Hello my name is Maurice Ortiz, and I’m very excited to work as a student physical therapist assistant and acquire knowledge through hands on while I participate in my clinical. My hobbies are: freediving, spearfishing, judo, boxing, and occasional track days on my motorcycle. I have never worked on a physical therapy environment; although, I am a licensed massage therapist that enjoys helping others and making a difference in people’s life. I have chosen a career as a physical therapist assistant because when I arrived from the army I wanted to help other soldiers that were not as lucky as me to get better by rehabilitating them so they can enjoy their lives fully after coming home; after much thought, I decided to follow a career as a physical therapist assistant and I am convinced that I will make a difference in other people’s lives in the near future. My goal is to work as a physical therapist assistant in the VA hospital and give back to those that have sacrificed so much. My strengths academically are my passion for muscles and understanding how they work. I enjoyed learning how each muscle in the body performs a different action that is responsible for movement throughout the human body; kinesiology was a very difficult class, but I was interested in the subject since day one. The areas of clinical experience that I wish to learn are: how to write soap notes effectively and correctly when there is many patients at the same time. I would like to achieve good communication skills and learn how to identify the best interventions in regards to the patients goals; furthermore, I would like to see patients get better during the time I’m at the clinic. My learning style is auditory, but I learn as a kinesthetic learner as well. I perform well by practicing when I receive instructions and assignments. When my clinical experience is over I would like to have a better understanding on how to decrease pain, facilitate and improve ROM, increase strength, and enhance patient’s performance through exercise and therapeutic activities according to his goals.