A. **Academic Division:** Health Sciences  

B. **Discipline:** Physical Therapist Assistant  

C. **Course Number and Title:** PHTA2170 Professional Research  

D. **Course Coordinator:** Renda Cline, PTA, BS HCM, ACCE  
   **Assistant Dean:** Melinda Roepke, MSN, RN  

**Instructor Information:**  
- Name: Click here to enter text.  
- Office Location: Click here to enter text.  
- Office Hours: Click here to enter text.  
- Phone Number: Click here to enter text.  
- E-Mail Address: Click here to enter text.  

E. **Credit Hours:** 2  

F. **Prerequisites:** PHTA2110, PHTA2115  
   **Co-requisite(s):** PHTA2070, PHTA2090 (M)  

G. **Syllabus Effective Date:** Fall, 2017  

H. **Textbook(s) Title:** None  

I. **Workbook(s) and/or Lab Manual:** None  

J. **Course Description:** This is a research course which will allow the PTA student to learn to perform evidence-based research to gain further understanding in a particular area as well as to complete a research project and present the material to classmates. This class is graded Pass (P) or No-Pass (NP).  

K. **College-Wide Learning Outcomes:**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>College-Wide Learning Outcome</strong></th>
<th><strong>Assessments - - How it is met &amp; When it is met</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication – Written</td>
<td>Communication – Written VALUE Rubric</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication – Speech</td>
<td>Communication – Speech VALUE Rubric</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intercultural Knowledge and Competence</td>
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<td>Critical Thinking</td>
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<td>Information Literacy</td>
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<td>Quantitative Literacy</td>
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</table>
L. Course Outcomes and Assessment Methods:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Assessments – How it is met &amp; When it is met</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Define components of a research project.</td>
<td>Research project by the end of week 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Define types of research.</td>
<td>Research project by the end of week 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Demonstrate ability to set up a research project by completing an abstract with a small group of peers.</td>
<td>Written assignment due per date on schedule, by the end of week 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Develop oral presentation of research project to educate peers.</td>
<td>Presentation performed on assigned date during the semester, by the end of week 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Construct poster presentation of research project to educate peers.</td>
<td>Organize presentation material in poster format presented on assigned date, by the end of week 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Present oral and poster presentation of research project at a level appropriate for peer understanding.</td>
<td>Presentation performed on assigned date, by the end of week 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Describe scales of measurements</td>
<td>Research project completed and presented on assigned date, by the end of week 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Utilize proper measurement scale in research project.</td>
<td>Research project completed and presented on assigned date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Examine data collected from research process to arrive at a generalized conclusion.</td>
<td>Research project completed and presented on assigned date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Demonstrate the ability to work with peers.</td>
<td>Performed throughout semester during research project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Recognize the importance of research as it applies to meeting the needs of patients and the profession of physical therapy.</td>
<td>Research project completed and presented on assigned date.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

M. Topical Timeline (Subject to Change):

Week 1: Introduction to Research
Week 2: General Characteristics of Desirable Evidence
   a. Research Designs: Overview
   b. Research Designs: Timing
   c. Research Designs: What is the Question
Week 3: Searching for Evidence
   a. Determine which database will be most useful
   b. Aim for highest quality evidence available
   c. Properly collecting research information
Week 4: Research Background
   a. Literature review
   b. Citations of epidemiologic data
   c. Theories, concepts and constructs
   d. Hypotheses
Week 5: Research Design
   a. Research paradigms
   b. Design format: qualitative/quantitative
   c. Time elements
Week 6: Research Subjects
   a. Subject selection
   b. Variables
   c. Measurements
Week 7: Validity in Research Design
Week 8: Midterm

Updated: 2/22/2017
Week 9: Appraising the Evidence
Week 10: Final Thoughts about Research
  a. Clinical measures
  b. Study credibility
  c. Study results
Week 11: Putting it all together
Week 12: Poster Design and Layout
Week 13: Poster Completion in preparation for presentations
Week 14: Oral Presentations
Week 15: Oral Presentations
Week 16: Oral Presentations

N. Course Assignments:

Students will be expected to pass with a 77%.
Each assignment is worth 10 points: Annotated bibliography, abstract, validating the research, PPT of poster, poster completion.
The following assignments are 20 points each: midterm and oral presentations.

O. Recommended Grading Scale:

This course is Pass (P) or Non-Pass (NP).
*Performance Indicators as identified in Clinical Performance Instrument used for clinical outcomes assessment

P. Grading and Testing Guidelines:

Students falling below 77% in either component will have failed to meet the requirements to continue in the PTA program.

Q. Examination Policy:

A student who misses a quiz for any reason must notify the instructor and make arrangements for making up the quiz. The student will have three school days from the quiz date to make it up.

A student who must miss an examination for any reason is responsible for notifying the instructor prior to the exam, if possible, or within 24 hours of missed exam, and to make arrangements for making up the examination. The student will have a maximum of five school days from the date of the examination in which to make it up. If the instructor is not notified regarding a missed exam, the student will receive an automatic "0" on the exam.

Final exams will be held as scheduled. Requests to take a final exam earlier should be made only under unusual and extenuating circumstances. These requests are to be submitted, in writing, no later than one week prior to the last class day of the term to the Program Director's office.

R. Class Attendance and Homework Make-Up Policy:

The PTA program is a series of sequential courses developed to build from one class session and course to the next. It is imperative that the student attend all class and laboratory sessions based on the progressive sequence and amount of educational material to be presented in six semesters. All instructors will maintain attendance records and will follow college attendance guidelines and policies.

