

PHILOSOPHY OF THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM

The philosophy of the Occupational Therapy Assistant program is a statement of the beliefs of the faculty and forms the basis for the curriculum. The philosophy is as follows:

1. Every person has the right to a life, which is meaningful and meets ones needs for productivity, self-worth, security, love, companionship, identity and recreation.
2. Every person has the right to choose to reach the highest level of function which he or she is capable of achieving.
3. Involvement in purposeful activity will have a positive influence on a person's health.
4. Every person attains skills and grows through purposeful activity and adaptations in the areas of self-care, work and leisure.
5. The ability of every person to adapt is influenced by the developmental process and the social context in which it takes place.
6. Health is a condition of the total person and a change in any part of a person's life will affect all other aspects.
7. In order to acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for effective practice as an entry level COTA, the classroom teaching/learning process will blend didactic instruction with role-play, group, case study, and simulated clinical situations incorporating current technology whenever possible. By providing a mix of lecture with content specific experiential activities, the student will more effectively and efficiently grasp the concepts and techniques integral to quality OT practice.