Preparedness Competencies
Didactic preparation for clinical rotations progressively readies UD DPT students to meet affective, cognitive, and psychomotor objectives, while equipping students with growing technical competence in the performance of standard and specific physical therapy tests, measures, and interventions. At this level of their education, students are expected to be able to build on the competencies & objectives from their General Medicine and Neurology clinicals, as well as demonstrate competence in the following tests, measures, and interventions:

- Environmental and ergonomic analysis of community, work and leisure activities
- Assessment of functional capacity
- Analysis of physical space including identification of current and potential barriers, measurement of space, and inspection of the environment
- Body mechanic analysis of selected task and activities
- Analysis of biomechanical, kinematic, and kinetic aspects of gait, locomotion and balance
- Assessment of skin integrity including color, warmth, sensation, mobility, turgor, texture and positions and postures that may jeopardize skin integrity
- Assessment of scar tissue
- Joint integrity and mobility including assessment of hyper and hypomobility and joint play
- Assessment of dexterity, coordination, agility, and physical performance scales
- Assessment of oromotor, phonation and speech production
- Analysis of pain behavior and reaction during movement including use of questionnaires, graphs, and scales
- Analysis of resting, static and dynamic postures using plumb lines, posture grids, videos, etc.
- Analysis of functional range of motion, environment, and tasks
- Wound care management including adaptive and protective devices, debridement and physical and mechanical agents
- Electrotherapeutic modalities including, muscle stim, and iontophoresis
- Functional training including adaptive and protective equipment, ergonomic training, injury prevention, leisure, and play activity training
- Manual therapy techniques (i.e. connective tissue massage, joint mobilization, manual traction, soft tissue mobilization, and massage)
- Mechanical traction
- Therapeutic exercise including body mechanics and ergonomics, gait, locomotion, and neuromuscular education/reeducation, relaxation and inhibition