

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

If physical therapy is your calling, the doctor of physical therapy degree is the industry standard for practicing physical therapists.

With a large and expanding aging population, physical therapy is a high demand field, and there are only a few programs in the Kansas City area offering the doctor of physical therapy degree. Fewer still feature the hallmark, the University of Saint Mary emphasis, of developing fundamentally important core values.

USM will train you to become a competent practicing physical therapist by developing your God-given potential while inspiring you to serve the needs of others. In keeping with the spirit of our founders, the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, we recognize society's ever-growing need for more and better-trained health care professionals—and we work to meet that need through dynamic, hands-on programs designed to help our students excel.

USM's DPT is a nine-semester program, incorporating 117 credit-hours and 32 weeks of clinical internship. The DPT program is heavily value-driven, and faculty members use the core values during class as guideposts to the most appropriate application of the material.

“Upon graduation from the USM DPT program, our students will have the skills and mindset necessary to become entry-level physical therapy professionals who are fully perceptive and responsive to the needs of patients, colleagues, and the larger community.”

—Dr. Mark Horacek, USM DPT program director

Graduates of USM's DPT program will practice physical therapy at entry-level competencies consistent with the *Guide to Physical Therapist Practice* and the *American Physical Therapy Association's Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics, and Guide for Professional Conduct*. USM graduates will also be committed to life-long learning and excellence.

**Effective May 2, 2012, the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at the University of Saint Mary has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association (1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314; phone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org). Candidacy is not an accreditation status nor does it assure eventual accreditation. Candidate for Accreditation is a pre-accreditation status of affiliation with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education that indicates the program is progressing toward accreditation.*

DEPARTMENT CHAIR –
MARK HORACEK, P.T., M.S., PH.D.

Professor and Program Director of the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

Dr. Horacek graduated from the University of Nebraska Medical center with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Therapy. He has been in the academy or in the clinical setting for a combined total of 30 years. For about 25 of those years he has been in academics. He holds both a Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Anatomy from the University of Nebraska Medical Center and completed post-doctoral training in endocrinology and reproductive physiology at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine.

Dr. Horacek was one of the founding members of the very first DPT program in the country at Creighton University, he founded the physical therapy department and program at Missouri State University, and was a department head at Winston Salem State University. He is now working as the founding Department Chair of the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at the University of Saint Mary.

Dr. Horacek has published many full-length research articles in leading research journals as well as many abstracts. He has presented research findings at national meetings and is a licensed physical therapist in Kansas.

You may email Dr. Horacek at horacek03@stmary.edu if you have any questions about the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at the University of Saint Mary.

Apply now at www.stmary.edu/dpt!



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