



Physical Therapy UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS!

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MScPT SCHOLARLY PRACTICE CURRICULUM 2025-2026 RESEARCH AND PROGRAM EVALUATION FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY PRACTICE

DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025, 4 PM

Do you have a clinical or education program that needs evaluation? Do you need pilot data for a grant application, or experience with graduate student supervision?

The Department of Physical Therapy invites **scientists, postdoctoral researchers, PhD students, and clinicians** to submit a **project outline relevant to physical therapy** and participate as research advisors to a group of 5-6 second year physical therapy students. If needed, research advisors will be paired with an established researcher (PhD) from the Rehabilitation Sciences Institute, referred to as the faculty advisor, who has experience with graduate student supervision. We recommend a minimum of two advisors and will accept a maximum of three advisors (not including the faculty advisor). See **examples of recent projects** [here](#).

Timeline, Activities, and Role of Advisors in the Scholarly Practice Curriculum:

Unit 6 (July 14, 2025 to August 15, 2025): Advisors will meet with and orient students to the project. Students will then complete two sessions on developing research questions and literature reviews, and conducting a literature search. Students will also complete the TCPS2 Core Module.

Scholarly Practice I - Unit 7 (3 weeks: September 8-26, 2025): Student groups develop a research protocol and submit the protocol for ethics approval. Research advisors facilitate this process with the support of the faculty advisor (if applicable) and a teaching assistant. Advisors meet weekly with students and review the final research protocol with a quick turnaround time of 2-3 business days.

Research Mondays: Throughout Unit 10 (January 5, 2026 to March 27, 2026) and Unit 11 (May 18, 2026 to June 5, 2026), Mondays are protected for students to work on their projects. Advisors maintain contact with students through email, phone, and meetings as needed.

Scholarly Practice II - Unit 13 (6 weeks: June 8, 2026 to July 17, 2026): Students analyse their data, draft a manuscript, and complete and present a poster during the Department of Physical Therapy Research Day. Advisors facilitate data analysis and review drafts of the manuscript and the poster with support from the faculty advisor.

Want to know more? Attend our MScPT Scholarly Practice Curriculum Online Information Session, February 18, 2025, 12-1 pm EST. Registration is required. If you cannot attend, please register to gain access to the recording. Please click the link to register:

<https://forms.office.com/r/q30ZZymc0c>

A strategic priority in the [Department of Physical Therapy Strategic Plan](#) is to foster equity, diversity and inclusion. We will ask students and advisors to consider collecting participant data on gender, Indigenous identity, race, religion, ethnic origin, and other personal information to describe the diversity of their study participants.

Projects must be relevant to physical therapy and can include a:

- Qualitative Study (example: in-depth interviews or focus groups)
- E-Survey
- Chart Review (requires review of 10 charts to confirm data are available)
- Program Evaluation
- Pilot Study (Quantitative or Qualitative)
- Secondary Data Analysis
- **No Literature, Scoping or Systematic Reviews**
- **No Multi or Mixed Methods** (projects involving quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection and analysis are not feasible in the MScPT curriculum)

Evaluation Criteria: Projects will be selected based on the following 3 criteria:

1. Quality of the project description,
2. Relevance of the project to physical therapy, and
3. Feasibility of the project in relation to the timelines of the MScPT research curriculum, and the research capacity of the students.

Online Project Submission: Deadline: Wednesday, April 9, 2025, 4 pm

To submit a project:

1. Click on the following link: <https://app.rehab.utoronto.ca/ptresearchproject/>. If the website does not open automatically, then copy and paste the URL into your Internet browser.
2. Create an account to obtain a username and password. If you created an account last year, your same username and password will still apply.
3. Once you logon, click “Submit a new project” and complete the online form. **We recommend that you circulate a draft of your project description in Word to your co-advisors and when ready to submit, copy and paste into the online form.** You may save your project on the online form and revise at any time using the “Save” button. When you are ready to submit the final version, click “Submit”.

Resources for Project Submission: Once you logon to the website, you will have access to:

- A Word doc template for the project outline
- A project completion checklist for advisors
- Examples of a qualitative and quantitative project outline

Please contact Nancy Salbach at nancy.salbach@utoronto.ca or Sharon Gabison at shar.gabison@utoronto.ca if you have questions.