

POTH 638 PROMOTING WELLNESS OF SENIORS

Credits: 3

Instructors: Patricia Belchior, PhD (Co-coordinator)

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

Expanded Course Description: This is a professional elective course for Master's year one Occupational Therapy students. It is designed to address the complexity of Occupational Therapy interventions with older adults, 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. The course will also focus on healthy aging and health promotion at the individual, community and population level. Students will apply a client-centered and evidence-based approach to the evaluation and treatment of the older adult in different clinical contexts.

Course Structure: The course is offered twice per week for 1.5 hours.

Most classes will include a lecture component, case-based instruction and applied portion where students will work on problem solving and clinical reasoning activities for a variety of clinical scenarios.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify the changes that accompany the normal aging process and describe the environmental factors that interact with the older adult's occupational performance
2. Explain the major agents of geriatric health care delivery and the associated referral processes to the health care team.
3. Explain the unique role of occupational therapy within various areas of geriatric practice
4. Identify and explain existing and emerging evidence-informed evaluation and treatment approaches used with older clients.

5. Apply a client-centered approach in the evaluation and treatment of older adults within different clinical scenarios
6. Analyze ethical considerations in the intervention approach to the geriatric client
7. Apply health promotion principles and strategies to promote meaningful occupation with older clients.

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 assigned as necessary

Student Assignment and Evaluation:

The following assignments will be used to evaluate learning. A detailed description of these will be provided on 'My Courses' and further explained in class.

- Participation: 5%
- Critical appraisal assignment: 15%
- Driving assignments: 15%
- Site visit: 20%
- Project: 45% (5% for outline, 40% for paper)

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Participation _____ Participati

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

2) Critical appraisal assignment

There will be one CA assignment throughout the course where students will be expected to find, appraise and present the results of a scientific article on falls in the older adult population both in a written assignment and in an in-class presentation. This assignment is completed individually

3) **Driving Assignment:** Using assigned readings, students will be expected to design an informative pamphlet to assist family members of older adults who are at-risk driver. This assignment is completed in groups during class.

4) **Site visits.**

Students will visit one clinical site in groups. They will be expected to interview an occupational therapist using a predetermined set of questions. They will collect the information and present the results in class.

5) **Project:**

The students will select a topic of interest related to occupational therapy with older adults. The projects could be on the development of a health promotion campaign/strategy, a review of the literature on a specific topic related to older adults, a client education program, etc...Students are expected to discuss their selection with the instructors prior to beginning their work.

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.

Special Requirements for Course Completion and Program Continuation:

In order to pass the course, a grade of at least B- (65%) must be obtained as a total course mark.

Plagiarism/Academic Integrity: "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/ 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/)."

Dress Code: Professionalism with respect to dressing is encouraged throughout the course of the semester. It is each student's responsibility to have appropriate attire during all class assignments and learning activities.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all lectures and actively participate in class discussions.

Right to submit in English or French written work that is to be graded: In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.

"Conformément à la Charte des droits de l'étudiant de l'Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté (sauf dans le cas des cours dont l'un des objets est la maîtrise d'une langue)."

Disability: "If you have a disability please contact the instructor to arrange a time to discuss your situation. It would be helpful if you contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at 398-6009 before you do this."

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.

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.