**Mercy College of Health Sciences**

**Physical Therapist Assistant Program**

**Student Competency Plan for Clinical Education**

**PTA 163: PTA Clinical I**

This course occurs in Semester II. Students must successfully complete all general education and technical education courses prior to starting the clinical course. Refer to PTA Curriculum Overview. The student has completed the academic portion of the curriculum pertaining to:

Universal precautions

Patient confidentiality

Body mechanics

Bed mobility/positioning

Transfers

Basic gait training and fitting of assistive devices

Beginning documentation skills

Vital signs including pain scales

Goniometry

Manual muscle testing

Sensory testing

Postural awareness

Gait analysis

Patient instruction

Introduction to professional, ethical, and legal aspects of physical therapy practice

The skills listed below will initially be presented during the semester. Students will be allowed to perform these during clinical rotations after being evaluated in the classroom setting. The ACCE will advise the CI when students have successfully completed classroom competencies.

Range of motion: passive, active-assistive, active, and resistive

Physical agents and mechanical modalities

Principles of exercise physiology and beginning therapeutic exercise progression (stretching, strengthening, balance, aerobic)

Textbooks:

Erickson, M., & McKnight, B. (2018). *Documentation basics for the physical therapist assistant (3rd ed.)*. Thorofare, NJ: Slack Incorporated.

Hislop, H., & Montgomery J. (2014). *Daniels & Worthingham’s muscle testing: techniques of manual examination* (9th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Saunders.

Norkin, C., & White, D. J. (2016). *Measurement of joint motion: a guide to goniometry (5th ed.).* Philadelphia, PA: F.A. Davis.

Fairchild, S. L. (2013). *Principles and techniques of patient care* (5th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Saunders.

For a more detailed list of topics covered, refer to the course syllabi.