



## COURSE OUTLINE: OPA204 - OT CLINICAL SKILLS 2

Prepared: Andrea Sicoli

Approved: Rebecca Keown - Dean

<b>Course Code: Title</b>	OPA204: OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CLINICAL SKILLS II
<b>Program Number: Name</b>	3022: OCCUP/PHYSIO/ASSIST
<b>Department:</b>	OTA/PTA ASSISTANT
<b>Academic Year:</b>	2025-2026
<b>Course Description:</b>	The purpose of this course is to provide the student with knowledge, skills and competencies required by an OTA. It prepares students to safely and effectively implement and monitor treatment plans under the supervision of a Registered Occupational Therapist. The emphasis will be on rehabilitation of musculoskeletal conditions, hand injuries and burns. The student will demonstrate safe handling, positioning and transfer techniques. Evaluation and intervention in the area of vocational rehab/return to work will be explored. Accessibility issues will be reviewed. The use of assistive devices, splints and assistive technology used to maximize independent function will be implemented during ADL/IADL training. In addition to joint range of motion and muscle strengthening, joint protection and work simplification will be applied.
<b>Total Credits:</b>	3
<b>Hours/Week:</b>	3
<b>Total Hours:</b>	42
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	OPA122, OPA123, OPA124, OPA131, PNG111, PNG121
<b>Corequisites:</b>	There are no co-requisites for this course.
<b>This course is a pre-requisite for:</b>	OPA208, OPA211, OPA226, OPA227
<b>Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO's) addressed in this course:</b>	<b>3022 - OCCUP/PHYSIO/ASSIST</b>
Please refer to program web page for a complete listing of program outcomes where applicable.	VLO 1 Communicate appropriately and effectively, through verbal, nonverbal, written and electronic means, with clients, their significant others, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, and members of the interdisciplinary health care team and others.
	VLO 2 Participate in the effective functioning of interdisciplinary health care teams to optimize client physical and occupational functions.
	VLO 3 Establish, develop, maintain, and conclude client-centred, therapeutic relationships.
	VLO 4 Promote a safe environment that prevents or minimizes potential physical or mental harm to the client, therapist assistant and others.
	VLO 5 Practice in a legal, ethical, and professional manner within the role of a therapist assistant.
	VLO 6 Document client records in a thorough, objective, accurate, and timely manner within the role of the therapist assistant.
	VLO 7 Engage in reflective practice and ongoing professional development activities to maintain and enhance competence.
	VLO 8 Perform the roles and responsibilities of the therapist assistant effectively through



