Occupational Therapist & Physiotherapist Assistant Program
OPTA 110
Professional Practice I
Course Outline
Fall Semester 2014

Instructor: Kristina Watkins  Office: 2171C  Phone: 403-356-4852  Email: Kristina.watkins@rdc.ab.ca

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00 – 5:30 or by appointment

Class Times:
Lecture (Tues/Thurs)
4:00 – 4:50
Room CS 2182D

Credit Hours: 2  Prerequisites: None

Academic Calendar Entry:
Understand the diversity of roles within the health care system by comparing medical models and the rehabilitation model of care. Explain and discuss the principles that guide rehabilitation and become familiar with the organization of the provincial and federal health care systems as well as the roles, responsibilities and interpretations of health professionals.

Learning Outcomes:
Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Describe relevant legislation to the practice of an occupational/physiotherapy assistant.
- Identify responsibilities of the occupational/physiotherapy assistant in health care.
- Explain the concepts of traditional health prevention (i.e., primary, secondary, tertiary).
- Compare the Canadian healthcare system (structure and function) to systems worldwide.
- Describe the International Classification of Functioning and Disability (ICIDH-2) and exemplify its applications in rehabilitation.
- Describe the process of rehabilitation goal development and the role of the therapist assistant in the achievement process.
- Explain and employ foundation principles guiding rehabilitation practice.
- Identify how rehabilitation has an impact on the physical, mental, affective and social functions of an individual.
- List and discuss all areas of the health care field in which rehabilitation has an impact; i.e. pediatric, long term care and palliative care.
- Identify and discuss current challenges confronting the Canadian health care system.
- Identify attitudes, beliefs and values which support behavior that demonstrate respect and valuing of differences.
- Explain the role and professional boundaries of the Assistant.
- Use information and technology legally and ethically.
Course Topics:

- Legislation (Alberta) for OPTA profession
- Professional boundaries
- OPTA assistant role/responsibilities
- Roles in health care system (provincial and federal)
- Traditional health prevention concepts
- Canadian health care act, system and current challenges
- Disabled population in Canada
- ICIDH-2
- Rehabilitation goal development and implementation
- Rehabilitation models of care across life span
- Pediatric, long term and palliative care
- Medical models of care
- Foundation principles of rehabilitation
- Impact of rehabilitation on individuals and the health care field
- Information fluency

Learning Activities:

- Interactive lecture
- Online learning
- Cognitive map/chart/diagrams
- Group research and presentation
- Discussion postings
- Essay
- Group and partner work
- Exam

Required Text & Course Materials:

Assessment of Student Performance:
The final grade in this course will be computed based on the following elements. At all times the Red Deer College final examinations policy will be adhered to.

1. **Quizzes** – 30%
   a. Quizzes may consist of multiple choice, fill in the blank, or short answer questions and may be held at announced or unannounced times. Missed quizzes will receive a grade of zero, regardless of students’ reason for absence.

2. **Group Project** – Dates to be announced in class – 10%
   a. In groups of 2-3 students will review an assigned chapter from the course textbook. Students will identify and describe or explain the material in the form of a presentation. Students will be required to provide classmates with a handout containing 5 main points from the chapter. Presentation dates and group topics will be assigned in class on September 9, and details of the assignment and grading scheme will be provided by the instructor.

3. **Exam #1** – due October 30 - 25%
   a. Students will complete this take-home exam individually or in pairs. Students will be provided a case example and will be required to describe how they would deal with the scenario according to professional practice standards, relevant legislation, and the role and responsibilities of the assistant.

4. **Exam #2** – due November 27 – 25%
   a. Students will complete this take-home exam individually. Students will be provided a case example and will be required to describe how they would deal
with the scenario according to foundational rehabilitation principles as well as the role and professional boundaries of the Assistant. Students will also need to identify the role of attitudes, beliefs, and values in this scenario.

5. Attendance – 10%
   a. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. Students late for class will be counted as absent.

