



UCD School of Public Health,  
Physiotherapy & Sports Science



# BSc PHYSIOTHERAPY

Course Code: DN420

## WHY UCD PHYSIOTHERAPY?

The full time UCD BSc Physiotherapy degree programme is fully accredited by the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists. As a student of Physiotherapy at UCD, you will benefit from the modern and progressive facilities at the School itself, as well as the UCD Institute for Sport and Health. The Institute includes two state-of-the-art research laboratories where you can study comprehensively the physiological and biomechanical analysis of human performance in health and sport.

In our fully equipped clinical skills laboratories you will also benefit from clinical teaching in small groups, where you will acquire skills under the tuition of highly qualified staff. In addition to campus-based learning, you will gain practical hands-on experience through clinical placements in UCD teaching hospitals and other clinical centres throughout Ireland. There are opportunities to study abroad for a semester, as part of an Erasmus exchange programme, and to undertake clinical placements in Europe, Africa, the USA, Canada and South America.

As a **qualified UCD physiotherapist**, you will be in a position to pursue one of the most **rewarding of careers**. You will **provide services** to people to develop, **maintain and restore** their maximum physical health and movement, and, ultimately, **improve their quality of life**.

## YOUR FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

Your first year in Physiotherapy will cover a broad spectrum of basic, applied and clinical sciences. These modules will provide you with the core knowledge you require for your degree course. You will be able to choose elective modules which give you the freedom and flexibility to explore other areas that interest you.

During first year the teaching takes place mainly in the UCD Health Sciences Centre. While lectures take place in large groups, all hands-on practical physiotherapy classes are in small groups in the specially designed clinical skills laboratories. Towards the end of the year you will have the opportunity to spend time in a clinical setting, where you can put theory into practice.

This is also the ideal time to join some of UCD's many clubs and societies, and experience everything that university life has to offer.



### Physiotherapy BSc (Hons) (NFQ Level 8)

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| CAO Code              | DN420     |
| CAO Points Range 2013 | 545 - 625 |
| Length of Course      | 4 Years   |
| Places                | 56        |

### Entry Requirements

English • Irish • A third language • Mathematics • One laboratory science subject • One other recognised subject

#### Leaving Certificate

Passes in six subjects including those above, of which two must be minimum HC3, one of which is a Laboratory Science Subject

#### A-Level/GCSE

A\*AAA or equivalent

Passes (GCSE Grade C or above) in six recognised subjects including those above, of which two must be minimum Grade C or above at A-Level

Level 5/6 FETAC Entry Routes : None

Level 6/7 Progression Entry Routes : None

Health Screening & Garda Vetting

Please see [www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/gv.html](http://www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/gv.html)



# BSc PHYSIOTHERAPY

## WHY IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

This course leads to one of the most rewarding careers in healthcare: Chartered Physiotherapist. Physiotherapy is the study and application of the scientific knowledge and professional skills required for the promotion of optimal health and well-being of adults and children through physical means. In addition to UCD-based learning you will also spend over 1,000 hours on supervised clinical education in hospitals and clinical centres throughout Ireland and abroad (optional).

UCD's full time BSc Physiotherapy degree is accredited by the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists, and will appeal to students who enjoy science and caring for people.

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?

This is an overview of the modules in the programme, progressing from the basic and applied sciences in first year, to Clinical Skills in second and third year, and Preparation for Professional Practice in fourth year.

### First Year

Anatomy • Physiology • Physics • Biomechanics • Introduction to Professional Physiotherapy Practice • Exercise Science • Elective modules

### Second Year

Basic Musculoskeletal, Cardio-respiratory & Neurological Physiotherapy • Psychology • Physiotherapy Clinical Education • Elective Modules

### Third Year

Intermediate Musculoskeletal, Cardio-respiratory & Neurological Physiotherapy • Clinical Exercise • Physiotherapy Clinical Education • Sociology

### Fourth Year

Professional Physiotherapy Practice • Clinical Specialties • Sports Physiotherapy • Physiotherapy Clinical Education • Pharmacology • Elective modules • Dissertation

Physiotherapy students have, on average, a 35-hour week. In first and second year you will spend your time attending lectures and practical classes. In third and fourth year the focus is on clinical education and advanced physiotherapy skills.

A wide variety of assessment methods are used, including continuous assessment, reflective writing, practical examinations, oral examinations, presentations and end-of-semester written papers.



## CAREER & GRADUATE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates in Physiotherapy have found employment in different roles across the world, in:

- > Hospitals and private practice
- > Primary care
- > Rehabilitation centres and nursing homes
- > Non-government agencies (e.g. Goal, Concern)
- > Education
- > Business, sport and leisure industries

Graduates are also eligible to apply for a range of disciplinary and general graduate taught (graduate certificate, diploma, MSc) and research (MSc and PhD) programmes in Ireland and abroad.

### Key Fact

For graduates there are two entry routes to study Physiotherapy at UCD:

- > BSc Physiotherapy
- > MSc Physiotherapy [pre-registration].

Go to our websites for further details:

[www.ucd.ie/myucd/physio](http://www.ucd.ie/myucd/physio)

[www.ucd.ie/myucd/mscphysio](http://www.ucd.ie/myucd/mscphysio)

## INTERNATIONAL STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities abroad currently include:

- > Erasmus programme in third year with Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium
- > Elective placement opportunities in fourth year in Europe, Africa, the USA, Canada, South America, Australia and New Zealand.

## PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Physiotherapy Students will complete over 1,000 hours of supervised clinical placements in Ireland, at our partner teaching hospitals, primary care clinics and specialist centres. There are elective placements in fourth year (see International Study Opportunities above).

### Further information

**Web:** [www.ucd.ie/myucd/physio](http://www.ucd.ie/myucd/physio)

**Email:** [physio.therapy@ucd.ie](mailto:physio.therapy@ucd.ie)

**Tel:** +353 1 716 6500

[facebook.com/UCDLife](https://facebook.com/UCDLife)

UCD  
1ST CLASS  
UNIVERSITY



UCD is the **largest college** in the National University of Ireland with a student population of **25,000**. It is a vibrant, **modern university** ranked amongst the top universities worldwide.

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