

**SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO**



Sault College

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**COURSE TITLE:** Fieldwork Placement III (Physiotherapy)  
**CODE NO. :** OPA212 **SEMESTER:** 4  
**PROGRAM:** Occupational Therapist Assistant/Physiotherapist Assistant  
**AUTHOR:** Andrea Sicoli/Joanna McDougall  
**DATE:** January 2006 **PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:** Jan/05  
**APPROVED:**

	_____ <b>ASSOCIATE DEAN</b>	_____ <b>DATE</b>
<b>TOTAL CREDITS:</b>	10	
<b>PREREQUISITE(S):</b>	CMM110, CMM215, OPA200, OPA201, OPA202, OPA203, OPA204, OPA205, OPA206	
<b>HOURS/WEEK:</b>	37.5	

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**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will provide the student with a five-week physiotherapy fieldwork placement. The goals of this experience are to provide the student with the opportunity to practice and refine the skills of the Physiotherapy Assistant and provide the opportunity to work more independently in the role of a PTA. The student will consolidate prior learning in a physiotherapy setting, under the supervision of a Physiotherapist.

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**

In general, this course addresses Learning Outcomes of the Program Standards in: communication skills (1, 2, 3, 6, 8P, 8O, 9P, 10P, 11P, 12P), interpersonal skills (1, 2, 3, 7, 9P, 10P, 11P, 12P), safety (1, 2, 4, 8P, 8O, 9P, 10P, 11P, 12P), professional competence (1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 8P, 8O, 9P, 10P, 11P, 12P), documentation skills (1, 4, 5, 6), and application skills (1, 2, 4, 6, 8P, 8O, 9P, 10P, 11P, 12P). It addresses all of the Generic Skills Learning.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

**1. Demonstrate the ability to work within the role of a PTA in a Physiotherapy setting.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Completion of clerical and administration duties as requested by the Reg. PT or administrative staff (i.e. telephone skills, filing)
- Completion of maintenance duties as indicated by the Reg. PT (i.e. cleaning equipment, preparing treatment areas, inventory and ordering of supplies)
- Contributes to the functional assessment and administration of standardized tests
- Participates in the intervention of the client, based on treatment recommendations provided by the Reg. PT (i.e. modalities, functional activities, ADL training)
- Ensures behaviours and skills are within the scope of practice of an OTA/PTA student

**2. Demonstrate skill in assisting and reporting appropriately to contribute to the Physiotherapist's assessments in order to determine a client's need for treatment.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Assists in gathering of referral information
- Contributes to the functional assessment and administration of standardized tests
- Participates in the intervention of the client, based on treatment recommendations provided by the OT
- Listens attentively and actively
- Demonstrates effective clinical observation skills
- Assists in recording and reporting of assessment results as indicated by the OT

**3. Demonstrate observations skills of monitoring treatment plans outlined by a Physiotherapist and identify, report and record when changes/modifications may be appropriate.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Becomes familiar with report formats including: initial assessment, progress notes and discharge summary
- Discusses the role of the PTA regarding documentation/reporting
- Applies clinical observation skills, monitor and report any changes in a client's functional performance/status
- Effectively communicates, both verbally and through documentation any observations regarding the client's functional performance

**4. Demonstrate safe and effective application of physical agents (eg. Thermal agents, hydrotherapy, ultrasound, electrotherapy etc.) as prescribed by a Physiotherapist.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Efficiently and effectively prepares treatment areas using appropriate positioning and draping techniques
- Demonstrates safe, efficient and effective application of physical agents as indicated by Reg. PT
- Demonstrates awareness of precautions, contraindications and side effects when providing interventions
- Explains the effects of the physical agent to patients

**5. Demonstrate skill in the application and education of the use of assistive devices prescribe by a Physiotherapist and identify and report when changes/modifications may be appropriate.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Demonstrates general knowledge regarding the use of mobility aids such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and canes
- Explains and demonstrate appropriate selection, fit and adjustment of wheelchairs, crutches, canes, and walkers
- Makes basic modifications and adjustments to mobility aids, as instructed by the Reg. PT to ensure proper use by the client
- Ensures that client is able to safely and effectively use assistive device provided

