

**AC-4-12 STANDARD PREREQUISITE COURSES FOR ADMISSION IN ENTRY-LEVEL PHYSICAL THERAPIST EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

**Required for Adoption: Majority Vote**

**FINAL – PASSED (ATTACHMENT 9)**

V-7 Position: Standard Prerequisite Course for Admission in Entry Level Physical Therapist Education Programs

That the following be adopted:

The Academic Council of the APTA supports the following list of courses as the standard prerequisite courses required for admission into an entry level physical therapist education program.

- One course in anatomy with Lab
- One course in physiology with Lab
- Or a two course sequence in anatomy and physiology with lab
- Two courses in biological sciences (not botany)
- Two courses in general chemistry with Lab
- Two courses in general physics with Lab
- One course in psychology
- One course in statistics

**ORIGINAL (Academic Council Prerequisite Task Force)**

Position: Standard Prerequisite Course for Admission in Entry Level Physical Therapist Education Programs

That the following be adopted:

The Academic Council of the APTA supports the following list of courses as the standard prerequisite courses required for admission into an entry level physical therapist education program.

- Two courses in biology (not botany or zoology)
- One course in human anatomy with Lab
- One course in human physiology with Lab
- Two courses in general chemistry with Lab
- Two courses in general physics with Lab
- One course in psychology
- One course in statistics

**DEFEATED (Iversen)**

Amend 7-1 That the list of prerequisite courses be amended:

Two courses in biology (not botany or zoology)  
One course in human anatomy with Lab  
One course in human physiology with Lab  
Or a two course sequence in anatomy and physiology  
Two courses in general chemistry with Lab  
Two courses in general physics with Lab  
One course in psychology  
One course in statistics

Support statement: The outcomes of students taking A+P I and A+P II with lab have not been established to be different from candidates taking Anatomy I with laboratory and Physiology I with laboratory. The rationale for the current position is to allow ease in advising and student awareness of prerequisites. This amendment does not negatively impact these objectives.

PASSED (Majsak)

Amend 7-1a That the list of prerequisite courses be amended:

Two courses in biology (not botany or zoology)  
One course in ~~human~~ anatomy with Lab  
One course in ~~human~~ physiology with Lab  
Or a two course sequence in anatomy and physiology  
Two courses in general chemistry with Lab  
Two courses in general physics with Lab  
One course in psychology  
One course in statistics

Support statement: The title "human" creates difficulty in finding courses that fulfill the requirement which often contain words such as "comparative".

DEFEATED (Washington University)

Motion That AC-4-12 be postponed definitely until the next Academic Council business meeting.

Support statement: Additional research/discussion into philosophical reasons for standardization of prerequisite courses is needed.

DEFEATED (Walker)

Amend 7-2 That the list of prerequisite courses be amended:

Two courses in biology (not botany or zoology)  
One course in anatomy with Lab/Anatomy and Physiology I  
One course in physiology with Lab/Anatomy and Physiology II  
Two courses in general chemistry with Lab  
Two courses in general physics with Lab  
One course in psychology  
One course in statistics

Support statement: To be consistent with PTCAS terminology

PASSED ()

Motion To reconsider amendment 7-1 striking the words human:

Two courses in biology (not botany or zoology)  
One course in ~~human~~ anatomy with Lab  
One course in ~~human~~ physiology with Lab  
Or a two course sequence in anatomy and physiology  
Two courses in general chemistry with Lab  
Two courses in general physics with Lab  
One course in psychology  
One course in statistics

DEFEATED (Dewald)

Amend 7-3 That the prerequisite course list be amended:

Two courses in biology (not botany or zoology)  
One course in anatomy with Lab  
One course in physiology with Lab  
Or a two course sequence in anatomy and physiology  
Two courses in general chemistry with Lab  
Two courses in general physics with Lab  
One course in psychology  
One course in statistics  
One course in calculus

Support statement: Physical therapists are uniquely prepared experts in biomechanics and should be well prepared in calculus .

PASSED (Smith)

Amend 7-4 That the prerequisite courses list be amended:

Two courses in biology (not botany ~~or zoology~~)  
One course in anatomy with Lab  
One course in physiology with Lab  
Or a two course sequence in anatomy and physiology  
Two courses in general chemistry with Lab  
Two courses in general physics with Lab  
One course in psychology  
One course in statistics

Support statement: the standards are to make courses more uniform for applicants. Biological sciences courses promote classification, inquiry and assessment and critical thinking skills that do not require an itemized course list.

DEFEATED

Amend 7-5 That the position be amended by adding the word minimum to the sentence describing the

Academic Council supports:

The Academic Council of the APTA supports the following list of courses as the minimum standard prerequisite courses required for admission into an entry level physical therapist education program.

Support statement: With the proposed amendment programs would be able to require courses pertinent to their individual programs as needed.

PASSED (Denegar)

Amend 7-6 That the prerequisite course list be amended:

Two courses in biological sciences (not botany)

One course in anatomy with Lab

One course in physiology with Lab

Or a two course sequence in anatomy and physiology

Two courses in general chemistry with Lab

Two courses in general physics with Lab

One course in psychology

One course in statistics

Support statement: Biological sciences provides the latitude necessary to accept multiple courses for the biology prerequisite requirement.

Note it was recommended that editorial ordering of the list be made to ensure clarity that the two semesters of A&P could substitute for separate courses of anatomy and physiology.