

Virginia Western Community College**OCT 132
Physical Disabilities Fieldwork Level IC****Prerequisites: OTA Program placement****Course Description:**

Enriches coursework through observation and participation in therapeutic activities. Applies academic knowledge to understand the needs of clients with physical disabilities through instructional methods such as simulated environments, standardized patients, and/or faculty-led site visits. Develops professional skills and highlights how physical disabilities influence occupational engagement.

Semester Credits: 1

Lab Hours: 5 hours per week

Required Materials

Textbooks:

1. The American Occupational Therapy Association. (2020). *Occupational therapy practice framework: Domain & process*. (4th ed.). AOTA Press.
2. Loman, H., Shaffer, A., & Watford, P. (2024). *Occupational therapy with older adults: Strategies for the OTA*. Elsevier.
3. Napier-Tibere, B., & Haroun, L. (2025). *Occupational therapy fieldwork survival guide: A student planner* (3rd ed.). AOTA Press.

Course Objectives

1. Provide opportunities for students to observe and participate in therapeutic activities that address the occupational needs of clients with physical disabilities. (SLO #1, 2, 3)
2. Facilitate academic knowledge to understand how physical disabilities influence occupational engagement across diverse practice settings. (SLO #1, 2).
3. Support development of clinical reasoning skills through simulated environments and faculty-led site visits focused on occupation-based interventions. (SLO #1, 2, 3)
4. Introduce strategies for implementing discharge planning and interprofessional collaboration in occupational therapy practice. (SLO #3, 4)
5. Explore the referral processes and community-based resource that support occupational performance for clients with physical disabilities. (SLO #5)

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of this course, the student will:

1. Demonstrate professional reasoning to inform occupation-based interventions that focus on: client factors, performance patterns, and performance skills. (ACOTE B.3.2)
2. Demonstrate professional reasoning to inform occupation-based interventions that focus on: creation, promotion, establishment, restoration, maintenance, modification, and prevention. (ACOTE B.3.2.)
3. Monitor and reassess, in collaboration with the client and care partner, the effect of occupational therapy intervention and the need for continued or modified intervention and communicate the identified needs to the occupational therapist. (ACOTE B.3.7.)
4. Implement a discharge plan from occupational therapy services that was developed by the occupational therapist in collaboration with the client and members of the interprofessional teams by reviewing the needs of the client, caregiver, family, and significant others; available resources; and discharge environment. (ACOTE B.3.10.)
5. Identify and communicate to the occupational therapist the need to refer to specialists both internal and external to the profession, including community agencies. (ACOTE B.3.17.)

Major Topics to be Included

- Physical disabilities
- Therapeutic techniques for working with clients with physical disabilities
- Professional skills useful when working with clients with physical disabilities
- Occupation-based interventions
- Interdisciplinary teamwork

[ADA Statement](#) (PDF)

[Title IX Statement](#) (PDF)