

THE BLOCK TRANSFER SUBMISSION
TO
THE BACHELORS OF COMMUNITY REHABILITATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Name and Address of College

Therapist Assistant Program
Room 7-164H
Grant MacEwan College
P.O. Box 1796
Edmonton, AB T5J 2P2

Purpose of the Document

Information in this document constitutes Grant MacEwan College's Therapist Assistant Program's formal application for block transfer to the third year of the Bachelor of Community Rehabilitation at the University of Calgary.

Overview of College

Grant MacEwan College was established in 1971.

MacEwan offers 77 credit programs/projects within the divisions of Arts and Science, Business, Health and Community Studies, and Performing, Visual and Communication Arts. The college also offers University Transfer programs in Arts, Science, Physical Education, Commerce, Education, Management, Communication Studies, Criminal Justice, and Nursing.

A total of 42,228 students were enrolled at Grant MacEwan in the 2000/01 academic year. This includes 14,896 students enrolled in credit programs and 20,766 in non-credit offerings.

Grant MacEwan encompasses three campuses: City Centre, Mill Woods, and Jasper Place.

Overview of the Program Being Transferred

The Therapist Assistant Program at MacEwan is Medicine Hat College's (MHC) program based on the curriculum outlined in "The Formal Training of Rehabilitation Assistants in Alberta", a document produced by the Alberta Association of Registered Occupational Therapists, Alberta Physiotherapy Association, College of Physical Therapists of Alberta, and the Speech, Language and Hearing Association of Alberta (Dec. 1994).

The Therapist Assistant Program at MHC was given approval as a pilot program for the education of PTA's and OTA's in June 1994 and ongoing approval in April 1997. MHC added the SLPA component in 1998. The program at MacEwan has included two components, OTA and PTA since 1998. The SLPA component was added in the 2000/2001 academic year. [The Speech and Hearing Association are in the process of changing the title SLPA to Communication Disorders Assistant (CDA)]. Medicine Hat College has conferred diplomas to program graduates since the program was brokered in 1998. Students starting in January 2002 and subsequently will receive their diplomas from MacEwan.

The first three terms of the program are common to the three streams (PTA, OTA, and SLPA). In the fourth term, the students undertake coursework specific to one of the three disciplines and therefore graduate with a diploma as a Physical Therapist Assistant, an Occupational Therapist Assistant, or a Speech-Language Pathologist Assistant.

Graduates work in tertiary hospitals, long-term care facilities, transition units, rehabilitation hospitals, private physiotherapy clinics, early education programs and schools under the supervision of rehabilitation professionals. Employment rates are high (in the vicinity of 90%), but graduates typically start with part-time, temporary positions. Growth areas currently exist in schools, home care settings, and public health.

Students have expressed interest in the Bachelor of Community Rehabilitation degree as an opportunity to work without supervision within the rehabilitation field, and as an undergraduate degree that would be applicable to transfer to the University of Alberta's Master of Physical Therapy degree.

Existing Transfer Agreements with Other Universities

Athabasca University has granted block transfer credit (60 credits) to the Therapist Assistant Program towards AU's Bachelor of Professional Arts (Human Services) degree.

Academic Curriculum by Term

FIRST YEAR

Winter

NURS 101*	Interpersonal Communications
OPCA 100	Introduction to the Health Care System
PEDS 100*	Human Anatomy
PSYC 104*	Principles of Psychology
PSYC 105*	Individual and Social Behaviour
ENGL 111	Communications
CONF 0400	Health and Community Studies Interdisciplinary Symposium

Spring

OPCA 101	Rehabilitation Processes
OPCA 102	Administration and Program Support
OPCA 103	Human Disorders & (Dis) Abilities

SECOND YEAR

Fall

11-week term:

OPCA 205	Growth & Development
OPCA 206	Functional Anatomy
PSYC 223*	Developmental Psychology

15-week term:

OPCA 207	Principles & Techniques of Client Contact
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Winter

(Occupational Therapist Assistant)

OTHA 220	Therapeutic Processes I
OTHA 221	Therapeutic Processes II
OTHA 222	Therapeutic Processes III
OTHA 223	Therapeutic Processes IV
CONF 0400	Health and Community Studies Interdisciplinary Symposium

Winter

(Physical Therapist Assistant)

PTHA 230	Therapeutic Processes I
PTHA 231	Therapeutic Processes II
PTHA 232	Therapeutic Processes III
PTHA 233	Therapeutic Processes IV
CONF 0400	Health and Community Studies Interdisciplinary Symposium

