

**George Mason University**  
**College of Education and Human Development**  
**[Athletic Training Education Program]**

ATEP 566.002 – Athletic Training Practicum 1  
2 Credits, Spring 2017

TR/12:00 PM – 1:15 PM | Bull Run Hall 212 – Science & Technology Campus

**Faculty**

Name: Candace S. Parham, MS, LAT, ATC  
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**Prerequisites/Corequisites**

**Pre-requisites:** Formal acceptance to the professional masters ATEP; Grade of B- or better in the following courses: ATEP 510, 520, 530, 540, 545, 550, 555

**Co-requisite:** Concurrently enrolled in ATEP 560, 565, 570, 575

**University Catalog Course Description**

Emphasizes physical assessment and therapeutic interventions of the lower body in a clinical immersion practicum field experience under the direct supervision of a preceptor for 150 hours.

**Course Overview**

This is the first of five clinical practicum experiences that provide students with adequate opportunities to practice and integrate cognitive learning with the associated psychomotor skills required for the profession of athletic training. This course embraces the ‘Learning Over Time’ concept by requiring students to master a logical progression of clinical proficiency and professional behavior assessments throughout the clinical experience. Students are required to integrate individual component skills (i.e., cognitive and psychomotor skill competencies) into global clinical proficiencies during the clinical experience. Specific cognitive and psychomotor skill components as defined by the *NATA Educational Competencies* are formally taught, practiced, and assessed in the concurrent classroom and controlled laboratory (clinical course) settings. These clinical proficiency assessments, evaluated by preceptors, require students to reason methodically and determine which skills (cognitive learning) are appropriate in a given clinical practice situation and correctly perform these skills (psychomotor) in a manner befitting an entry-level athletic trainer (professional behavior). All clinical proficiencies are graded on a 20-point scale. Students must achieve a passing score of 17 or greater (80%) to demonstrate mastery of the clinical proficiency. Students not achieving a passing score must re-take the proficiency until they satisfactorily demonstrate mastery. Students are required to complete ‘Mastery Proficiencies’ by mid-semester in the clinical experience and submit the results to ATEP faculty for verification. Challenge Proficiencies are completed in the second half of the clinical experience. These ‘Challenge Proficiencies’ then become ‘Mastery Proficiencies’ for a future clinical experience where the student must now show mastery of the content via a passing score, thus demonstrating their ability to learn and improve over time. During each clinical experience students receive constructive

feedback from their preceptors to allow them to improve and continue to ‘Learn Over Time’. This clinical experience allows students opportunities to practice and integrate the cognitive learning, with the associated psychomotor skill requirements associated with therapeutic exercise. In addition, students develop entry-level professional behaviors as Athletic Trainers defined by the NATA Educational Competencies.

### **Course Delivery Method**

This course will be delivered using an internship format.

### **Learner Outcomes or Objectives**

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

1. Apply theories, concepts, and philosophies learned through previous didactic and clinical experiences;
2. Employ record-keeping practices in athletic training;
3. Use clinical judgment in the assessment of lower body conditions;
4. Administer therapeutic interventions to patients with lower body conditions in a health care setting;
5. Demonstrate physical assessments of the lower body to patients in a health care setting; and
6. Employ foundational behaviors of professional practice in athletic training

### **Professional Standards**

The course meets Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) competencies and proficiencies in one or more of the following content areas: evidence-based practice, prevention and health promotion, clinical examination and diagnosis, acute care of injury and illness, therapeutic interventions, psychosocial strategies and referral, healthcare administration, professional development and responsibility.

### **Required Texts**

1. ATEP 575 & 566 Manual
2. ATEP Student Handbook

### **Course Performance Evaluation**

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor.

- **Case Study (25 points)**  
The student will lead a discussion that begins with a presentation of a rehabilitation case from his/her clinical setting. The presentation is about the case study identified for the ATEP 360 case study report. ***Presentations will take place on May 2, 2017. All presentations are due via Blackboard at the beginning of class on May 2, 2017.***
- **Clinical Proficiency Evaluations (Pass/Fail)**  
The student must complete all clinical proficiency evaluations associated with the previous and current courses. These evaluations will be assessed by each student’s preceptor. ***Failure to successfully complete ALL Mastery Proficiencies (by the beginning of class on March***

*21, 2017) and attempt ALL Challenge Proficiencies (by 10:30 AM on May 11, 2017) will result in failure of the course.*

