

OTAT-2940: FIELD EXPERIENCE

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: OTAT-2940 : Field Experience

Board of Trustees:

December 2021

Academic Term:

Fall 2025

Subject Code

OTAT - Occupational Therapy Assisting

Course Number:

2940

Title:

Field Experience

Catalog Description:

Students assigned to two consecutive 8-week full-time field placements under supervision of licensed occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants. Provides student opportunities to apply principles and techniques learned in previous courses to actual treatment situations in preparation for entry level practice. Grading for OTAT-1860 is P for Pass or NP for No Pass.

Credit Hour(s):

3

Lecture Hour(s):

0

Lab Hour(s):

0

Other Hour(s):

36

Other Hour Details:

Field experience: 576 hours per semester

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite

OTAT-2320 Fundamentals of Physical Dysfunction, OTAT-2330 Techniques in Physical Disabilities, OTAT-2860 Practicum III, and departmental approval.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):

Demonstrate the ability to follow the philosophy of occupational therapy, the roles of an occupational therapy assistant, and provide evidence-based practice within the assigned clinical facility.

Objective(s):

1. Communicates the values and beliefs of occupational therapy highlighting the use of occupations to clients, families, significant others, and service providers.
2. Communicates the roles of the occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant to clients, families, significant others, and service providers.
3. Makes informed practice decisions based on published research and relevant information resources.
4. Adhere to and utilize safety precautions and regulations, using sound safety judgement in all patient care situations.
5. Utilize the American Occupational Therapy Association Code of Ethics and the site's policies and procedures when confronting an ethical dilemma.
6. Appraise potentially hazardous situations and takes steps to prevent accidents.

Course Outcome(s):

Assist in management of occupational therapy departmental operations.

Objective(s):

1. Prepare and maintain attendance records, requisitions, etc.
2. Maintain equipment and supplies.
3. Comply with supervisory requirements and regulations for reimbursement.
4. Comply with national and state credentialing requirements.
5. Provide personnel training and supervision (in-services, oversee volunteers, aides, etc.).

Course Outcome(s):

Demonstrate consistent and effective self-responsibility; response to feedback; work behaviors; time management skills; interpersonal skills; and cultural competence as defined by the assigned clinical site.

Objective(s):

1. Adhere to placement site's policies and procedures.
2. Participate in collecting data for quality assurance.
3. Demonstrate values, attitudes, and behaviors congruent with the occupational therapy profession's standards and ethics, individual responsibility for continued learning, interdisciplinary and supervisory relationships within the administrative hierarchy.
4. Recognize the need for taking responsibility for attaining professional competence by seeking out learning opportunities and interactions with supervisors and others.
5. Demonstrate responsiveness to constructive feedback in all aspects of clinical performance.
6. Display consistent work behavior including initiative, preparedness, dependability, and work site maintenance.
7. Manage time efficiently and effectively.
8. Seek out and engage in opportunities to learn and refine skills.
9. Modify behavior appropriately in response to feedback from supervisor.
10. Maintain patient confidentiality.

Course Outcome(s):

Completes documentation that follows professional guidelines, health care system, and occupational therapy clinical setting policies.

Objective(s):

1. Documents relevant information about intervention(s) and corresponding data collection.
2. Provides accurate, concise, and legible documentation of all client care.
3. Documents adjustment or withholding of intervention(s) and communicates to the occupational therapist.
4. Documents according to jurisdictional law, practice guidelines, policies, codes of ethics, and clinical site requirements.
5. Utilize correct medical terminology and abbreviations.

Course Outcome(s):

Respond effectively to patient/client and environmental emergencies in the work setting.

Objective(s):

1. Complies with policies and procedures for emergencies in the work setting.
 2. Identifies that an emergency exists and takes action consistent with the facility's emergency policies and procedures.
 3. Use emergency management principles to protect and save patients/clients and others.
 4. Provides emergency care including, but not limited to, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and basic first aid.
 5. Reports an emergency to the occupational therapist in a timely manner.
 6. Demonstrates the ability to use sound judgment in regard to safety of self and others, and adhere to safety regulations throughout the occupational therapy process.
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Course Outcome(s):

Collect and compile relevant data, administer assessments, assist in interpreting data in collaboration with the occupational therapist, reports results accurately, and establish goals within the scope of an occupational therapy assistant in accordance with the policies and procedures of the assigned clinical site.

Objective(s):

1. Accurately gathers relevant information regarding client's occupations of self-care, productivity, and leisure, and the factors that support and hinder occupational performance.
2. Establishes service competency in assessment methods, including but not limited to interviews, observations, assessment tools, and chart reviews within the context of the service delivery setting.
3. Assists with interpreting assessment in relation to the client's performance and goals in collaboration with the occupational therapist.
4. Reports results accurately in a clear, concise manner that reflects the client's status and goals.
5. Develop client-centered and occupation-based goals in collaboration with the occupational therapist.

Course Outcome(s):

Plan, select, and utilize interventions informed by evidence and implement treatment plans, selecting relevant therapeutic occupations that are client-centered, occupation-based, and modify the intervention plan as needed in collaboration with the occupational therapist, to encourage optimal occupational performance and facilitate achievement of treatment goals.

