

**SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO**



Sault College

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**COURSE TITLE:** Fieldwork Placement II – Physiotherapy  
**CODE NO. :** OPA205 **SEMESTER:** 3  
**PROGRAM:** Occupational Therapist Assistant/Physiotherapist Assistant  
**AUTHOR:** Joanna MacDougall, Andrea Sicoli  
**DATE:** Sept. 2006 **PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:** Sept /05  
**APPROVED:**

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**ASSOCIATE DEAN**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

**TOTAL CREDITS:** 5  
**PREREQUISITE(S):** PSY204, OPA106, OPA107, OPA109, OPA110, OPA112,  
OPA113, OPA114, OPA 115  
**HOURS:** 80 (total hours)

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*For additional information, please contact the Associate Dean,  
School of Health and Human Services  
(705) 759-2554, Ext. 2689*

## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide the student with the opportunity to consolidate prior learning under the supervision of a Registered Physiotherapist. The goals of this experience are to provide the student with the opportunity to practice the skills of a Physiotherapist Assistant, apply knowledge and synthesize facts and concepts.

## 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 Outcomes.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

### 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 PT or administrative staff (i.e. telephone skills, filing)
- Completion of maintenance duties as indicated by the PT (i.e. cleaning equipment, preparing treatment areas, inventory and ordering of supplies)
- Contribute to the functional assessment as performed by the PT
- Participate in the intervention of the client, based on treatment recommendations provided by the PT (i.e. exercises, modalities, gait training)
- Ensure behaviours and skills are within the scope of practice of an OTA/PTA student

### 2. Demonstrate skillful and appropriate contribution to Physiotherapist assessments in order to determine a client's need for treatment.

#### Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Assists in gathering of referral information
- Participate in the intervention of the client, based on treatment recommendations provided by the PT
- Listens attentively and actively
- Demonstrates effective clinical observation skills
- Assists in recording and reporting of assessment results as indicated by the PT

**3. Demonstrate observation 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:

- Identify and describe report formats including: initial assessment, progress notes and discharge summary
- Describe and demonstrate documentation/reporting skills in the role of the PTA
- Demonstrate application of clinical observation skills: monitor and report any changes in a client's functional performance/status
- Demonstrate effective communication, both verbally and written, any observations regarding the client's functional performance

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

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Demonstrate skillful preparation of treatment areas
- Demonstrated skillful application of Physical Agents, as assigned by Reg. PT
- Recognize contraindications, precautions and side effects and respond appropriately to any
- Modify applications as required for patient safety and comfort within the parameters assigned by the Reg. PT

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

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Demonstrate the application of knowledge in the use of mobility aids such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and canes
- Demonstrate skill in making modifications and adjustments to mobility aids, to ensure safe and proper use by the client
- Analyze the client's use of the device and assist the client to use the device safely and effectively

**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:

- Demonstrates comprehension of health and safety regulations of the clinical facility and is aware of emergency procedures (i.e., isolation precautions, code red)
- Demonstrates proper body mechanics of self and the client at all times
- Recognizes unsafe working areas and takes initiative to keep 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 and responds appropriately to any
- Demonstrates selection of 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
- Completes tasks in an effective and timely manner
- Begins to apply clinical reasoning skills and problem solving strategies in direct and indirect client care situations

**9. Demonstrate the application, analysis and synthesis of concepts during participation in team meetings both within the department and the agency when appropriate.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Demonstrate the ability to establish rapport with other members of the health care team.
- Demonstrates effective application of interpersonal communication skills with colleagues, supervisors and other members of the health care team

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

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Demonstrates application of the therapeutic relationship
- Demonstrates application of group work skills/dynamics
- Demonstrate application of the policies and procedures of the clinical setting (dress code, punctuality, absences, confidentiality)
- Demonstrates the ability to manage conflict and accept 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
- Assumes responsibility for knowledge base by asking 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:**

As indicated by supervising therapist.

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

Will be based on attendance and successful completion of the PT placement (s) as well as attendance and participation in the seminar.

1. Attendance, participation, performance and log books will be used to evaluate student achievement of the course objectives. A description of the evaluation methods, placement schedules and seminar will be discussed by the teacher within the first two weeks of class.
2. All tests/exams are the property of Sault College.
3. Students missing any of the tests or exams because of illness or other serious reason must notify the professor **BEFORE** the test or exam. The professor reserves the right to request documents to support the student's request.
4. Those students who have notified the professor of their absence that day will be eligible to arrange an opportunity as soon as possible to write the test or exam at another time. Those students who **DO NOT NOTIFY** the professor will receive a zero for that test or exam.
5. For assignments to be handed in, the policies of the program will be followed. For assignments not handed in by the due date, the mark received will be zero. Extensions will be granted if requested in writing at least 24 hours before the due date. There will be a deduction of one percent (of final grade) per day for every school day late with the permission of an extension. This means that an extension for 5 school days (1 week), will result in 5 percentage points deducted from the final grade.
6. There is no supplemental examination/assignment in this course. Each student must achieve a "Satisfactory" grade in fieldwork placement and a minimum of 60% in all graded work. Any student who receives a grade of less than 60% in a graded component will be provided one opportunity to improve their grade for the specified component.

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.