Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA)

OTA 110 Clinical Observation
2 Hours
Prerequisites: BIO 205 and Admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
4 hours weekly (1-3)
This Level I Fieldwork experience provides the student introductory contact with persons of differing age and ability levels. Students will be rotated through approved agencies and centers and begin, under supervision, to practice: (1) critical observation of abilities and disabilities within physical, emotional, cognitive, and social domains; and (2) therapeutic communication techniques.

OTA 112 Activities of Daily Living
3 Hours
Prerequisites: OTA 110, 130, 131, 132, 210
5 hours weekly (2-3)
Basic self-care skills of feeding, hygiene, and dressing, independent living skills of communication, home management, architectural barrier modification, and community resources are stressed. Adaptation to equipment and assistive devices necessary to perform ADL tasks are reviewed.

OTA 120 Occupational Therapeutic Media
3 Hours
Prerequisites: OTA 110, 130, 131, 132, 210
5 hours weekly (2-3)
Theory and practice of selected creative manual arts, includes learning basic skills, concepts of activity analysis in practical application, instruction of individuals and groups, problem-solving, therapeutic application, and laboratory and equipment maintenance.

OTA 122 Occupational Therapy Group Process
2 Hours
Prerequisites: OTA 110, 130, 131, 132, 210
4 hours weekly (1-3)
Exploration of the use of groups in occupational therapy treatment. Occupational therapy models of practice and protocol across the lifespan are emphasized. Group leadership, group facilitation, and activity selection skills will be developed.

OTA 130 Introduction to Occupational Therapy
2 Hours
Prerequisites: BIO 205 and Admission to Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
2 hours weekly (2-0)
Overview of the profession with emphasis on its history, philosophy, and organization. Explores the role of occupational therapy personnel and domain of treatment. Students are introduced to the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework.

OTA 131 Disease and Impact on Occupation
3 Hours
Prerequisites: BIO 205 and Admission to Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
3 hours weekly (3-0)
This course provides an overview of the etiology, clinical course, management, and prognosis of congenital and developmental disabilities, acute and chronic disease processes, and traumatic injuries, and examines the effects of such conditions on occupational performance throughout the lifespan as well as explores the effects of wellness on the individual, family, culture, and society.
OTA 132 Occupational Development

1 Hour
Prerequisites: BIO 205 and Admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

3 hours weekly (0-3)

Occupational Development is an overview of movement development and movement patterns required for the participation in occupations. An introduction to Occupational Therapy Practice Framework and theories that impact movement and occupational participation are also presented. The course explores the general to more specific aspects of movement development for occupational performance.

OTA 133 Clinical Rotation I

1 Hour
Prerequisites: OTA 110, 130, 131, 132, 210

3 hours weekly (0-3)

This Level I Fieldwork experience is designed to build Physical Disabilities clinical skills with the student. Students will complete in-class laboratory as well as assigned clinical rotations in select physical disability settings. The course will focus on preparatory (including Physical Agent Modalities), purposeful and occupational treatment techniques for orthopedic and neurological disabilities. In the clinic students will provide hands-on therapy under the direct, line-of-sight supervision of a qualified occupational therapy practitioner. Students will begin the process of developing treatment plans and procedures, adapting equipment, and activities.

OTA 134 OT in Physical Disabilities

3 Hours
Prerequisites: OTA 110, 130, 131, 132, 210

5 hours weekly (2-3)

Overview of occupational therapy theory and techniques as they relate to medical conditions referred to occupational therapy; coverage of etiology, body systems affected, residual effects and medical management; study of methods of prevention, reduction, or alleviation of certain aspects of disease/illness which impede activities and self-care performance.

OTA 200 Psychosocial Therapy and Practice

3 Hours
Prerequisites: OTA 112, 120, 122, 133, 134

5 hours weekly (2-3)

Overview of occupational therapy psychosocial theory and techniques as they relate to various classifications of behavioral disorders and developmental disabilities. Group leadership, development of communication, observation skills, and use of self as a therapeutic modality are emphasized.

OTA 205 Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics

4 Hours
Prerequisites: OTA 112, 120, 122, 133, 134

6 hours weekly (3-3)

In analysis of occupational function and dysfunction, this course presents sequential normal and pathological development from birth through adolescence across sensorimotor, play/leisure, cognitive, affective, and self-care/work readiness domains. It investigates issues, treatment, and service systems in effective occupational performance.
OTA 210 Occupational Therapy Theory I
4 Hours
Prerequisites: BIO 205 and Admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
6 hours weekly (3-3)
Introduction to the fundamental concepts of joint and muscle movement. Overview of sensory systems, musculoskeletal systems, neuroanatomy, kinesiology, and basic assessment of previously mentioned.