Winter

(Speech Language Pathologist Assistant)

SLPA 240	Therapeutic Processes I
SLPA 241	Therapeutic Processes II
SLPA 242	Therapeutic Processes III
SLPA 243	Therapeutic Processes IV
CONF 0400	Health and Community Studies Interdisciplinary Symposium

*Denotes University Transfer Course

Description of Courses from Calendar

NURS 101 Interpersonal Communications (3 credits 30-30-0)

Application of theory and development of interpersonal communication skills in relation to conditions of helping. Content will focus on self-awareness, group process, and nurse therapist/client interactions.

OPCA 100 Introduction to the Health Care System (3 credits 45-0-0)

An overview of the evolution and organization of the Canadian health care system will be presented with specific emphasis on the role and diversity of the rehabilitation disciplines in all settings. The philosophy of the rehabilitation disciplines; their organization and models of care within the health care framework will be reviewed with emphasis given to the role of support personnel and the interaction of all members of the rehabilitation and health care team.

PEDS 100 Human Anatomy (3 credits 45-30-0)

Systemic human anatomy. A study of the following anatomical systems and their structural interrelationships; skeletal, arthrodiol, muscular, circulatory, digestive, respiratory, urogenital and neural.

PSYC 104 Principles of Psychology

(3 credits 45-0-0)

Fundamental procedures, findings, terminology and theories in the major areas of psychology.

PSYC 105 Individual and Social Behavior

(3 credits 45-0-0)

An introduction to the study of human development, personality, social behaviour, abnormality and individual differences. This course, in conjunction with PSYC 104 provides a full year introduction to psychology.

Prerequisite: Minimum Grade of C- in PSYC 104.

ENGL 111 Communications

(3 credits 45-0-0)

The course aims to help students improve all their communication skills: writing, reading, speaking, and listening. The main emphasis, however, is on writing skills. Students will strengthen and expand their writing skills so that they can write more effectively for a variety of audiences and purposes.

CONF 0400 Health & Community Studies Interdisciplinary Symposium (non-credit)

This professional development conference focuses on developing new skills, investigating current trends, and hearing experiences of leaders in the health and community services professions.

OPCA 101 Rehabilitation Processes

(3 credits 45-0-0)

This course will provide a general introduction to the practice of rehabilitation therapies. Included will be the rehabilitation client care process, common ethical issues, appropriate client interactions, confidentiality and other issues directly related to client contact. An exposure to all types of clinical settings is a major focus of the course.

Prerequisite: OPCA 100, NURS 101 or permission of the Program Chair.

OPCA 102 Administration & Program Support

(3 credits 45-0-0)

Students will learn the support activities that they may use in the practice setting of a rehabilitation department. Included will be administrative activities, data measurement systems, computers, time management, organizational and presentation skills, and stress management.

Prerequisite: OPCA 100, NURS 101 or permission of the Program Chair.

OPCA 103 Human Disorders & (Dis) Abilities

(3 credits 45-0-0)

This course will introduce students to the essential terms, etiology, signs and symptoms, medical intervention, and effects of common human disorders experienced by clients served by rehabilitation personnel. The typical course of each disorder and goals and interventions provided by the rehabilitation team will be outlined.

Prerequisite: OPCA 100, PEDS 100, and PSYC 104

OPCA 205 Growth & Development (4 credits 45-30-0)
This course focuses on human growth and development throughout the life-span with an emphasis on rehabilitation perspectives.

Prerequisite: PEDS 100.

OPCA 206 Functional Anatomy (4 credits 45-30-0)
An introduction to functional anatomy as it relates to human movement.

Prerequisite: All first year courses.

PSYC 223 Developmental Psychology (3 credits 45-0-0)
The study of psychological development through childhood.

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of C- in PSYC 104 and PSYC 105 or equivalent.

OPCA 207 Principles & Techniques of Client Contact (6 credits 45-45-72)
This course is an introduction to client contact. It includes lifting, transferring and positioning techniques as well as instruction in the use of common ambulation devices and wheelchairs. Fieldwork experience is an integral part of this course.

Prerequisite: All OPCA courses and first year support courses.