Objective(s):

1. Reviews the occupational therapy intervention plan and current patient/client status with the occupational therapist.
2. Reviews pertinent indications, contraindications, precautions, and safety consideration for intervention(s) described in the intervention plan.
3. Collaborates with the occupational therapist in establishing methods, duration and frequency of interventions that are client-centered and occupation based.
4. Select and sequence relevant interventions to promote the client's ability to engage in occupations.
5. Implements occupation-based interventions effectively in collaboration with clients, families, significant others, and service providers.
6. Grades and adapts activities to motivate and challenge clients in order to facilitate progress.
7. Interacts effectively with clients to facilitate accomplishment of established goals.
8. Monitors the client's status in order to update, change, or terminate the intervention plan in collaboration with the occupational therapist.
9. Utilize risk management strategies and safety procedures in the provision of intervention.
10. Complies with appropriate jurisdictional law, practice guidelines, codes of ethics, and facility policies.

Course Outcome(s):

Demonstrate the ability to clearly and effectively communicate in a culturally competent manner, verbally/non-verbally, and the written format with occupational therapists, patients/clients, family members, caregivers, other health care providers, students, interdisciplinary team members, administrators, third party payers, and consumers.

Objective(s):

1. Communicates in a confidential and timely manner.
2. Listens, clearly informs, and educates the patient/client using language that the patient/client understands.
3. Demonstrates ongoing, active communication with the occupational therapist and other health care practitioners and interdisciplinary team members.
4. Communicates with sensitivity by considering differences in race/ethnicity, religion, gender, age, national origin, sexual orientation, and disability or health status.
5. Uses information technology such as word processing and presentation software, email, and electronic records to improve clarity and efficiency of communication.
6. Produces clear and accurate documentation according to site requirements. All writing is legible, using proper spelling, punctuation, and grammar.
7. Demonstrate responsiveness to constructive feedback in all aspects of clinical performance.
8. Demonstrate supportive responses to patient's/client's psychological/emotional condition.

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Student performance evaluation by clinical instructor
2. Case study
3. Therapeutic project

Course Content Outline:

1. American Occupational Therapy Association Code of Ethics
 - a. Medicare
 - b. Medicaid
 - c. Client privacy
 - d. Social media
 - e. Human subject research
2. Safety
 - a. Fire
 - b. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations
 - c. Body substance precautions
 - d. Emergency procedures
 - e. Body mechanics
 - f. Equipment safety
 - g. Client safety
 - h. Community safety
3. Articulating the value and role of the occupational therapy profession
 - a. Values, perspectives and beliefs of the occupational therapy profession
 - b. How to clearly, confidently and accurately articulate beliefs
 - c. Groups of stakeholders
 - i. Families
 - ii. Caregivers
 - iii. Colleagues
 - iv. Service providers
 - v. Administration
 - vi. Public
4. Evaluation of occupational performance
 - a. Record or chart reviews
 - b. Client
 - c. Family
 - d. Caregivers
 - e. Service providers
5. Assessment methods for service competency
 - a. Record or chart reviews
 - b. Observations
 - c. Interviews
 - d. Standardized and non-standardized assessments
6. Appropriate procedures and protocols for delegated assessments
 - a. Observations
 - b. Interviews
 - c. Standardized and non-standardized assessments
7. Interpreting client needs
 - a. Record or chart reviews
 - b. Observations
 - c. Interviews
 - d. Standardized and non-standardized assessments
8. Reporting of client's occupational performance
9. Professional literature in occupational therapy
10. Occupation-based vs client-centered interventions
 - a. Selection
 - b. Implementation
11. Task modification to meet client's performance needs
12. Identification of appropriate use of modifying or terminating the intervention plan

13. Proper documentation
 - a. Effectiveness of interventions
 - b. Legibility
 - c. Spelling
 - d. Grammar
 - e. Electronic health records
14. Collaboration between members of the occupational therapy team
15. Costs and funding systems related to therapy services
16. Occupational Therapy Association
 - a. Mission, vision, values
 - b. Accreditation status
 - c. Licensing
 - d. Specialty certificates
17. Expected volume of work for occupational therapy assistant students
18. Communication
 - a. Verbal
 - b. Non-verbal
19. Self-motivation in the field
20. Constructive responses to feedback
21. Acceptable work behaviors
22. Time management
23. Therapeutic use of self
24. Diversity

The Course Schedule is subject to change due to pedagogical needs, instructor discretion, parts of term, and unexpected events.

Resources for the Instructor

Fairchild, S. L., & O'Shea, R. K. (2023) *Principles and techniques of patient care (7th ed.)*, St. Louis: Saunders/Elsevier.

Patnaude, M.E. (Ed.). (2021) *Early's physical dysfunction practice skills for the occupational therapy assistant*, Elsevier, Inc.

Sladyk, K. (2002) *The Successful Occupational Therapy Fieldwork Student*, Thorofare: Slack Incorporated.

Reed, K. L. (2014) *Quick reference to occupational therapy*, Aspen Publication.

Chisholm, D., Dolhi, C., & Schreiber, J. (2004) *Occupational therapy intervention resource manual: A guide for occupation-based practice*, Thompson/Delmar Learning.

Meriano, C., & Latella, D. (2016) *Occupational therapy interventions: Functions and occupations*, Slack Incorporated.

Morreale, M. (2021) *Developing clinical competence: A workbook for the OTA*, Thorofare: Slack Incorporated.

Additional Resources for the Instructor

1. OhioLINK.
2. Resources to be determined by instructor and student. May include texts and reference books from OTAT courses.

Key: 3396