

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ON

COURSE OUTLINE

**COURSE TITLE: THERAPEUTIC SKILLS AND CLINICAL SUPPORT
PERSONNEL IN PHYSIOTHERAPY H**

CODE NO.: RSP 109

SEMESTER: H

PROGRAM: REHABILITATION ASSISTANT

AUTHOR: A Multi - Discipline Team

DATE: MAY/97

PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED: N/A

APPROVED:


L/AZIT.
DEAN



^DATE

TOTAL CREDITS: 3

PREREQUISITTE(S): RSP107, RSP108

CONCURRENT: RSP105, RSP106

LENGTH OF COURSE: 5 HR/WK

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 45

**THERAPEUTIC SKILLS AND
CLINICAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL
IN PHYSIOTHERAPY H**

RSP 109

COURSE NAME

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide the student with information pertaining to and practice in appropriate application of therapeutic modalities used in a physiotherapy department. The student will also learn more specialized areas of physiotherapy and the role of support personnel in these areas.

H. LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course the student will:

1. Maintain and demonstrate competence in the knowledge, skills and attitudes required in courses to date within the Rehabilitation Assistant program.
2. Identify the general benefits, indications and contraindications for therapeutic processes.
3. Safely and accurately carry out tasks related to the application of specific modalities, as required by supervising Physiotherapist.
4. Demonstrate basic understanding of the indications, contraindications, and benefits of specific modalities.
5. Demonstrate competence in the care and maintenance of all therapeutic modality equipment.
6. Demonstrate organizational ability to work effectively within rehabilitation departments, in reception areas, with client(s) and assisting with the therapists' plan of care, maintaining equipment, supplies, mediums, and work areas.
7. Observe and identify situation where patient responses varied from what was expected and report these to the supervising Physiotherapist.
8. Identify specialty areas of physiotherapy treatment, i.e. L.T.C., neurological, cardiorespiratory and when the role of the assistant may be required in these areas.
9. Identify the role and responsibilities of support personnel in relationship to the Registered Occupational Therapist and Physiotherapist in clinical settings.

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H. LEARNING OUTCOMES (Continued)

10. Identify the role of the health care teams and rehabilitation teams in working together to enhance the independent living of the client.
11. Begin to participate as a member of the multidisciplinary health care team through the use of effective communication and the development of positive working relationship.
12. Complete evaluations, self evaluations and evaluations of the placement areas, regarding the learning experience.

HI. TOPICS:

1. Review of appropriate/required knowledge, skills and attitudes from Semester I and II.
2. Therapeutic modalities: Hydrotherapy, Massage, Acu therapy, Laser
 - thermal, wax, heat, cyro
 - electri physical agents
 - ultrasound
3. Care and maintenance of equipment/mediums
4. Communication Skills: Observation and reporting skills
5. Community/practicum experience as available.

IV. LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

A: Review of Semester I and H Skills to Date

1. Review course material required as prerequisites.

RSP101	RSP108
RSP104	RSP107
RSP102	RSP105
RSP103	RSP106
RSP100	

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TV. LEARNING ACTIVITIES (Continued)

2. Demonstrate responsibility in maintaining the knowledge, skills and attitudes required as Rehabilitation Assistant:
- a) maintain confidentiality
 - b) maintain medical asepsis
 - c) maintain respect and dignity of each client
 - d) demonstrate safe handling skills (body mechanics, safe transfers, positioning)

B: Rehabilitation Assistant's Role in Therapeutic Treatments used by Registered Physiotherapists

3. Identify therapeutic treatments used in physical therapy and provide a general description of principles of each modality.
4. List the general goals, benefits and safety concerns for each therapeutic treatment as it relates to the scope of practice of rehabilitation assistants in Ontario.
- a) Thermal treatments
 - wax (paraffin)
 - hot packs
 - ice (cryotherapy)
 - radiant heat
 - b) Hydrotherapy
 - pool
 - whirlpool
 - Hubbard tank
 - i) participate, if possible, in individual treatment in a Hubbard tank or individual or group exercises in therapeutic pools
 - c) **Massage** - muscle stimulators
 - d) Acu-therapy
 - e) Biomechanical
 - traction - techniques, selection, instruction, preparation, application
 - wheelchairs - seating, systems
 - exercise equipment, mobilization table
 - practise safe transfers of patients, demonstrating an understanding of selection of equipment and biomechanics

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TV. LEARNING ACTIVITIES (Continued)

- f) Electro-Physical Agents - TENS
- diathermy, laser, ultrasound
 - iontophoresis
 - Interferential
- i) describe the need for intact skin sensation for safe application of electrophysical agents
 - ii) Identify how skin sensation is determined
 - iii) demonstrate the skills required to care for electrophysical agents including, but not limited to: cleaning electrodes, checking leads and plugs, checking, changing/recharging batteries, etc.
 - iv) describe how to check for skin reaction after removal of electrophysical agents and identify when the change must be reported (immediately).

5. Demonstrate correct assembly and preparation for application of each modality as directed by the therapist, and the necessary clean up.
6. Safely and accurately carry out tasks related to the application of specific therapeutic treatments under the direction and guidance of the Registered Physiotherapist.
7. Recognize liability issues that may arise with the application of these modalities.
8. Demonstrate understanding of the indications, risks and contraindications and benefits of specific modalities.
9. Demonstrate competence in the care and maintenance of equipment, including therapeutic modalities.(also include preventative maintenance plan and follow)

D: Communication Skills: Observing and Reporting

10. To observe and recognize significant departures from the expected patterns of patient response to therapeutic modalities and report immediately to the Physiotherapist.

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IV. LEARNING ACTIVITIES (Continued)

E: Practicum Experiences in Lab or Practicum as available:

11. To have the opportunity to assist with individual and group exercise programs.
12. To develop the skills to adapt activities for specific client conditions.
13. To adjust mobility aids - i.e. crutches, canes, wheelchairs - for accurate fit for the client's needs.
14. To understand the role of the Rehabilitation Assistant in relation to the Physiotherapist.
15. To appreciate the role of the team in working together to enhance the functional independence of the client.
16. To begin the process of the P.T.A. recording observations of the treatment plan and any client changes.
17. To respect the client's right to be treated with respect and dignity.
18. To understand the importance of confidentiality of all patient records.
19. To participate in team meetings as is possible in order to appreciate the various responsibilities of the members of the rehabilitation team.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

A combination of tests and assignments will be used to evaluate student achievement of the course objectives. A description of the evaluation methods will be provided and discussed by the teacher within the first two weeks of class.

All tests/exams are the property of Sault College.

Grading symbols used are those established by the College.

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V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM (Continued)

A+	=	90-100%
A	=	80-89%
B	=	70-79%
C	=	60-69%

VI. REQUIRED STUDENT RESOURCES;

See Semester 2 booklist

VII. ADDITIONAL RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Available in the College Library. See teacher resources - booklets in class.

VIII. SPECIAL NOTES:

Students with special needs (eg. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, learning disabilities) are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with the instructor and/or contact the Special Needs Office so that support services can be arranged for you.

Your instructor reserves the right to modify the course as he/she deems necessary to meet **the needs of students.**

IX. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the instructor.