OTHA 220 Therapeutic Processes I (5 credits 45-35-0)
This combined lecture/lab course introduces students to therapeutic activities applied in occupational therapy. Students learn the correct and safe application of these activities and also gain an understanding of how physical, mental, socio-cultural and spiritual performance deficits interfere with these activities. The course focuses on Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL). Students are instructed on ADL activities and how to use adaptive aides and devices in assisting clients in the safe and effective completion of these activities. The role of the Occupational Therapist in vocational rehabilitation is also covered. This is a compressed course that occurs over a 3-week period.

Prerequisite: OPCA 207

OTHA 221 Therapeutic Processes II (5 credits 45-35-0)
In this combined lecture/lab course, students are introduced to techniques involved in the use of arts and crafts, wheelchairs, assistive devices, computers and splinting procedures in the occupational therapy treatment process. The course also details the principles of energy conservation and joint protection and how they are implemented with clients served in occupational therapy. This is a compressed course that occurs over a 3-week period.

Prerequisite: OTHA 220

OTHA 222 Therapeutic Processes III (3 credits 0-0-150)
A fieldwork placement of four weeks under the supervision of an Occupational Therapist allows the student to use the skills and knowledge learned in the educational program.

Prerequisite: OTHA 221

OTHA 223 Therapeutic Processes IV

(3 credits 0-0-150)

A fieldwork placement of four weeks under the supervision of an Occupational Therapist. This clinical placement will focus on a different caseload than that of previous fieldwork, although the clinical setting may remain the same.

Prerequisite: OTHA 222

PTHA 230 Therapeutic Processes I

(5 credits 45-35-0)

An introduction to the use of exercise, range of motion, stretching, tilt table, pool activities. This is a combined lecture/lab course. This is a compressed course that occurs over a 3-week period.

Prerequisite: OPCA 207

PTHA 231 Therapeutic Processes II

(5 credits 45-35-0)

A continuation of PTHA 230. This course provides the students with an introduction to electrotherapy modalities. Safety factors as well as the appropriate application of the modalities by the physiotherapist and assistant are taught. The course also examines the knowledge and skills related to chest physiotherapy – postural drainage, deep breathing and coughing. This is a compressed course that occurs over a 3-week period.

Prerequisite: PTHA 230

PTHA 232 Therapeutic Processes III

(3 credits 0-0-150)

A fieldwork placement of four weeks under the supervision of a Physical Therapist allows students an opportunity to gain actual working knowledge of the therapeutic processes that have been taught.

Prerequisite: PTHA 231

PTHA 233 Therapeutic Processes IV

(3 credits 0-0-150)

A fieldwork placement of four weeks under the supervision of a practising Physical Therapist allows students an opportunity to further their working knowledge of therapeutic processes as taught in the academic program. Clinical practice will include a different caseload than that of previous fieldwork experiences.

Prerequisite: PTHA 232

SLPA 240 Therapeutic Processes I

(5 credits 45-35-0)

The purpose of this course is to provide essential background required for intervention in speech-language pathology. Topics include normal acquisition of speech and language, the nature of hearing, the mechanics of speech production, components of language, normal aspects of voice, fluency, and swallowing as well as continued differentiation between the roles of Speech-Language Pathologists and Speech-Language Pathologist Assistants.

Prerequisite:

OPCA 207

SLPA 241 Therapeutic Processes II

(5 credits 45-35-0)

In a combined lecture/lab course, students gain knowledge and skills needed to provide intervention as Speech-Language Pathologist Assistants. A variety of treatment approaches for various disorders are taught utilizing the following topics: understanding background information about clients, the recognition and adjustments needed for people with varied learning styles, treatment formats and planning, activity planning, therapy for specific disorders, and ethical and professional issues for Speech-Language Pathologist Assistants.

Prerequisite: SLPA 240

SLPA 242 Therapeutic Processes III

(3 credits 0-0-150)

A fieldwork placement of four weeks under the supervision of a Speech-Language Pathologist allows the student to practice the knowledge and skills taught in the academic program.

Prerequisite: SLPA 241

SLPA 243 Therapeutic Processes IV

(3 credits 0-0-150)

A fieldwork placement of four weeks under the supervision of a Speech-Language Pathologist. This clinical placement will focus on a different caseload than that of previous fieldwork, although the clinical setting may remain the same.

Prerequisite: SLPA 242

Faculty of the Program

Brenda Heffernan, BSc(PT), Chair
Georgina Fysh, Ed.D
Judy Meintzer, MSLP
Linda Lazaruk, MOT
Yvonne Collinson, BOT, MHA
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Jacqui Hunt, DipPT
Bob Carleton, DipPTA
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