



This course addresses the following Vocational Learning Outcomes, Essential Employability Skills and General Education Requirements in the approved program standard (2008) for Occupational Therapist Assistant and Physiotherapist Assistant program of instruction leading to an Ontario College Diploma delivered by the Ontario Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology. (MTCU code 51502)

***Vocational Learning Outcomes***

<b>Check All That Apply</b>	<b>The graduate has reliably demonstrated the ability to:</b>
X	communicate appropriately and effectively, through verbal, nonverbal, written and electronic means, with clients, their families and significant others, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, other health care providers and others within the role of the therapist assistant
X	participate in the effective functioning of interprofessional health care teams within the role of the therapist assistant.
X	establish, develop, maintain, and bring closure to client-centred, therapeutic relationships within the role of the therapist assistant.
X	ensure personal safety and contribute to the safety of others within the role of the therapist assistant.
X	practice competently in a legal, ethical, and professional manner within the role of the therapist assistant.
X	document and complete client records in a thorough, objective, accurate, and nonjudgmental manner within the role of the therapist assistant.
X	develop and implement strategies to maintain, improve, and promote professional competence within the role of the therapist assistant.
X	perform effectively within the roles and responsibilities of the therapist assistant through the application of relevant knowledge of health sciences, psychosociological sciences, and health conditions.
X	perform functions common to both physiotherapy and occupational therapy practices that contribute to the development, implementation and modification of intervention/treatment plans, under the supervision of and in collaboration with the occupational therapist and/or physiotherapist. enable the client's occupational performance* by contributing to the development, implementation, and modification of intervention/treatment plans, under the supervision of and in collaboration with the occupational therapist.
X	enable the client's optimal physical function by contributing to the development, implementation, and modification of intervention/treatment plans, under the supervision of and in collaboration with the physiotherapist.

***Essential Employability Skills:***

<b>Check All That Apply</b>	<b>The graduate has reliably demonstrated the ability to:</b>
X	communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience.
X	respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication.
X	execute mathematical operations accurately.
X	apply a systematic approach to solve problems.
X	use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems.
X	locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.
X	analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.
X	show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others.
X	interact with others in groups or teams in ways that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals.
X	manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects.
X	take responsibility for one's own actions, decisions, and consequences.

***General Education Requirements are addressed for the objective of Personal Development.***

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will provide the student with a Physiotherapy fieldwork placement which is required as partial fulfillment of the OTAPTA diploma. During fieldwork placement, the student will consolidate prior learning, under the supervision of an Physiotherapist. The student will be encouraged to refine and practice role enhancing skills and demonstrate effective interpersonal skills, competent clinical skills and professionalism. Reflective practice will be emphasized to enhance the learning opportunity and promote lifelong learning. The goal is to provide the student opportunities to reliably demonstrate the ability to perform within the scope of practice of an entry level Physiotherapist Assistant.

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

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

**1. Initiate and demonstrate reflective practice and a self-directed approach to ongoing learning experiences and the development of lifelong learning skills.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Develop and implement an effective learning contract.
- Selection of appropriate learning goals and objectives based on individual learning needs and opportunities of the clinical placement
- Demonstrates anticipatory reflection, reflection in practice and retrospective reflection during fieldwork placement
- Incorporates learning resources and learning strategies applicable to the individual learning style (as per "Learning Style Questionnaire" – in professional portfolio)

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

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Assists with clerical and administration duties as requested by the fieldwork supervisor or administrative staff (i.e. telephone skills, filing)
- Assists with maintenance duties as requested by the fieldwork supervisor (i.e. cleaning equipment, preparing treatment areas, inventory and ordering of supplies)
- Contributes to the functional assessment and administration of standardized tests
- Produces documentation/records and or educational material concisely, as requested by the fieldwork supervisor
- Assists the health care team with continuous quality improvement process as appropriate (time management of patient activity, data collection, program development, chart audits)
- 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

3. **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 PT
- Listens attentively and actively
- Demonstrates effective clinical observation skills
- Assists in recording and reporting of assessment results as indicated by the PT