	<p>the application of relevant knowledge of health sciences, psychosocial sciences, health conditions, resource management, and clinical procedures.</p> <p>VLO 9 Contribute to the occupational therapist's or physiotherapist's assessment of the client and the development, implementation and modification of intervention/treatment plans.</p> <p>VLO 10 Maximize the client's occupational performance by accurately and safely implementing the interventions, and related tasks under the direction and supervision of the occupational therapist.</p>				
<b>Essential Employability Skills (EES) addressed in this course:</b>	<p>EES 1 Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience.</p> <p>EES 2 Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication.</p> <p>EES 4 Apply a systematic approach to solve problems.</p> <p>EES 5 Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems.</p> <p>EES 6 Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.</p> <p>EES 7 Analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.</p> <p>EES 8 Show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others.</p> <p>EES 9 Interact with others in groups or teams that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals.</p> <p>EES 10 Manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects.</p> <p>EES 11 Take responsibility for ones own actions, decisions, and consequences.</p>				
<b>Course Evaluation:</b>	<p>Passing Grade: 60%, C</p> <p>A minimum program GPA of 2.0 or higher where program specific standards exist is required for graduation.</p>				
<b>Other Course Evaluation &amp; Assessment Requirements:</b>	<p>The overall passing grade(C or 60%) is required for subsequent courses for which this is a prerequisite. In addition, a minimum of 60% is required for each category of performance in Performance Based Evaluations. (refer to the OTA/PTA Student Success Guide for further clarification)</p>				
<b>Books and Required Resources:</b>	<p>Early's Physical Dysfunction Practice Skills for the OTA by Mary Elizabeth Patnaude          Publisher: Elsevier Edition: 4th          ISBN: 9780383530842          (previously used in OPA115)</p>				
<b>Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Course Outcome 1</th> <th>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Demonstrate an understanding of the clinical presentation of common musculoskeletal conditions managed in Occupational Therapy.</td> <td>           1.1 Apply the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) model to clinical practice.            1.2 Recognize the psychosocial aspect of physical dysfunction, including signs of physical or emotional stress in clients, self and others and modify the contributing factors as appropriate.            1.3 Describe the causes, types and clinical presentation of         </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1	1. Demonstrate an understanding of the clinical presentation of common musculoskeletal conditions managed in Occupational Therapy.	1.1 Apply the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) model to clinical practice. 1.2 Recognize the psychosocial aspect of physical dysfunction, including signs of physical or emotional stress in clients, self and others and modify the contributing factors as appropriate. 1.3 Describe the causes, types and clinical presentation of
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	<p>common arthritic diseases.</p> <p>1.4 Describe the causes, types and clinical presentation of common acute hand injuries.</p> <p>1.5 Describe the causes, severity and clinical presentation of burn injuries and issues related to scar management.</p> <p>1.6 Describe the different causes, types and clinical presentation of amputations.</p> <p>1.7 Describe common causes, types and clinical presentation of common joint arthroplasty.</p> <p>1.8 Describe causes, types and clinical presentation of different back and neck injuries.</p>
<b>Course Outcome 2</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2</b>
<p>2. Demonstrate an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the OT and the OTA in the therapeutic management and intervention of common musculoskeletal conditions.</p>	<p>2.1 Safely and effectively implement and monitor treatment plans and identify and report changes in client status to the Registered OT.</p> <p>2.2 Apply principles of normal and abnormal movement to functional activities such as self-care, posture, seating and mobility.</p> <p>2.3 Recall appropriate assessments completed by the OT and describe appropriate therapeutic interventions provided by the OT and the OTA for the following musculoskeletal conditions:          -Arthritic Disease-joint protection techniques, splinting, modalities, exercises          -Acute Hand Injury-splinting following surgical intervention or acute injury , the use of modalities, evaluation of function, exercises and ADL/IADL training          -Burns-wound management, prevention of deformities, maintenance of ROM and ADL/ADL training          -Amputation-education regarding phantom pain, training in the use of prosthetics, ADL/IADL training          -Joint Arthroplasty-contraindications and precautions. ADL/ADL training, training in the use of assistive devices          -Back and Neck Injury-pain management, training in the use of assistive devices</p> <p>2.4 Establish, develop, maintain and bring closure to a client centered therapeutic relationship within the role of an OTA by the recognizing the uniqueness of the individual.</p> <p>2.5 Demonstrate the ability to observe, monitor and report the clients performance and status during intervention activities.</p>
<b>Course Outcome 3</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3</b>
<p>3. Demonstrate skill in the education and training of ADL/IADL with clients.</p>	<p>3.1 Apply appropriate techniques when training in the areas of ADL/IADL to ensure maximum functioning.</p> <p>3.2 Demonstrate confidence, safety and skill in the training in the use of assistive devices.</p> <p>3.3 Recognize and respond to client's unique learning needs when teaching clients new methods for performing ADL/IADL tasks with the use of prosthetics.</p> <p>3.4 Demonstrate the ability to teach a client how to mobilize using a wheelchair.</p>
<b>Course Outcome 4</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4</b>

