

Virginia Western Community College**OCT 100
Introduction to Occupational Therapy****Course Description**

Introduces the concepts of occupational therapy as a means of directing a person's participation in tasks selected to develop, maintain or restore skills in daily living. Examines the role of the assistant for each function of occupational therapy, and for various practice settings in relationship to various members of the health care team.

Prerequisites: OTA program placement

Semester Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Required Materials

Textbooks:

1. The American Occupational Therapy Association. (2020). *Occupational therapy practice framework: Domain & process*. (4th ed.). AOTA Press.
2. Mahle, A.J. & Ward, A.L. (Eds.). (2022). *Adult conditions: Intervention strategies for occupational therapy assistants*. (2nd ed.). F.A. Davis.
3. Morreale, M. J. (2022). *Developing clinical competence: A workbook for the OTA* (2nd ed.). Slack.

(textbooks are used throughout the OTA program – please purchase a copy you can keep for the duration of the program)

Course Objectives

1. Introduce concepts of social determinants of health to help students understand how these factors influence individuals and populations with or at risk for disabilities and chronic health conditions. (SLO #1, 2)
2. Facilitate dialogue to explore the impact of occupation on health, wellness, participation, and to articulate the distinct value of occupational therapy to various stakeholders. (SLO #1, 2, 4)
3. Guide students in locating, analyzing, and evaluating professional literature to support evidence-based decision-making in collaboration with occupational therapists. (SLO #8, 9)
4. Provide instruction on research methodologies, including both quantitative and qualitative approaches to help students understand how research informs occupational therapy practice. (SLO #8, 9)
5. Engage students in experiential learning that demonstrate how academic inquiry contributes to the growth and development of the occupational therapy profession. (SLO #8, 9)
6. Support the development of professional communication skills so students can effectively convey complex occupational therapy concepts to diverse audiences, including clients, colleagues, and policymakers. (SLO #4)

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

At the completion of this course, the student will:

1. Recognize how health and wellness influence occupational performance.
2. Describe the history, philosophical principles, and values of the occupational therapy profession.
3. Explain to the community of interest (e.g., consumers, potential employers, colleagues, third-party payers, regulatory boards, policymakers, and the public) the distinct nature of occupation and the evidence that occupation supports performance, participation, health, wellness, and well-being. (ACOTE B.2.4.)
4. Distinguish the domain and process of occupational therapy practice.
5. Match selected theoretical perspectives used in occupational therapy practice with their characterization.
6. Differentiate the roles & responsibilities of OT practitioners.
7. Locate and demonstrate understanding of professional literature, including the quality of the source of information, to make evidence-based practice decisions in collaboration with the occupational therapist. (ACOTE B.5.1.)
8. Understand how quantitative and qualitative research studies inform occupational therapy practice. (ACOTE B.5.3.)

Major Topics to be Included

- Health & wellness and its effects on occupational performance
- Basic tenants of the occupational therapy profession
- Occupational Therapy Practice Framework; Domain & Process
- Theoretical perspectives in occupational therapy practice
- Professional roles and responsibilities of occupational therapy practitioners
- Scholarship

[ADA Statement](#) (PDF)

[Title IX Statement](#) (PDF)