**6. Demonstrate the appropriate selection and implementation of therapeutic exercise programs, for individuals and groups, as prescribed by a Physiotherapist.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Contributes to the functional assessment and administration of standardized tests
- Assists in gathering of referral information
- Contributes to the functional assessment and administration of standardized tests
- Participates in the intervention of the client, based on treatment recommendations provided by the Reg. PT
- Listens attentively and actively
- Demonstrates effective clinical observation skills
- Assists in recording and reporting of assessment results as indicated by the Reg. PT

**7. Demonstrate skill in the application of safety precautions regarding the client and self during therapeutic activities, mobility and positioning procedures.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Follows health and safety regulations of the clinical facility and is aware of emergency procedures (ie. Isolation precautions, code red)
- Ensures proper body mechanics of self and the client at all times
- Keeps working area safe and clean
- Recognizes changes in client's status and notifies appropriate medical staff
- Demonstrates awareness of precautions, contraindications and side effects when providing interventions
- Demonstrates safe handling techniques during positioning and transferring of clients

**8. Demonstrate effective time management skills and problem-solving skills**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Demonstrates punctuality (for work, meetings, treatment sessions)
- Demonstrates initiative and self direction
- Ensures that tasks are completed in an effective and timely manner
- Begins to apply clinical reasoning skills and problem solving strategies

**9. Contribute and participate in team meetings both within the department and the agency when appropriate.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Demonstrates the ability to establish rapport with other members of the health care team
- Initiates conversations with other members of the health care team
- Listens attentively and actively to others during team meetings
- Uses appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication during team meetings (ensuring that message sent is consistent with the intended message)

**10. Demonstrate appropriate professional and ethical behaviour while participating in both direct and indirect client care activities.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Ensures that others (clients and staff) are treated with respect and dignity
- Maintains behaviours consistent with the policies and procedures of the clinical setting (dress code, punctuality, absences)
- Maintains confidentiality
- Manages conflict and accepts feedback in a constructive manner

**11. Demonstrate appropriate communication/listening skills with client/staff, professional personnel and groups.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Demonstrates the ability to use professional terminology when communicating verbally
- Demonstrates awareness of non-verbal communication, such as body language, and ensures professionalism at all times
- Demonstrates the ability to interpret non-verbal communication of clients and respond appropriately
- Demonstrates the ability to modify communication style to meet the individual needs of the client
- Demonstrates effective listening skills and follows through with information obtained
- Asks for clarification when necessary, to ensure accuracy and understanding of information

**III. TOPICS:**

1. Role of the OTA/PTA – Professional Behaviours and Communication
2. Clinical Observations and Reporting
3. Selection and Implementation of Therapeutic Interventions
4. Application of Physical Agent Modalities
5. Assistive Devices and Mobility Aids
6. Ensuring Safety During Rehabilitation

**IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:**

*All previous materials used during program of study to date.  
Alternate resources may be assigned by the supervising therapist.*

**V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:**

Will be based on successful completion of the PT placement:

<b>Placement Evaluation</b>	<b>(S/U)</b>
<b>Clinical Attendance</b>	<b>(187.5 hours)</b>
<b>Log Book</b>	<b>(S/U)</b>

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in post-secondary courses:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00

CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.

**Note:** For such reasons as program certification or program articulation, certain courses require minimums of greater than 50% and/or have mandatory components to achieve a passing grade.

It is also important to note, that the minimum overall GPA required in order to graduate from a Sault College program remains 2.0.

## VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

### Special Needs:

If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your professor and/or the Special Needs office. Visit Room E1101 or call Extension 2703 so that support services can be arranged for you.

### Retention of Course Outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other post-secondary institutions.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in the *Student Code of Conduct*. Students who engage in “academic dishonesty” will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided by the professor/dean. In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

Course Outline Amendments:

The professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

**VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:**

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the professor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

**VIII. DIRECT CREDIT TRANSFERS:**

Students who wish to apply for direct credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain a direct credit transfer form from the Dean's secretary. Students will be required to provide a transcript and course outline related to the course in question.