- **Evaluation of Preceptor/Clinical Site Survey (5 points)**  
This survey will be conducted via Qualtrics in order to collect feedback about the preceptor and clinical site. A link to the survey will be provided on Blackboard. *This survey will be completed by the beginning of class on April 18, 2017.*
- **Expectations Document, Emergency Action Plan (EAP), and Clinical Site Scavenger Hunt (25 points)**  
This form is a guide to explain and clarify the preceptor expectations of the student. Both student and preceptor will read and sign this document together at the initial meeting to help ensure that all parties understand their respective responsibilities and duties. Students must also become familiar with the organization and logistics of the clinical site, such as the student's role in the event of an emergency at the site, available therapeutic equipment, and other supplies. Students must obtain a copy of the site's emergency action plan and complete the clinical site scavenger hunt to submit to the course instructor. *This completed form, EAP, and results of the scavenger hunt are due at the beginning of class on February 14, 2017.*
- **Final Clinical Performance Evaluation (75 points)**  
The preceptor will complete the evaluation and assign a letter grade based on the student's clinical performance. Preceptors are encouraged to discuss the results of the evaluation with the student. *Evaluations are due by 10:30 AM on May 11, 2017.*
- **Final Comprehensive Examination (125 points)**  
There will be a practical final examination administered at the time deemed by the official university schedule, *May 11, 2017, 10:30 A.M. – 1:15 P.M.*
- **Mid Semester Clinical Performance Evaluation (75 points)**  
The preceptor will complete the evaluation and assign a letter grade based on the student's clinical performance. Preceptors are encouraged to discuss the results of the evaluation with the student. *Evaluations are due at the beginning of class on March 21, 2017.*
- **National Athletic Training Month Project (25 points)**  
The student will design and implement a project to promote the profession of athletic training during the month of March. The student may consult with the preceptor, but the project should be implemented by the student. All projects must be approved in advance by the course instructor. *A written summary proposal of the project is due no later than the beginning of class on February 21, 2017. All remaining parts of the assignment are due at the beginning of class on March 28, 2017.*
- **Pre-Clinical Experience Survey (5 points)**  
This survey will be conducted via Qualtrics in order to collect pertinent information that will aid in making suitable clinical assignments. A link will be provided to the survey via Blackboard. *This survey will be completed no later than the beginning of class on February 7, 2017.*
- **Professionalism/Patient Primacy Interview (50 points)**  
Throughout the semester, Teamed Approach to Practice and Ethical Practice will be

discussed and presented. This assignment will provide the student an opportunity to interview the preceptor about specific situations related to these foundational behaviors and allow the student to reflect on his/her ideals and beliefs. *All parts of this assignment are due at the beginning of class on March 7, 2017.*

- **Throughlines (45 points each = 90 points)**

The student is required to complete two Throughline reflective writings, which are *due at the beginning of class on January 31, 2017 and on April 18, 2017.*

- **Grading**

ASSESSMENT METHOD	NUMBER	POINTS EACH	POINTS TOTAL
Case Study	1	25	25
Clinical Proficiency Evaluations	16	Pass/Fail	Pass/Fail
Evaluation of Preceptor/Clinical Site Survey	1	5	5
Expectations Document, EAP and Scavenger Hunt	1	25	25
Final Clinical Performance Evaluation	1	75	75
Final Comprehensive Examination	1	125	125
Mid Semester Clinical Performance Evaluation	1	75	75
National Athletic Training Month Project	1	25	25
Pre-Clinical Experience Survey	1	5	5
Professionalism/Patient Primacy Interview	1	50	50
Throughlines	2	45	90
<b>TOTAL</b>	—	—	<b>500</b>

- **Course Grading Scale**

The student's final letter grade will be earned based on the following scale:

A: 465 – 500 pts. (93%)	C+: 385 – 399.9 pts. (77%)
A-: 450 – 464.9 pts. (90%)	C: 365 – 384.9 pts. (73%)
B+: 435 – 449.9 pts. (87%)	C-: 350 – 364.9 pts. (70%)
B: 415 – 434.9 pts. (83%)	D: 315 – 349.9 pts. (63%)
B-: 400 – 414.9 pts. (80%)	F: < 315 pts.

### Professional Dispositions

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. It is critical that each student behave in an appropriate manner and decorum fitting of a health care provider. Making light of injuries, conditions, or illnesses or any action that is not respectful to the class, instructor, or patient study will not be tolerated. Submission of documents or assignments should not include personal information and should comply with Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations.

### Class Schedule

DAY	DATE	TENTATIVE TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
1	1/24	Introduction to Practicum, Foundational Behaviors	

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2	1/26		
3	1/31	Student Clinical Expectations, Professionalism in Athletic Training	Syllabus Contract, 1 <sup>st</sup> Throughline
4	2/2		
5	2/7*	What are Mastery and Challenge Proficiencies?	Pre-Clinical Survey
6	2/9		
7	2/14	Life as an Athletic Training Intern for Disney – Ms. Vicki Allers	Three-Week Evaluation, Expectations Doc, EAP, & Clinical Site Scavenger Hunt
8	2/16		
9	2/21*	Intro to HIPAA Regulations	HIPAA Readings, National Athletic Training Month Project Summary
10	2/23		
11	2/28	Effective Communication	Optimizing Communication Reading
12	3/2		
13	3/7*	Patient Primacy and Advocacy	Interview
14	3/9		
15	3/14	<b>**SPRING BREAK: 3/13 – 3/19**</b>	
16	3/16		
17	3/21*†	PPEs, Insurance	Insurance Findings, Mid Semester Evaluation & Mastery Proficiencies
18	3/23		
19	3/28	Professional Advocacy	National Athletic Training Month Project
20	3/30		
21	4/4*	Evidence-Based Practice	Ten-Week Evaluation, Evidence- Based Practice Reading
22	4/6		
23	4/11	Ethical Practice	
24	4/13		
25	4/18*	Final Exam Preparation	2 <sup>nd</sup> Throughline, Evaluation of Preceptor/Clinical Site Survey
26	4/20		
27	4/25	Preceptor Acknowledgements, Self- Evaluation and Reflection, Challenges and Triumphs of Clinical Experiences, Closing Points	Thank you card
28	4/27		
29	5/2*	Case Study Presentations	Presentation

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Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

\* Bi-monthly schedule/hours log due.

