

**RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE**

**OTA 275 - OTA PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR**

**I. Basic Course Information**

A. Course Number and Title: OTAH 275 - OTA Professional Seminar

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Spring          Year: 2023

**D. Effective Term: Fall 2023**

E. Sponsoring Department: Health Science Education

F. Semester Credit Hours: 2

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 2                      Lecture: 2  
Laboratory: 0  
Out-of-class student work per week: 4

H. Prerequisites:          OTAH 250 – Adult/Geriatric Physical Rehab OTA  
OTAH 251 – Adult/Geriatric Physical Rehab Fieldwork I  
OTAH 252 – Adult/Geriatric Physical Rehab Clinical Conditions  
for the OTA  
OTAH 270 – OTA Management and Ethics

Co-requisites:          OTAH 271 – OTA Fieldwork II A  
OTAH 272 – OTA Fieldwork II B

I. Additional Fees: None

J. Name and E-Mail Address of Department Chair and departmental Dean at the time of approval:

Chair: Linda Romaine, [Linda.Romaine@raritanval.edu](mailto:Linda.Romaine@raritanval.edu).

Dean: Sara Imbriglio, [Sarah.imbriglio@raritanval.edu](mailto:Sarah.imbriglio@raritanval.edu)

**II. Catalog Description:**

Prerequisites:          OTAH 250 – Adult/Geriatric Physical Rehab OTA  
OTAH 251 – Adult/Geriatric Physical Rehab Fieldwork I

OTAH 252 – Adult/Geriatric Physical Rehab Clinical Conditions  
for the OTA  
OTAH 270 – OTA Management and Ethics

Co-requisites:     OTAH 271 – OTA Fieldwork II A  
                          OTAH 272 – OTA Fieldwork II B

This course is designed to assist the student in preparing for a career as an occupational therapy assistant by aiding in their transition to OTA practice. Students will evaluate their behaviors and skills obtained in prior OTA lectures and lab-based courses as they put them into practice in their Fieldwork II courses. All evaluations will be in relation to AOTA Standards of Practice. Students will also be able to reflect on their experience in the clinic while collaborating with peers to gain greater insight into practice skills. Students will become familiar with the process of applying for and preparing for the NBCOT COTA exam, including understanding the format and design of the test. The course will also focus on time management, resume writing and interviewing skills, and applying for state licensure.

### **III. Statement of Course Need:**

- A. This course will support the student's transition into practice through evaluation of OTA Fieldwork II experience, along with providing the OTA student the ability to become familiarized with the format of the NBCOT exam and therefore be maximally prepared to practice as an OTA. The course will also provide the students skills needed to become an entry level COTA, such as interview skills, resume writing skills and applying for state licensure. Students will also be able to reflect on their clinical practice in a collaborative environment.
- B. This course does not have a lab requirement.
- C. This course is not designed for transfer.

### **IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum:**

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course meets a program requirement for the AAS in Occupational Therapy Assistant.

### **V. Outline of Course Content**

- A. Effective oral and written communication skills
- B. Ethical Behavior
- C. Professionalism

- D. Time Management
- E. Ethics
- F. Job readiness skills
- G. Interview skills
- H. Mock interview
- I. Resume writing
- J. AOTA
- K. NBCOT
- L. HIPPA
- M. Applying for state Licensure
- N. Promotion of occupational therapy
- O. Advocacy
- P. Professional development
- Q. Supervision

## **VI. A. Learning Outcomes**

### **At the completion of the course, students will be able to:**

1. Analyze information and ideas on interventional approaches, strategies, and techniques carefully and logically from multiple perspectives to develop reasoned solutions to utilizing appropriate OT treatments in a wide variety of diagnoses and conditions. (GE- 1, 3, 8, IL)\*
2. Use investigative and analytical thinking skills to examine alternatives, explore complex questions, and solve challenging problems presented to the OT practitioner. (GE- 3)\*
3. Obtain basic knowledge and key principles in the natural sciences including an understanding of the methods of scientific inquiry through laboratory, activity, and/or field-based study to facilitate understanding of OT performance skills and patterns. (GE- 1, 3, 4)\*

4. Use appropriate language, conventions, organization, supporting evidence, and content to effectively communicate occupational therapy interventional approaches, strategies, and techniques in writing for the purpose and audience. (GE- 1, 2, 4, IL)
1. Explain and give examples of how the role of a professional is enhanced by knowledge of and involvement in international, national, state, and local occupational therapy associations and related professional associations. (B.7.2)
2. Promote occupational therapy by educating other professionals, service providers, consumers, third-party payers, regulatory bodies, and the public. (B.7.3)
3. Discuss strategies for ongoing professional development to ensure that practice is consistent with current and accepted standards. (B.7.4)
4. Demonstrate knowledge of personal and professional responsibilities related to Liability issues under current models of service provision. Varied roles of the OTA providing service on a contractual basis. (B.7.5)
5. Identify and appreciate the varied roles of the occupational therapy assistant as a practitioner, educator, and research assistant. (B.9.7)
6. Identify and explain the need for supervisory roles, responsibilities, and collaborative professional relationships between the occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant. (B.9.8)
7. Demonstrate knowledge of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Occupational Therapy Code of Ethics and AOTA Standards of Practice and use them as a guide for ethical decision-making in professional interactions, client interventions, employment settings, and when confronted with personal and organizational ethical conflicts. (B.7.1)
8. Explain the role and responsibility of the practitioner to advocate for changes in service delivery policies, effect changes in the system, recognize opportunities in emerging practice areas, and advocate for opportunities to expand the occupational therapy assistant's role. (B.5.2)
9. Provide care and programs that demonstrate knowledge of applicable national requirements for credentialing and requirements for licensure, certification, or registration consistent with federal and state laws. (B.5.5)
10. Identify the need and demonstrate the ability to participate in the development, marketing, and management of service delivery options. (B.5.6)
11. Explain to consumers, potential employers, colleagues, third-party payers, regulatory boards, policymakers, and the general public the distinct nature of occupation and the evidence that occupation supports performance, participation, health, and well-being. (B.3.3)

\*embedded critical thinking

## **B. Assessment Instruments**

1. Demonstrations
2. Essays & papers
3. Journals
4. Tests & Quizzes
5. Presentations
6. Discussion
7. Case studies
8. Class participation
9. Online Forums
10. Assigned readings
11. Observational opportunities

## **VII. Grade Determinants**

- A. Essays & papers
- B. Tests & Quizzes
- C. Presentations
- D. Class participation
- E. Online Forums

Given the goals and outcomes described above, LIST the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course:

- A. Lecture/discussion
- B. Small group work
- C. Guest speakers
- D. Student oral presentations
- E. Simulation/repetition
- F. Student collaboration
- G. Independent study
- H. Case studies
- I. Audiovisual (DVD's, YouTube)
- J. Online Forum assignments
- K. Assigned readings
- L. Observational opportunities

## VIII. Texts and Materials

### A. Required textbook

Fleming-Castaldy, R. (2010). *National OTA certification exam review and study guide* (2<sup>nd</sup>ed). Evanston, IL: TherapyEd

Johnson, Caryn; (2015) *The COTA Examination Review Guide* (4<sup>th</sup> edition)

### B. Supplemental textbooks

Nagayda, Janet et al. *The Professional Portfolio in Occupational Therapy: Career Development and Continuing Competence*

NBCOT, *The NBCOT Official COTA Study Guide*. NBCOT

\*Please note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.

## IX. Resources

A. Library

B. Computer/computer lab

## X. Honors Option: N/A