4. **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

5. **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:

- Reflects on theory based knowledge gained through curriculum when implementing physical agents
- Efficiently and effectively prepares treatment area and patient 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 implementing physical agents
- Explains the effects of the physical agent to patients

6. **Demonstrate skill in the application, monitoring 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:

- Demonstrates knowledge regarding the use of mobility aids such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and canes
- Explain and demonstrate appropriate fit and adjustment of crutches, canes, and walkers
- Makes basic modifications and adjustments to mobility aids to ensure safe and proper use by the client

- Ensures that client is able to safely and effectively use assistive device provided
- Identify and report when changes/modifications may be appropriate

**7. Demonstrate the ability to assist with the implementation of therapeutic exercise programs, for individuals and groups, as prescribed by a Physiotherapist.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Reflects on theory based knowledge gained through curriculum when selecting and implementing activity programs
- Ensures contraindications, precautions and side effects are considered when selecting and implementing activity programs
- Assists with the intervention of the client, based on treatment recommendations provided by the Reg. PT
- Under the supervision of the PT, applies knowledge regarding grading of an exercise or an activity
- Demonstrates the ability to conduct/lead a group session (where applicable)
- Listens attentively and actively
- Demonstrates effective clinical observation skills
- Assists in recording and reporting of patient progress

**8. 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 (i.e., 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

**9. 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
- Completes any assignments or projects as requested by the PT, i.e. poster board, information package, presentation

**10. 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 interdisciplinary health care team.
- Initiates conversations with other members of the interdisciplinary 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)

**11. 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

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

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Use appropriate communication skills that support therapeutic relationships
- Use professional terminology when communicating verbally
- Demonstrates awareness of non-verbal communication, such as body language, and ensures professionalism at all times
- Interprets non-verbal communication of clients and responds appropriately
- Modifies communication style to meet the individual needs of the client
- Uses 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 PTA - competency in clinical and non-clinical skills, role enhancing skills, effective communication skills and professional behaviours
2. Clinical observations, clinical problem solving and reporting
3. Selection and Implementation of Therapeutic Interventions and Activities
4. Application of Physical Agent Modalities
5. Selection, education and training in the use of assistive devices
6. Safety issues 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:**

Students in the OTA& PTA program must successfully complete this course with a Satisfactory grade as partial fulfillment of the OTA & PTA diploma.

Evaluation will be based on successful completion of the assigned placement hours and timely submission of relevant documents:

<b>Placement Evaluation</b>	<b>S/U (successful completion of each placement)</b>
<b>Fieldwork Reflection</b>	<b>S/U</b>
<b>Learning Contract</b>	<b>S/U</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>150hrs (or as assigned)</b>
<b>Log Book</b>	<b>S/U</b>

Evaluation will be based on successful completion of ALL placement hours as assigned and submission of relevant documents by the due dates. In the event a placement is terminated early by the preceptor due to student performance issues an Unsatisfactory grade in the course will be assigned.

1. 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 per day for every school day late with the permission of an extension. For example if a written extension was requested, and an extension for 5 school days (1 week) was granted, 5 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade.
2. Supplemental Exams/Assignments are generally not provided in the OTA/PTA program. In the event of a failing grade in the course, however, there may be exceptional circumstances where a supplemental exam/assignment may be considered. In all circumstances, this decision remains at the discretion of the professor and/or coordinator.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
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.	

If a faculty member determines that a student is at risk of not being successful in their academic pursuits and has exhausted all strategies available to faculty, student contact information may be confidentially provided to Student Services in an effort to offer even more assistance with options for success. Any student wishing to restrict the sharing of such information should make their wishes known to the coordinator or faculty member.

**VI. SPECIAL NOTES:**

Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session. *It is the departmental policy that once the classroom door has been closed, the learning process has begun. Late arrivers will not be guaranteed admission to the room.*

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

**VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:**

The provisions contained in the addendum located on the portal and LMS form part of this course outline.