Assignment Deadlines: Assignments will be due at 11:59pm on the date specified. Late assignments will be accepted up to 24 hours after the deadline, with a penalty of 10%. Beyond 24 hours after the deadline, assignments will not be accepted.

Midterm Feedback: for this course will be available from the instructor following the midterm feedback date of October 24, 2014. After reviewing their marks to this point, students should make an appointment with the instructor to discuss their progress if necessary. The instructor is also available prior to this in designated office hours if students have any concerns.

The RDC Final Examination Policy: will be followed with respect to Final Examinations. Please review this document to ensure you understand the contents and implications of the policy. Click here to see the Final Examinations Policy

Attendance requirements: The Occupational Therapist and Physiotherapist Assistant Program Faculty believe that students are committed to their program and learning experiences. However, it is understood that there are times when students may be absent from those experiences. Any absence can be viewed as a potentially serious disruption of the learning process and necessary achievement of the learning objectives. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain materials and information for any missed classes. Attendance is required in all classes and labs. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. Late arrivals will be counted as an absence. Each class and lab will be worth an equal percentage value, adding up to a total of 10% of the overall grade for attendance.

Service Learning Hours: Students who want to earn extra credit may arrange to complete relevant service learning hours in the community with prior approval from the instructor. Students can receive 0.25% extra grade for each hour that is over and above any mandatory service learning hours, up to a maximum of 5% or 20 hours extra. The bonus can be applied to ONLY 1 OTPA course of the student’s choice.

Academic Misconduct: Please become familiar with what constitutes academic misconduct, as well as the consequences. Plagiarism involves submitting work in a course as if it were the student’s own work. Plagiarism may involve the act of submitting work in which some or all of the phrasing, ideas, or line of reasoning are alleged to be the submitter’s own but in fact were created by someone else. The complete RDC policy is available at: http://www.rdc.ab.ca/about/standard_practices/documents/student_dispute_appeal_and_misconduct_processes_policy.pdf

Changes to the Course Outline: Changes to the course outline will be made with the consent of the course instructor and students. Changes will be reviewed by the Department Chairperson for consistency with College policies.

Important Dates:
- September 3, 2014: Fall Semester Begins
- October 13, 2014: Thanksgiving Day, college closed
- October 24, 2014: Midterm feedback date for Fall term 2014
- November 10, 2014: College Open. No credit classes
- November 11, 2014: Remembrance Day, college closed
- December 3, 2014: Last day to withdraw from Fall Term courses and receive a WD
- December 3, 2014: Last day of classes for Fall Term courses
- December 8-13, 2014: Final exam week
- December 24, 2014: College closes at noon December 24, 2013
- December 25-31, 2014: College Closed
• This course may be eligible for Prior Learning Assessment. Students should refer to the RDC Course Calendar for a list of excluded courses.

• A plagiarism detection tool is used in this course.

• Classroom Learning Resources may be available to students in alternative formats.

RDC offers several learning support services: course-based peer tutoring, the Math Learning Centre, the Writing Skills Centre, and help with general learning strategies (e.g., time management, study skills, exam preparation and writing). RDC also offers services for students with disabilities. To access any of these services, visit the Learning Support desk in the Library, call (403) 357-3629, or email either help_learn@rdc.ab.ca or disabilityservices@rdc.ab.ca.

It is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in the Course Outline and to clarify any areas of concern with the instructor.

Students should refer to the Student Dispute, Appeal and Misconduct Processes Policy and Standard Practice should questions or concerns about the Course Outline not be able to be resolved directly with the instructor.

**Personal and Career Counselling Services**
College life can be exciting, stressful or both. RDC professional counsellors can help students manage stress, deal with personal problems, find balance, or help with career planning.

**Career and Employment Services**
These services assist RDC students to develop their employment skills in the areas of job searching, resume/cover letters, interviewing and networking. These services also can help students to match their education in today’s job market and in their transition from student to successful employee.

**Counselling & Career Centre**
Room 1402, Main Campus
403.343.4064
Email: counselling@rdc.ab.ca or employmentservices@rdc.ab.ca

Associate Dean:

September 2, 2014