† Preceptor evaluations and proficiencies due.

### **Core Values Commitment**

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

### **GMU Policies and Resources for Students**

#### *Policies*

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <http://ods.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be silenced during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

#### *Campus Resources*

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to [tk20help@gmu.edu](mailto:tk20help@gmu.edu) or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/>.
- The Writing Center provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing (see <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>).
- The Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance (see <http://caps.gmu.edu/>).

- The Student Support & Advocacy Center staff helps students develop and maintain healthy lifestyles through confidential one-on-one support as well as through interactive programs and resources. Some of the topics they address are healthy relationships, stress management, nutrition, sexual assault, drug and alcohol use, and sexual health (see <http://ssac.gmu.edu/>). Students in need of these services may contact the office by phone at 703-993-3686. Concerned students, faculty and staff may also make a referral to express concern for the safety or well-being of a Mason student or the community by going to <http://ssac.gmu.edu/make-a-referral/>.

**For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <https://cehd.gmu.edu/>.**

## **Other Requirements**

### **Attendance**

Each student must meet with his/her preceptor during the first week of the semester to develop a weekly schedule. Students must accrue a **minimum of 200 hours** (approximately 10-20 hours per week) for the practicum field experience over the course of the entire semester. Students are expected to be on time; attend and actively participate in all class meetings and clinical experiences as mutually agreed upon with the Clinical Education Coordinator, course instructor, and the preceptor; and submit all assignments in a timely fashion. **Late work will not be accepted under any circumstances.** Excused absences include the following: illness (must bring a receipt or note from a doctor), family death, athletic/academic event, and others at the discretion of the Preceptor and course instructor. For known upcoming absences, students must contact the Preceptor and the course instructor at least one week in advance of the missed class or clinical experience. In the case of illness or some other unforeseen absence, the student must contact the Preceptor and the course instructor via e-mail or telephone within one week of the missed class and have appropriate documentation (e.g., physician's note).

### **Academic Responsibility**

Although many students must work to meet living expenses, **employment must not take priority over academic responsibilities.** Students employed more than 20 hours a week are strongly urged not to attempt a full-time academic load. Students employed more than 40 hours a week should attempt no more than 6 credits per semester. Students who fail to observe these guidelines may expect no special consideration for academic problems arising from the pressures of employment. Please see the GMU Academic Catalog ([http://catalog.gmu.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=104#Registration\\_attendance](http://catalog.gmu.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=104#Registration_attendance)) for further information.

### **Scheduling Requirements**

An integral part of students' practicum is time spent under the supervision of the preceptor. Students should be aware that times are scheduled in conjunction with preceptor availability. Practicum times may include early mornings, afternoons, evenings, and weekends. Students may also be required to travel to additional sites to meet their preceptor to engage in clinical education. Unlike other majors, athletic training practicum courses require additional time outside of the traditional classroom. Participation at the clinical site does not excuse you from class and/or related assignments at George Mason University. Students are required to submit bi-monthly schedules (via Blackboard) and show proof of hours completed. Repeated failure to submit schedules and show proof of hours may result in reduction of the final grade.

**Technology Usage**

Students who are observed using any form of technology inappropriately (e.g., sending text messages from cell phones, visiting social networking sites from laptops) will be dismissed from class for the day and not permitted to make up missed assignments.

**Extra Credit Opportunities**

Health and Fitness Expo – Thursday, March 23, 2017

2 pts per hour of volunteering up to 10 pts

Kyle Wilson Walk for Fitness – TBA

2 pts per hour of volunteering and/or participating up to 10 points

**Additional Policies**

For additional guidelines relating to your athletic training education, please see the program handbook at the following website: <http://rht.gmu.edu/atep/forms/>.



## Student Acknowledgement of Syllabus

I, \_\_\_\_\_, by affixing my signature below, attest to the following:

\*I have read the course syllabus for ATEP 566 in its entirety, and I understand the policies contained therein.

\*I have a clear understanding of the due dates for assignments, and I accept responsibility for knowing when due dates are approaching.

\*I am aware that failure to complete the proficiencies by the dates assigned will result in failure of the course.

\*I understand the instructor reserves the right to alter the provided schedule as necessary, and I am responsible for obtaining the most current version from Blackboard.

\*I accept responsibility for reading announcements that are sent to me via email or posted to Blackboard.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(Student Copy: This copy should remain attached to your syllabus.)



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\*I accept responsibility for reading announcements that are sent to me via email or posted to Blackboard.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(Instructor Copy: This copy should be signed and returned to course instructor no later than the second class meeting.)