Can I take my prerequisite courses at a community college?
Yes, you can take your prerequisite courses at any accredited 2 or 4 year college or university.

Can I take online courses to meet a prerequisite requirement?
Yes, you can use online courses to meet a requirement as long as the course is taken for college credit and is offered through an accredited college or university.

The Institute now offers most of our required prerequisite courses online. The link to our web page for online science prerequisites is www.mghihp.edu/science.

You will also find specific course numbers for our online courses by topic in the content below.

What courses will fulfill the prerequisite requirements?

FOR PHYSICS:
What works: Physics, but it does not have to be Calculus-Based Physics. Two introductory courses in a series will do as long as they have labs attached. We offer online Physics 1 and 2 courses at the Institute that will fulfill the requirement. They are undergraduate courses with online labs.

The course numbers and titles are HPHYSIC-450 (lecture), HPHYSIC-451 (lab) and HPHYSIC-452 (lecture with lab).

What doesn’t work: Biomechanics, Kinesiology

FOR CHEMISTRY:
What works: Any two Introductory Chemistry courses in a series with associated labs. They can be for non-science majors.

What if I can’t find a local college that offers Chemistry? You can take it online. We offer online General Chemistry here at the Institute that will fulfill the requirement. There are two undergraduate level courses that include labs. The course numbers and titles are:

HCHEM-453-DL – General Chemistry 1 for the Health Sciences
HCHEM-454 – General Chemistry 2 for the Health Sciences

Please note that HCHEM 452-DL does not meet our chemistry requirements.

FOR ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY:
What works: Most people fulfill this requirement with two semesters of Anatomy and Physiology (A&P).

Note: Both semesters must include labs.

We offer online Anatomy and Physiology I and II courses here at the Institute that will fulfill the requirement. They are undergraduate level courses with online labs.

A&P I course numbers HACP-456-DL (lecture) and HACP-457-DL (lab)
A&P II course numbers HACP-458-DL (lecture) and HACP-459-DL (lab)

Alternatively, you can take a course in Anatomy and a separate course in Physiology, each with labs to fulfill this course sequence requirement.

We accept Human or Vertebrate Anatomy.

FOR BIOLOGY:
What works: Any Biology course. It can be anything from General Biology to Genetics to Molecular Biology to Environmental Biology.

What doesn’t work: Non-Biology courses

What if I can’t find a local college that offers Biology? You can take it online. We offer an online Biology course here at the Institute that will fulfill the requirement. It is an undergraduate level course. The course number and title is HBIO-450-DL – Introduction to Biology 1.

FOR EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY:
What works: The course we want is almost always listed as Exercise Physiology.

You do not need a lab with Exercise Physiology.

What doesn’t work: Biomechanics, Kinesiology, Health and Nutrition
What if I can’t find a local college that offers Exercise Physiology?

You can take it online. We offer an online Exercise Physiology course here at the Institute that will fulfill the requirement. It is an undergraduate level course. The course number and title is HEXPH-455 Exercise Physiology.

FOR STATISTICS:
What works: Introduction to Statistics. We are looking for inferential statistics, so the course should include probability, distribution, measures of central tendency, t-tests, hypothesis testing, and perhaps correlations. The course is often offered through social science or math departments.

The Institute offers an online course in Statistics, HSTATS-451-DL, in summer, fall, and spring semesters.

What doesn’t work: Business Statistics, Qualitative Statistics

FOR DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY:
What works: Developmental Psychology or Child Psychology

We are interested in a course that focuses on birth through adolescence and includes cognitive, social/emotional, motor/physical, and language development. This is our preference over a lifespan course that includes aging. We will, however, accept lifespan courses that cover birth through old age.

What doesn’t work: Early Childhood Development, Educational Psychology, Sports Psychology, Psychology of Disability

What if I can’t find a local college that offers Developmental Psychology?

You can take it online. We offer an online Developmental Psychology course here at the Institute that will fulfill the requirement. It is an undergraduate level course. The course number and title is HPSYCH-450-DL – Developmental Psychology.

FOR GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY/ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY:
What works: Either General Psychology (sometimes called Introduction to Psychology) OR Abnormal Psychology

What doesn’t work: Educational Psychology, Sports Psychology, Psychology of Disability

What foreign evaluation agency do you recommend?

The PTCAS Work Group recently selected World Education Services (WES) as the preferred foreign transcript evaluation service for PTCAS applicants with non-U.S. coursework.

If you have a degree earned outside of the United States, you will need to have your transcript credentialed by a credentialing agency.

What recommendations does the IHP PT program have about the types of placements that would best prepare me for admission to and graduate study in PT?

We require experience, but do not have any set number of hours. We recommend combining depth and breadth.

Depth: Identify one facility where you can spend enough time that you are likely to have a good idea of what PT is like in a particular facility. Try spending at least one week full-time in a facility. However, that is rarely logistically feasible. Therefore, using 40 hours as a framework, set up a schedule that would allow at least that much time.

Breadth: Spend at least one full day in one or two other PT facilities that are different types of settings from the one in which you spent your depth of experience. If you spent your depth in an outpatient setting, consider an inpatient or rehabilitation hospital setting.

Not all experience that is helpful will be directly PT-related. What other health care experience do you have that will inform your ability to interact with patients or clients and with other members of the health care team? Be prepared to make an argument about how this experience informed your decision to be a physical therapist.