4. Demonstrate personal safety and contribute to the safety of others during handling skills and transfers with clients.	4.1 Demonstrate safe and effective handling, positioning and transferring techniques related to different musculoskeletal conditions. 4.2 Employ effective teaching strategies for transfers and handling skills. 4.3 Describe the precautions and limitations associated with handling, positioning and transferring techniques for different musculoskeletal conditions.
<b>Course Outcome 5</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5</b>
5. Demonstrate and apply principles of energy conservation and joint protection techniques during ADL/IADL.	5.1 Apply knowledge of ergonomics, energy conservation and work simplification to promote independent functioning. 5.2 Describe principles of joint protection and explain the benefits for conditions such as arthritis, back injury, amputation and joint arthroplasty. 5.3 Explore the use of assistive devices/adaptive equipment to conserve energy during ADL/IADL.
<b>Course Outcome 6</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 6</b>
6. Demonstrate knowledge and skill in the selection and implementation of therapeutic activities for individual clients and groups of clients with musculoskeletal conditions under the supervision of an Occupational Therapist.	6.1 Apply knowledge and skill related to the assessment and intervention of joint range of motion and muscle strength during client intervention 6.2 Demonstrate the ability to select tasks that are appropriate to the clients condition and goals and carry out treatment techniques in a safely and effectively. 6.3 Implement effective critical thinking, problem solving and judgment during delivery of treatment interventions to ensure client safety and success. 6.4 Demonstrate the ability to adapt treatment interventions to meet the needs of the client. 6.5 Demonstrate the ability to effectively grade activities to meet the clients abilities and enhance continued progression. 6.6 Discuss remedial vs. compensatory training for individuals with musculoskeletal disorders. 6.7 Define and discuss Vocational Rehabilitation.
<b>Course Outcome 7</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 7</b>
7. Demonstrate skill in observing and reporting any changes in clients progress to the Occupational Therapist.	7.1 Review the use of checklists and charting systems used to monitor progress with musculoskeletal conditions. 7.2 Demonstrate accurate verbal reporting and documentation of clinical observations of the clients performance and status.
<b>Course Outcome 8</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 8</b>
8. Demonstrate an understanding of the application of a range of assistive devices, the safe use of, and maintenance of assistive devices used to maximize function in Occupational Therapy	8.1 Employ effective teaching strategies to ensure client safety when handling, positioning, seating, ambulating and transferring. 8.2 List and discuss commonly used assistive devices to maximize occupational performance during ADL/IADL for the following musculoskeletal conditions: -arthritic diseases -acute hand injuries



	clients with musculoskeletal conditions.	-burns -amputations -joint arthroplasty -back and neck injuries
	<b>Course Outcome 9</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 9</b>
	9. Demonstrate an understanding of the use of splints in the Occupational Therapy management of musculoskeletal conditions.	9.1 Recognize the role of the Registered OT and the role of the OTA during splinting. 9.2 Discuss indications for the fabrication of splints. 9.3 Demonstrate the ability to assist in the fabrication and adjustment of a splint.
	<b>Course Outcome 10</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 10</b>
	10. Demonstrate an increased awareness of accessibility issues for clients with musculoskeletal conditions.	10.1 Describe the various barriers and challenges regarding accessibility in the home environment and in the community. 10.2 Demonstrate knowledge regarding Accessibility Committees (college, city) completing a Barrier Identification Checklist.
	<b>Course Outcome 11</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 11</b>
	11. Demonstrate an understanding the different areas of Vocational Rehabilitation.	11.1 Describe the benefits of various work related evaluations such as the Job Demands Analysis, Pre-Employment Screening, the FAE/FCE, and Work Hardening Programs. 11.2 Explore the role of the OTA/PTA in Vocational Rehab. 11.3 Demonstrate observational skills and reporting skills as required to evaluate various work settings and job related activities.
	<b>Course Outcome 12</b>	<b>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 12</b>
	12. Demonstrate knowledge regarding the use of assistive technology (computers, ECUs, electric wheelchairs) to maximize function in clients with musculoskeletal conditions.	12.1 Explore the role of computers technology in the treatment of musculoskeletal disorders. 12.2 Demonstrate general knowledge regarding the selection and use of electric wheelchairs with clients with musculoskeletal conditions. 12.3 Discuss the use of assistive technology devices such as environmental control units.

**Evaluation Process and Grading System:**

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
1. Required Readings	5%
2. Weekly Lab Activities	20%
3. Assignments	25%
Exams/Performance Based Evaluation	50%

**Date:** August 13, 2025

**Addendum:** Please refer to the course outline addendum on the Learning Management System for further information.