OTA 217 Fieldwork Experience I
4.5 Hours
Prerequisites: Successful completion of ALL academic coursework, except OTA 250.
20.5 hours weekly (0.5-20)
Development of professional skills through supervised application of treatment principles. This first Level II Fieldwork experience is designed to provide the first two clinical opportunities to make the transition from “student to clinician.” Within the eight weeks, students are expected to perform the functions of a practicing therapist at the first two assigned clinical sites. It is expected that at the end of the eight weeks (school systems minimum 280 hours, all others minimum 320 hours) the student should be functioning at entry-level with close supervision needed.
General objectives for each experience are the same. However, specific objectives will be developed by each fieldwork site in conjunction with the OTA educational program. Fieldwork will include at least one physical disability site and any of the following for the other section site: physical disability, psychosocial, pediatric, hand therapy, or a combination. Psychosocial experiences will be strongly encouraged within all fieldwork. Students will be closely supervised by a certified occupational therapy assistant and/or a registered occupational therapist with at least one year clinical experience. FIELDWORK I EXPERIENCE MUST BE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED WITHIN 18 MONTHS OF ACADEMIC COURSEWORK.

OTA 218 Fieldwork Experience II
4.5 Hours
Prerequisites: Successful completion of ALL academic coursework, except OTA 250.
20.5 hours weekly (0.5-20)
The second Level II Fieldwork experience is designed to provide the ongoing opportunity for transition from “student to clinician.” As with Fieldwork Experience I, within the eight weeks students are expected to perform the functions of a practicing therapist at the second clinical site. It is expected that at the end of the eight weeks (school systems minimum 280 hours, all other minimum 320 hours) the student should be functioning at entry-level with close supervision needed. General objectives for each experience are the same. However, specific objectives will be developed by each fieldwork site in conjunction with the OTA educational program. Fieldwork will include at least one physical disability site and any of the following for the other section site: physical disability, psychosocial, pediatric, hand therapy, or a combination. Psychosocial experiences will be strongly encouraged within all fieldwork. Students will be closely supervised by a certified occupational therapy assistant and/or a registered occupational therapist with at least one year clinical experience. FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE II MUST BE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED WITHIN 18 MONTHS OF ACADEMIC COURSEWORK.
OTA 230 Clinical Rotation II
2 Hours
Prerequisites: OTA 112, 120, 122, 133, 134
4 hours weekly (1-3)
This Level I Fieldwork experience provides the student with clinical opportunities (both in-class laboratory and assigned clinical sites) for treatment of patients/clients of different ages and disabilities. Students will continue practice of treatment and communication techniques under supervision. Students will continue to expand the process of developing treatment plans and procedures, adapting equipment, and activities with an emphasis on ethics and the cultural impact of client-centered treatments. Preparation for participation in the Level II Fieldwork experiences is provided.

OTA 231 Occupational Therapy Theory II
1.5 Hours
Prerequisites: OTA 112, 120, 122, 133, 134
2.5 hours weekly (1-1.5)
Provides an expanded knowledge of development and administration of selected tests, theoretical basis for treatment, and treatment principles with an emphasis on clinical reasoning, the OT process, and diagnostic-specific techniques across the life span.

OTA 232 Aging and Impact on Occupation
1.5 Hours
Prerequisites: OTA 112, 120, 122, 133, 134
2.5 hours weekly (1-1.5)
This course introduces the student to the physical, psychological, socioeconomic, cultural aspects of aging and their relationship to occupational therapy programs for older adults. The focus is on providing care to individuals experiencing disorders of aging and uses of occupational therapy process of evaluation, planning, implementation, and community programming.

OTA 250 Occupational Therapy Administration
3 Hours
Prerequisites: OTA 200, 205, 230, 231, 232
3 hours weekly (3-0)
This class provides an introduction to basic management knowledge and skills essential to occupational therapy practice. Topics emphasized are marketing, supervision (both clinical and administrative), communications, quality assurance, and departmental operations. Students will develop a resume, practice job interviewing, and participate in other activities related to the professional organization(s). This course will be taught utilizing web-based format.