OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

SKILLS FOR THE JOB OF LIVING

Orientation 2019
Introduction of Faculty

Why Occupational Therapy Assistant?
Description of OT—Faculty Perspective

- Anna Polzin
- Mari Jo Ulrich
- Kristin Roll
- Mental Health
- Program Director
- Pediatrics
Ice Breaker
Definition of Occupational Therapy

- Restoration and development of a person’s occupation (daily routines, activities and social roles)
- OT helps people fulfill their roles and responsibilities as student, worker, friend, parent, significant other
- OT uses work, play, and self care
- OT helps people achieve independence
- OT helps people live productive and satisfying lives
Films on Demand

- Link to OTA Program Application Page
- Can be seen from any WITC campus
- 22 minutes
- Overview of what the OTA does
OT Practitioners

- **COTA**
- **Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant**
  - Associate’s Degree
- Work under the supervision of the Registered Occupational Therapist

- **OTR**
- **Registered Occupational Therapist**
- **Entry Level Master’s Degree**
What diagnoses can be treated by Occupational Therapy?

- Heart attack or stroke
- Arthritis, multiple sclerosis and other degenerative diseases
- Children with birth defects, learning difficulties or developmental disabilities
- Mental health issues such as depression, schizophrenia or bi-polar disorder
- Substance abuse issues and eating disorders
Diagnoses treated by Occupational Therapy, Cont.

- Burns, spinal cord injuries or amputations
- Broken bones or injuries from falls, sports or accidents
- Work related or age related injuries
- Low vision
- Cognitive deficits such as brain injury or Alzheimer’s Disease
- Health promotion or wellness
Where do OT Practitioners work?

- Hospitals
- Rehabilitation Centers
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- School systems
- Home health agencies
- Community programs
- Early intervention programs
- Residential facilities
Where OT Practitioners Work, Cont.

- Hospice
- Volunteer agencies
- Private practice
- Work hardening
- Day programs
- Assisted living
- Sheltered workshops
- Hand therapy
2 areas of employment

- Traditional
  - COTA
  - Under supervision of OTR
  - Provide OT services
  - Hospital, School, SNF

- Emerging or Non-traditional
  - No OTR needed
  - Using skills from this degree in work setting
OT Practitioners

- Must pass a national certification exam to practice (NBCOT)
- Must attain state licensure to practice
- Must have a background check
What attracts students to OTA?

- Chance for direct service career
- Diverse opportunities for employment
- Possible progression to OTR
- Fieldwork and practical based curricula
- Working directly with people
What attributes should an occupational therapy assistant have?

- Creativity
- Flexibility
- Desire to work with people
- Patience
- Warmth
NBCOT

- The National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT)
- Credentialing agency that provides certification for the occupational therapy profession
- NBCOT serves the public interest by developing, administering, and continually reviewing a certification process
NBCOT, Cont.

- Prometric Test Centers
- Online testing
- 200 Multiple Choice questions
- 4 hours
- $515.00 online application
- $555.00 paper application
NBCOT Results 2018

100% WITC Graduates
National Data

Gender

8%
92%

Male  Female

2010 Occupational Therapy Compensation and Workforce Study, AOTA
Primary Work Settings

- SNF: 45%
- School: 21%
- Hospital: 20%
- Other: 14%

2010 Occupational Therapy Compensation and Workforce Survey
Annual Salary Median

- $34,298
- $41,000
- $37,000

2010 Occupational Therapy Compensation and Workforce Survey
OTA Program Standards

- Require a “C” or better in all courses 79.5% average
- Repeat Core or occupational support course only once (G1)
- Dress Code (D6)
ITV Courses

- All lecture courses are ITV format
- Lab courses are in person at each campus
- D4
Blackboard

- Computer component to all OTA courses.
- Required to have 24 hour access to Internet and computer.
- Will need to check Blackboard daily.
- May need to print...may need to print some things in color.
Requirements for first day of fall semester

- Complete Wisconsin Caregiver Background Check
- CBC Statement of Understanding
- Functional Abilities Statement
- OTA Health Form
- Student Information Sheet
- Confidentiality Statement
WI Caregiver Background Check

- Must be completed before September 1, 2019 but no sooner than 30 days prior (August 1, 2019)
- $10.00
- Turn into Mari Jo Ulrich, Program Director, Ashland Campus
Background Check

- Self Reporting Requirements
- Dean’s Letter
- Students who complete FW or off campus activities in Minnesota are required to have a Minnesota Background Check
- Students completing FW in other states will be required to have additional Background checks
The cost of background checks is the responsibility of the student.

Students can not participate in off-campus coursework until BG check is completed.

Students may not be able to meet course competencies with negative information on a BG check.
Health Form - Handout

- Family History
- Immunizations
- Physical
- CPR—(H4) Red Cross or American Heart Association
Physical

- Must have a physical and form completed by Physician, Physician’s Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner
- Form must be filled out
Other information

- Malpractice Insurance
- Health Insurance Name
- Badge
Contact Information

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Give a man a fish
Feed him for a day...

Teach a man to fish
Feed him for a lifetime.
How many OTA’s does it take to change a light bulb?

None

An OTA will teach the light bulb to change itself!
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