

Collaborative Teaching and Students' Critical Thinking: The New Pre-Physical Therapy Seminars at the University of Hartford

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Physical Therapy majors at the University of Hartford are required to take a series of Physical Therapy Professional Seminars that prepare the whole student, both the undergraduate scholar and the future clinician. A recent paradigm shift in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences (College of Education, Nursing, and Health Professions) resulted in subsequent curricular innovations whereby the required PT seminars are co-taught by a Physical Therapy instructor *and* a Writing Instructor. The new instructional templates place higher premiums on professionalizing PT candidates as well as on academic discourse competencies, both written and oral. This report describes the steps taken to re-design the seminars, the revised inter-disciplinary pedagogy now being taught, some of the successes of the initiative, and implications for future consideration.

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