



COURSE OUTLINE

Course Name: Communications 2

Course Number: OPTA 1235

Number of Credits: 2

Effective Date: September 2018

Course Description:

This course provides students with the opportunity to further develop the professional communication skills required to work with diverse client populations across the lifespan. The importance of establishing a therapeutic relationship with clients is also discussed. Strategies for developing therapeutic relationships are identified and practised.

School or Centre:

School of Health Sciences

Year of Study:

1st Year Post-secondary

Course History:

Replacement Course

Name of Replacing Course (if applicable):

Communications 2 OPTA 1217

Course Pre-requisites (if applicable):

Successful completion of Semester 1

Course Co-requisites (if applicable):

Semester 2 courses: OPTA 1231, 1232, 1233, 1234 and 1236

PLAR (Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition)

No Yes (details below):

Instructional Strategies:

Instructional strategies may include: Lecture, seminar, on-line learning, assignments, problem-based learning, videos, small group discussions, and student-led review sessions. Role rehearsals, recordings, reflective practice and in-class presentations will also be included.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the importance of establishing a therapeutic relationship with clients.
2. Identify strategies that promote the development of therapeutic relationships.
3. Use communication strategies to effectively communicate with children and their caregivers.
4. Use communication strategies to effectively communicate with older adults.
5. Use communication strategies to effectively communicate with clients who have English as an additional language.
6. Use communication strategies to effectively communicate with clients who have mental health and/or cognitive changes.
7. Explore communication approaches that are compassionate, culturally appropriate, client-centred for all cultures with consideration for Indigenous peoples.
8. Explain the role of the OTA and PTA in advocating for clients
9. Demonstrate professional behaviour with diverse populations.

Program Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

1. Practise as an Occupational Therapist Assistant or Physical Therapist Assistant in a competent, professional, accountable and ethical manner.
2. Utilize evidence-informed rehabilitation knowledge to perform skills and implement assigned Occupational Therapy or Physical Therapy interventions.
3. Collaborate as a member of an interdisciplinary team within an evolving health care system.
4. Contribute to the development and maintenance of an effective practice environment through direct client care, organization and support of rehabilitation services.
5. Identify and report relevant information regarding the client's status and well-being to the appropriate interdisciplinary team member.
6. Communicate appropriately and effectively, through verbal, nonverbal, written and electronic means, with clients, their families and other interdisciplinary team members.
7. Collect client information and complete client records.
8. Develop and implement strategies to promote professional competence within the role of the Occupational Therapist Assistant and Physical Therapist Assistant.
9. Promote, support and encourage health and wellness for self and others.

Evaluation/Grading System

Grading System	Specify if 'Other':	Specify Passing Grade:
Letter Grades		70% or C- in both written and practical components of course

Components and Weighting of the Assessment/Evaluation Plan:

Type	Percentage	Evaluation Plan (provide a brief explanation for each component especially if value exceeds 35%):
Assignments	65	X 3 as per rubrics
Quizzes/Tests	10	X 1
Clinical Examination	20	1 practical assessment
Participation	5	as per rubric
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Total		100

Learning Environment/Type

Instruction Type	Hours Per Instruction Type	Comments
L - Classroom	20	
B - Lab (Computer, Chemistry...)	25	
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Total		45

Resource Material(s):

Resources are items in addition to tuition that the student is responsible for purchasing. Course resource information will be supplied by the department/instructor.

Course Topics:

1. Therapeutic relationships
2. Communication approaches
3. Communicating with children
4. Communicating with older adults
5. Communicating with clients who have English as an additional language
6. Communicating with clients who have mental health issues
7. Communicating with clients who have cognitive changes
8. Client advocacy
9. Professional behaviour

VCC Education and Education Support Policies

There are a number of **Education** and **Education Support** policies that govern your educational experience at VCC, please familiarize yourself with them.

The policies are located on the VCC web site at:

<http://www.vcc.ca/about/governance--policies/policies/>

To find out how this course transfers, visit the BC Transfer Guide at www.bctransferguide.ca.

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Approved by Curriculum Committee:	August 15, 2017	Approved by Education Council:	October 10, 2017
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