

Occupational Therapist Assistant

Occupational Therapist Assistants provide client care and treatment under the supervision of an occupational therapist. They are involved in the safe and proficient delivery of activities that have been established as a treatment plan for clients coping with temporary or permanent limitation in occupational performance. The role of the occupational therapist assistant varies depending on the practice setting. The occupational therapist assistant may work with individuals, families, groups or agencies to help individuals perform self-care and be productive.

Employment opportunities exist in rehabilitation facilities, hospitals and community settings.

OBJECTIVES

1. To understand the scope of practice and the responsibilities inherent in the role of an assistant to occupational therapists.
2. To understand and apply the principles of rehabilitation in the performance of their duty.
3. To implement the components of the treatment plan as delegated by the occupational therapists.
4. To perform delegated therapeutic skills safely and effectively under the supervision of the occupational therapist.
5. To observe and report change, to use sound judgments and problem-solving skills in the performance of their duties.
6. To develop skills so that the assistant will be able to work in an occupational therapy service in a community and/or institutional setting.
7. To participate as a member of the multidisciplinary health care team through the use of effective communication and the development of positive working relationships.

CURRICULUM

The curriculum for this program encompasses 5 semesters of training. The program is offered through the College's Distributed Learning Service.

The Distributed Learning format enables learners to take part in education without the restraints of geography and time. Technology enabled learning offers flexibility, collaboration, and interaction without the isolation normally associated with traditional distance education. It also improves access for independent disciplined learners.

Web based courses are enhanced by structured clinical placements and hands-on laboratory sessions. These activities take place as close as possible to the student's home location; however, in some cases travel may be necessary. Students may enroll on a full or part-time basis.

PROGRAM TRANSFERABILITY

Graduates of the program may apply for admission to the Physiotherapist Assistant program.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

Comprehensive Arts and Science Certificate (College Transition program) with the following courses:

1. Essential English I and II (minimum 60%)
2. Math Fundamentals I and II (minimum 60%)
3. Two Science courses chosen from one of the following three combinations:
 - a. Introductory Biology I and II
 - b. Introductory Chemistry I and II
 - c. Introductory Physics I and II

Note: It is strongly recommended that CAS students who intend to enroll in the Occupational Therapist Assistant program complete both of the Introductory Biology courses.

OR

High School Graduation Certificate with a 60% overall average in the following:

1. Language (1 credit) (minimum 60%) chosen from 3101, 3102, 3103, 3112, 3172, 3192, 4121

OR

- English (2 credits) (minimum 60%) chosen from 3201, 3211, 3202, 3212, 3231, 3232, 3281, 3282, 3291, 3292

2. Mathematics (2 credits) chosen from

Advanced: 3201, 3211, 3221, 3231, 3271, 3281, 3291, 4225 (50% minimum)

Academic: 3203, 3200, 3210, 3230, 3270, 3280, 3290 (60% minimum)

OR

Mathematics (4 credits) chosen from:

Advanced: 2205, 3205 (50% minimum in each course)

Academic: 2204 (50% minimum), 3204 (60% minimum)

3. Science (2 credits) chosen from

Biology: 3201, 3211, 3231, 3271, 3281, 3291, 4221

Physics: 3204, 3214, 3274, 3284, 3294, 4224

Chemistry: 3202, 3212, 3230, 3272, 3282, 3292, 4222

Geology: 3203, 3213, 3223, 3273, 3283, 3293

Earth Systems: 3213, 3209

Environmental Science: 3213, 3209

4. Electives (2 additional credits) chosen from any of the remaining 3000 level courses offered in the Senior High School Program.

OR

Adult Basic Education (Level III) Graduation indicating completion of the academic stream with an overall 60% average including the following courses:

Communication Skills from one of the following:

1. Communications (minimum of 60%) IC3211 & IC3112 plus one of IC3116 or IC3215 or IC3321 or IC3222.

2. Mathematics (minimum of 60%) from one of the following sections:

a. IM3212, IM3213 and IM3216

b. IM3219

3. Science from one of the following sections:

a. Biology IB3113, IB3214, IB3115, IB3316

b. Chemistry IH3215, IH3116, IH3117, IH3118

c. Physics IP3111, IP3112, IP3215, IP 3216

d. Earth Sciences IS3212, or IS3213 or IP3214

OR

Adult Basic Education Graduation (Level III) with Degree and Technical Profile (overall 60% average) including the following courses:

1. English (minimum of 60%) 3101A, 3101B, 3101C or 3102A, 3102B, 3102C

2. Mathematics (minimum of 60%) 1104A, 1104B, 1104C, 2104A, 2104B, 2104C, 3104A, 3104B, 3104C

3. Science from one of the following sections:

a. Biology 1101, 2101A, 2101B, 2101C, 3101A, 3101B, 3101C

b. Chemistry 1102, 2102A, 2102B, 2102C, 3102A, 3102B, 3102C

c. Physics 1104, 2104A, 2104B, 2104C, 3104A, 3104B, 3104C

OR

Applicants who do not meet the entrance requirements, and are 19 years of age or older, may be considered on an individual basis under the Mature Student Clause.

Applicants with Adult Basic Education (Level III) Graduation with a different Profile (and appropriate grades) may be eligible for admission to the program provided the appropriate selection of courses including those outlined above have been completed.

Students must submit an official Preadmission Physical Examination and Proof of Immunization form as well as a Certificate of Conduct from the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC), the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) or local provincial/municipal force prior to registration.

CERTIFICATE

- Length of program varies
- September start
- Prince Philip Drive through @College Distributed Learning Service

COURSES

CODE	TITLE	Hrs/wk		
Semester 1		Cr	Le	La
BL1320	Anatomy and Physiology	4	4	0
CM1230	Communications for Rehabilitation Assistants	3	3	0
MC1150	Productivity Tools I	4	3	2
TA1130	Orientation to Rehabilitation for OTA (includes one week clinical placement)	4	3	1
Semester 2		Cr	Le	La
TA2120	Disabling Conditions	4	4	0
TA1220	Normal Functional Movement	4	3	2
PS2220	Developmental Psychology	3	3	0
Semester 3 (Intersession)		Cr	Le	La
TA2210	Communication Disorders	2	4	0
TA2510	Psychiatric Disorders	2	4	0
TA2850	Clinical Placement I for OTA	P/F	2	2wks
Semester 4		Cr	Le	La
TA1310	The Health Care System	2	2	0
SD1630	Working in Health Care	3	3	0
TA1510	Gerontology	2	2	0
TA2650	Therapeutic Skills I for OTA	4	3	4
Semester 5		Cr	Le	La
TA2860	Clinical Placement II for OTA	P/F	5	5wks
TA2660	Therapeutic Skills II for OTA	4	3	4
TA2870	Clinical Placement III for OTA	P/F	4	4wks