or gender (including pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions), national origin, gender identity or expression, age, veteran status, disability, political affiliation, sexual orientation or genetic information. Minorities, women, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.