

**OTAGO POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
FIELDWORK PLACEMENT AIMS 2010**

Objectives for each placement follow a carefully ordered sequence, demanding a high level of operation with the student being expected to take increasing responsibility for personal study and initiative. Fieldwork placement therapists will move from directing the experience to allowing the student to direct it; that is, from “supervisor oriented” to “student oriented” experience.

The relative importance of each of the major areas of expertise; therapeutic skills, personal and professional communication, organisation and management, will be indicated at each level.

Fieldwork Placement 1 (Year One) 28 on-site hours per week for 4 weeks

This placement will prepare students for entry into professional practice. Students will gain an appreciation of the day to day work of an occupational therapist and contribute to the occupational therapy process at an introductory level.

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Develop an effective process of inquiry in order to adequately prepare for fieldwork practice.
2. Demonstrate specified basic professional skills and behaviours appropriate to occupational therapy

Fieldwork Placement 2 (Year One) *Dunedin Only* 3 on-site hours per week for 14 weeks

This placement will provide the student with an opportunity to participate in an existing occupation services within the local community.

At the successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Participate appropriately in an occupation service setting.
2. Identify and discuss the areas of need that may be met by an occupation service.
3. Identify and discuss the knowledge, skills and attitudes required by an occupational therapist working in these contexts.

Fieldwork Placement 3 (Year Two) 28 on-site hours per week for 5 weeks

This placement will provide students with the opportunity to engage in aspects of involvement with individual clients and groups and will enable students to evaluate their planned intervention, develop specified professional skills, and raise awareness of team work.

After successfully completing this course the student will be able to:

1. Develop an effective process of inquiry in order to adequately prepare for fieldwork practice.
2. Evaluate their own learning in this setting.
3. Demonstrate specified basic professional skills and behaviours appropriate to occupational therapy.
4. Compare the role of occupational therapy in relation to the roles of other disciplines.

Fieldwork Placement 4 (Year Two) 28 on-site hours per week for 5 weeks

This placement will prepare students for autonomous occupational therapy practice in a supervised setting with individual clients and groups. It will provide formal opportunities for students to direct their own learning.

After successfully completing this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an effective process of inquiry in order to adequately prepare for fieldwork practice.
2. Evaluate their own learning.
3. Demonstrate specified basic professional skills and behaviours appropriate to occupational therapy.
4. Demonstrate effective use of learning contracts.

Fieldwork Placement 5 (Year Three) 31 on-site hours per week for 5 weeks

This placement will provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate emerging competence in the occupational therapy process with particular focus on integrating occupational therapy practice with the contextual issues that impact on clients.

After successfully completing this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an effective process of inquiry in order to adequately prepare for fieldwork practice.
2. Evaluate their own learning in this setting.
3. Demonstrate specified basic professional skills and behaviours appropriate to occupational therapy.
4. Evaluate the impact of contextual issues on client services in the fieldwork setting.

Fieldwork Placement 6 (Year Three) *Dunedin Only* 35 on-site hours per week for 3 weeks

This course will enable students to develop the knowledge, skills and expertise necessary to analyse, plan, implement and evaluate a community orientated project in collaboration with an appropriate agency.

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

1. Identify, conceptualise, plan and carry out a community orientated project.
2. Demonstrate effective skills in collaborative teamwork.
3. Demonstrate appropriate professional presentation and behaviour during work with the agency.

Fieldwork Placement 7 (Year Three) 37.5 on-site hours per week for 7 weeks + final week 30.5 hours on-site

This placement will provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate competence as an entry-level occupational therapist, under the supervision of a qualified occupational therapist.

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

1. Facilitate and engage occupations for people.
2. Act and justify actions in compliance with ethical, legal, professional and safety requirements.
3. Take into account the socio-cultural values of the client and significant others.
4. Use a range of communication skills to establish and maintain effective therapeutic and working relationships.
5. Manage performance and monitor personal resources to ensure performance is professional, collaborative and supportive of service and team goals and colleagues.
6. Manage the environment to contribute positively to clients experience and ensure effective use of resources.
7. Seek and use opportunity to continually develop professional knowledge and practice.