

University of the Sciences in Philadelphia
Department of Occupational Therapy

Course: OT 552: Concepts in Human Occupation

Catalog Description:

This course will explore the meaning and purpose of human occupation. The course will examine and analyze activities, habits, roles and occupations for individuals with varying abilities. Laboratory will emphasize individual engagement in occupations within various social and cultural contexts.

Course & Lab Instructor:

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Course Objectives:

1. Identify the psychosocial, cognitive, perceptual and sensorimotor components of occupational performance.
2. Understand the impact of performance components, physical and social environments and temporal adaptation on human occupation.
3. Distinguish between activity, occupation and purposeful activity.
4. Analyze tasks activities and tasks in relation to performance areas, components and contexts.
5. Demonstrate activity analysis adaptations such as up/down grading, parallel choice and chaining.
6. Understand and participate in social and community service experiences to appreciate the influence of social conditions and ethical contexts in which humans choose and engage in occupations.
7. Describe how occupations are linked to roles and habits.
8. Understand the meaning and dynamics of occupation and purposeful activity including the interaction of performance areas, components and contexts.
9. Understand different models of practice and frames of reference that are used in occupational therapy.
10. Understand the importance of the balance of performance areas to the achievement of health and wellness.
11. Understand the role of occupation in the promotion of health and the prevention of disease and disability for individuals, families and society.
12. Demonstrate an appreciation for the individual's perceptions of quality of life, well-being, and occupation to promote health and prevention of injury and disease.
13. Demonstrate oral and written communication skills.

Course Syllabus:

Week 1	Course Introduction; Perspectives of Activity, Purpose Activity & Occupation Concepts of Human Occupation: Occupational Science
Week 2	Occupational Evolution: From Sticks & Stones... and To Infinity and Beyond... Technological Occupations
Week 3	Activity Analysis: Occupation as Patterns of Meaningful Activity. Occupational Performance Areas & Contexts ; What is Activity Analysis? Sensorimotor Performance Components
Week 4	Activity Analysis: Cognitive & Psychosocial Performance Components; Matching the Activity, Person and Therapeutic Approach
Week 5	Performance Context
Week 6	Activity Adaptation: Creating the Match; Goal Setting and Achieving
Week 7	Meaning & Purpose of Occupation; Community Occupations
Week 8	Habits & Roles: Habit of Routine ; Social & Cultural Rituals & Routines
Week 9	Habits & Roles: Habit of Change
Week 10	Construction Occupations: Using tools and creating objects; Concepts of Human Occupation: Model of Human Occupation
Week 11	Concepts of Human Occupation: Model of Human Occupation & Occupational Form and Performance
Week 12	Occupation as Therapy: Towards Health & Well-Being
Week 13	Occupation Presentations
Week 14	Occupation Presentations

Required Texts:

1. Wilcock, A. (1998). An Occupational Perspective of Health. Thorofare, NJ: Slack Inc.

2. Additional readings will be assigned.

Assignments	%
Activity/Time Configuration	P/NP
Goal Setting Activity	P/NP
Habit Assignment	P/NP
Quizzes	20%
Community Occupations Poster & Presentation	20%
Occupational Analysis	20%
Service Learning Lab	30%
Course participation	10%
	100%

Occupations Service Learning Lab

The service learning lab will be held each week at the HeadStart/Early Intervention Center. The actual days of the lab will vary from week to week based on the center's schedule. We will continue to plan, implement and analyze developmentally appropriate activities for the children in collaboration with the teachers based around a theme as well as work on the final project. This semester the theme will be garden and outdoor occupations for the children. This semester's final project will be the construction of a children's garden. We will be working with a landscape architect to design, develop and build a children's garden at the center.