

## **POTH 638: PROMOTING WELLNESS OF SENIORS**

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:** All the courses from the first term of M1

**Instructor:** Patrícia Belchior, PhD

**Access to instructor:**

- ❖ Tel: 398-4400 x 00675
- ❖ Office: H203
- ❖ E-mail: patricia.belchior@mcgill.ca
- ❖ Office hours: by appointment
- ❖ E-mail and telephone messages are given priority and efforts are made to return student calls promptly

**Course Description:** The complexity of assessment and interventions with the geriatric client, the various causes of occupational performance dysfunction, and the structure and organization of geriatric health care delivery are addressed.

**Course Structure:** Classes take place between 3 and 6 hours/ week

**Learning outcomes:\*** At the completion of the course, the student will be able to:

Expert in enabling occupation

1. Identify the changes that accompany the normal aging process and describe the environmental factors that interact with the elderly person's occupational performance.
2. Analyze the various risk factors that act upon an older adult's occupational performance and the causes and consequences of the resulting dysfunction.
3. Identify and explain the existing and developing methods of evaluation and treatment approaches used with a geriatric clientele in keeping with evidence-based practice (scholarly practitioner).
4. Apply a client-centered approach in the evaluation and treatment of a geriatric clientele to different clinical scenarios (scholarly practitioner).

Collaborator

5. Describe the role of the major agents of geriatric health care delivery and the associated referral processes to the multidisciplinary team.

Change Agent

6. Describe the unique role of O.T. within the various areas of geriatric practice

Professional

7. Analyze ethical considerations in the intervention approach to the geriatric client.

\* Based on the Profile of Occupational Therapy practice in Canada  
(<https://www.caot.ca/pdfs/2012otprofile.pdf>)

**Course content:** This is a professional elective course for Master's year one Occupational Therapy students. It is designed to address the complexity of the Occupational Therapy assessment and interventions with the older client, examine the various causes of Occupational Performance dysfunction, examine the structure and organization of geriatric health care delivery and the unique role of Occupational Therapists in this context. Students in this course will utilize a client-centered and evidence-based approach to the evaluation and treatment of the older adult in different clinical scenarios. The course will be in a lecture/seminar. The instructors will use lectures, readings, discussions, presentations, critiques, fieldtrips.

### **Course Materials:**

- Required: Course pack for POTH 638
  - ❖ All readings included in this course syllabus are mandatory unless otherwise indicated and it is the student's responsibility to ensure that he/she has read all the materials prior to class.
  - ❖ Additional readings may be assigned as necessary
- Recommended textbook: Functional performance in older adults (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.). Bette R. Bonder & Vanina Dal Bello-Haas. Publishers: F.A. Davis, 2009. (Available as an e-book at the library).

**Instructional Methods:** This course will include readings, reading guides, lectures, clinical cases and vignettes, small group discussions and site visits. Students are expected to find literature in a self-directed manner in order to complement their understanding of the various issues covered in class if deemed necessary. The learning outcome in this advanced elective is highly dependent upon student participation and contribution

### **Student assignments and evaluation:**

The following assignments will be used to evaluate learning.

- In class participation
- Reflective journal
- Critical appraisal and in class assignments
- Site visit
- Project

A detailed description of these will be provided on WebCT and further explained during the first class.

Participation will be evaluated by the instructor and involves active participation and quality contribution to the class and to the development of the course. Remember that participation is not based on quantity but rather on quality of contribution.

All group work will be monitored carefully and any evidence of inequitable contribution of team members to the assignments will be evaluated accordingly. All assignments must be produced with word processor, follow APA guidelines and not surpass the length determined by the instructors.

\*\*\*Any requests for extensions or delays in submitting assignments must be accompanied by a medical certificate.

\*\*\* You may complete assignments in either of the 2 official languages however alternating between French and English within an assignment is not acceptable.

\*\*\*Lateness in submitting assignments will result in a 1-mark deduction per day

\*\*\* Passing the course is contingent upon submission of all assignments.

**Online Course Evaluations:** Students are strongly encouraged to complete the online course evaluations at the end of the term. Data obtained from these evaluations are used to provide instructors with feedback as well as for identifying situations where a course or instructor needs assistance. The feedback and suggestions contained in the responses are highly valued and helpful in ensuring that instructors make appropriate changes to courses as needed in order to facilitate student learning

**Copyright of course material:** “Instructor generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions, etc.) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures”.

**McGill Policy Statement:** “McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures”. (see [www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/) for more information).

*« L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires » (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site [www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/)).*

**Attendance:** Attendance to classes is mandatory. It is the responsibility of each student to attend classes prepared and be actively involved. Although attendance will not be taken, the materials covered in class will be subject to evaluation. It is common professional courtesy to attend classes scheduled in health care institutions.

**Right to write in (English or in) French:** “Every Student has a right to write essays, examinations and theses in English or in French except in courses where knowledge of a language is one of the objects of the course.”

**Consequences of not completing assignments as requested:** Assignments not completed on time will be penalized accordingly. In the event that an assignment cannot be submitted on its due date, students are encouraged to inform the instructor as soon as possible

**Disability:** If you have a disability you may register with the Office for Students with Disabilities at 398-6009. You are also welcome to contact the instructor to arrange a time to discuss your situation.

**Professional Conduct:** Professionalism and accountability are expected throughout the course of the semester. This includes the on-going respectful nature of teacher-student as well as student-student interactions.

**Technology in Class:** Your respectful attentive presence is expected, therefore while you are permitted to use your laptop in class, **it is understood that you will not be using your laptop or cell-phone for social purposes during class time (e.g. email, msn, sms).** Your cell phone should be on silence during class time and phone calls should only take place during the break or after class.

**Dress Code:** Professionalism with respect to dressing is encouraged throughout the course of the semester especially while on site visits.

<p><b>In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University’s control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change</b></p>
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