It will be the responsibility of the student to obtain lecture notes and to make up laboratory sessions. Any student missing two or more classes will be required to meet with the Program Director. Students have a primary responsibility for notifying their instructors about anticipated or planned absences.
S. **Classroom Expectations:**

Students are expected to attend every class session and listen attentively and interact and behave in a professional manner conducive to learning. If a student is found to be disrupting a class session he/or she may be asked to leave the classroom upon the discretion of the instructor and then be required to meet with the Program Director discuss professional behavior and expectations.

T. **College Procedures/Policies:**

**Attendance Requirements:** All students are required to attend all scheduled classes and examinations. Each faculty member has the right to establish regulations regarding attendance that he/she considers necessary for successful study.

Students who do not attend classes may be administratively withdrawn from those classes. However, failure to attend classes does not constitute withdrawal, and students are expected to process a formal withdrawal though the Student Records Office in Kee Hall.

**Student engagement requirements:**
Student engagement is based on the “active pursuit” of learning which can be measured by class attendance, class participation (in class or online), taking required quizzes/examinations, and submission of work assignments or papers. Student engagement consists of a student attending at least 60% of the class sessions (there should be attendance throughout the term) and/or completing 75% of the assignments listed on the syllabus at the midpoint in the term. Exceptions can be made when there is on-going communication between the student and faculty member. The communication must be documented and the faculty member and student must be in agreement regarding the exception. Students not meeting the expectation will be administratively withdrawn from class. If a student believes he/she was administratively withdrawn in error, he/she may file an appeal. Being administratively withdrawn may have program and financial aid implications.

**Academic Misconduct** is any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the college, or subvert the educational process. Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to:

1. **Violation of course or program rules** as contained in the course syllabus or other information provided to the student; violation of program requirements as established by departments and made available to students.

2. **Plagiarism** including, but not limited to, submitting, without appropriate acknowledgment, any written, visual or oral material that has been copied in whole or in part from the work of others (whether such source is published or not) even if the material is completely paraphrased in one’s own words. This includes another individual’s academic composition, compilation, or other product, or a commercially prepared paper. Plagiarism also includes submitting work in which portions were substantially produced by someone acting as a tutor or editor.

   Such practices constitute plagiarism regardless of motive. Those who deny deceitful intent, claim not to have known that the act constituted plagiarism, or maintain that what they did was inadvertent are nevertheless subject to penalties when plagiarism has been confirmed.

3. **Cheating** and dishonest practices in connection with examinations, papers and projects, including but not limited to using unauthorized notes, study aids or information on an examination; obtaining help from another student during an examination; taking an exam or doing work for another student; providing one’s own work for another student to copy and submit as his/her own; or allowing another student to do one’s work and then submitting the work as one’s own. Also included would be altering a graded work after it has been returned, then submitting the work for re-grading; or submitting identical or similar papers for credit in more than one course without prior permission from the course instructors.
4. **Fabrication** including but not limited to falsifying or inventing any information, data or citation; presenting data that were not gathered in accordance with defined appropriate guidelines, and failing to include an accurate account of the method by which data were collected.

5. **Obtaining an Unfair Advantage** including, but not limited to stealing, reproducing, circulating, or otherwise gaining access to examination materials prior to the time authorized by the instructor; unauthorized collaborating on an academic assignment; taking, hiding or altering resource material; or undertaking any activity with the purpose of creating or obtaining an unfair advantage over another student’s academic work.

6. **Aiding and Abetting Academic Dishonesty** including, but not limited to providing material, information or other assistance to another person with the knowledge that such aid could be used in any of the violations stated above, or providing false information in connection with any inquiry regarding academic integrity.

7. **Alteration of Grades or Marks** including but not limited to, action by the student in an effort to change the earned credit or grade.

In addition, cases of academic dishonesty may involve photocopied materials. Materials used may fall under the Copyright Act. Violations of said Act may subject the user and/or the College to sanctions.

**Statement on Disabilities:** Any student who requires reasonable accommodations related to a disability should inform the course instructor and the Coordinator of Specialized Services (Room 138 in Kee Hall; phone 419-755-4727).

Students who encounter difficulty in any of their courses are encouraged to visit the Tutoring Resource Center (Room 119 in Fallerius Technical Education Center) for tutoring assistance, and the Student Success Center (Room 136 in Kee Hall) for academic assistance, advising services, referrals for personal counseling and Learning Disability (LD) Testing.

**Statement on Withdrawals:** As a student, you are expected to attend class. If you are unable or choose not to attend class, or if for whatever reason you are unable to keep up with the requirements of a course, you need to officially drop the class at the Student Records Office. Refund dates and withdrawal dates will vary slightly from term to term. Contact the Student Records Office for applicable dates. Additionally these dates are posted on the academic calendar available on the college’s website, [www.ncstatecollege.edu](http://www.ncstatecollege.edu), under the Academics heading on the home page and are available at the Student Records Office in Kee Hall. Students should go to the Student Records Office (Room 142 in Kee Hall) to process their withdrawal from any class.

If you choose to walk away from your class without officially withdrawing from it, the faculty member teaching the class must grade your classroom performance on the material available to him or her. This normally results in an "F" grade. An "F" grade can lower your grade point average considerably depending on the total credits accumulated.