The University of Texas at El Paso
College of Health Sciences
Occupational Therapy Program

OT 6303 Clinical Reasoning in Occupational Therapy
SYLLABUS Fall 2023

**Instructor:** Name: Stephanie Capshaw, OTD, OTR
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Phone: 915-747-8240 email: scapshaw@utep.edu

**Office Hours:** by appointment
**Lecture:** Wednesdays 1:00- 3:50 pm

**Course Description:** Introduction to clinical and professional reasoning in occupational performance throughout the lifespan. This course includes concepts related to theories, theory development, and developing skills as a future clinician.

3 Credit Hours
3 Total Contact Hours
0 Lab Hours
3 Lecture Hours
0 Other Hours

**General and Specific Objectives:** Based on the ACOTE 2018 standards

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the social determinants of health for persons, groups, and populations with or at risk for disabilities and chronic health conditions. This must include an analysis of the epidemiological factors that impact the public health and welfare of populations. (ACOTE B.1.3)

2. Apply, analyze, and evaluate scientific evidence, theories, models of practice, and frames of reference that underlie the practice of occupational therapy to guide and inform interventions for persons, groups, and populations in a variety of practice contexts and environments. (ACOTE B.2.1)

3. Explain the process of theory development in occupational therapy and its desired impact and influence on society. (ACOTE B.2.2)

4. Demonstrate therapeutic use of self, including one’s personality, insights, perceptions, and judgments, as part of the therapeutic process in both individual and group interaction. (ACOTE B.4.1)

5. Demonstrate understanding of beginning clinical reasoning skills to evaluate, analyze, diagnose, and provide occupation-based interventions to address client factors, performance patterns, and performance skills. (ACOTE B.4.2)

6. Utilize clinical reasoning to facilitate occupation-based interventions that address client factors. This must include interventions focused on promotion, compensation, adaptation, and prevention. (ACOTE B.4.3)

7. Students will identify potential Doctoral Capstone Project and Doctoral Capstone Experience examples that align with a continued development of in-depth knowledge of practice skills, research skills, administration, leadership, program and policy development, advocacy, education and/or theory.


**UTEP Edge Experiences:**

- **LEARNING COMMUNITIES:** Build friendships, gain academic support, and connect ideas across linked classes by joining a learning community
- **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Serve the community through structured academic learning opportunities
- **CREATIVE ACTIVITIES:** Showcase your creative abilities through experiences that highlight your talents

**UTEP Edge Advantages:**

- **COMMUNICATION:** Reach mutual understanding through effective exchanges of information, ideas, and feelings
- **CONFIDENCE:** Be self-assured through appreciating your own talents, abilities, and qualities
- **CRITICAL THINKING:** Analyze and evaluate issues in order to solve problems and develop informed opinions
- **PROBLEM SOLVING:** Find solutions to difficult or complex issues
- **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:** Act ethically and responsibly for the benefit of society and the public good
- **TEAMWORK:** Participate as an effective, efficient member of a group in order to meet a common goal

**Required Texts:**


**Recommended Texts:**


Methods of Instruction:

- **Reading Assignments**: It is expected that students come to class prepared including but not limited to completing all assignment reading. Students are expected to read each chapter for understanding.

- **Lectures**: on course materials relevant to all the learning objectives in an interactive way to allow for discussion. Lectures will focus on developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills required for future clinical practice.

- **Class discussions**: during class time as facilitated by the instructor(s). Special emphasis will be directed towards basic concepts in the clinical reasoning process related to the practice of occupational therapy. Students will be expected to contribute to every discussion and be prepared to answer questions. A team-based learning approach will be utilized for all class discussions.

- **Oral Communication**: Many aspects of the course will include oral instructions that are not provided in writing. Students are expected to listen, understand, and clarify verbal instructions. Oral communication is both in sending and receiving the instructions and students will have an opportunity to practice both aspects during this course.

- **Non-verbal Communication**: Students will have multiple opportunities throughout the course to practice non-verbal communication. Instructor will provide private individual feedback to students as needed.

Methods of Evaluation:

- **Daily Participation**: is a key part of this course and students are expected to attend all programmed portions of the course. Students are encouraged to communicate with the instructor **before** class time if any issue arises that may interfere with their ability to participate or require them to step out of the class during unscheduled breaks. Active participation in all daily discussion, community outings, and class/lab experiences in this course will be noted by instructors during each session. Students deemed to be disinterested, unengaged, or otherwise occupied, will not receive participation points at the discretion of the instructor with no recourse on the part of the student. Students should arrive prepared for class to discuss, answer questions, and participate in all class lectures, meeting times and activities. Students should make every effort to use the bathroom during scheduled breaks offered approximately once per hour during instruction. If a student leaves the class at other times, it is their responsibility to communicate to the instructor ahead of time of an issue that may prevent them from sitting in class for approximately 60 minutes. Any student who is not engaged in the class, completing other activities not related to the course or the assigned activity, or completing assignments such as studying for another course will be asked to leave the class. Absence, tardiness, and participation points can all be affected by each incident.

- **Discussion Posts and Assignments**: As assigned on Blackboard in relation to the course materials

- **Quizzes**: in relation to all the assigned reading materials.

- **Oral Communication**: Students will be expected to speak in a professional manner as well as listen for and ascertain important verbal instructions from the instructor. Oral communication will be evaluated on a regular basis during the course by the instructor first by purposely providing information without written instructions on formal assignments, class participation, and other activities. Students speaking skills will be evaluated during presentations, as well as interactions with the instructor and classmates.

- **Non-verbal Communication**: Students will be evaluated by the instructor during each class and outside class activities for non-verbal communication. At the discretion of the instructor, student will be provided individual feedback with point deductions on participation as they occur.
• **Written Communication:** Student is expected to complete all written assignments and will receive individual feedback on writing skills. It is each student’s responsibility to review all feedback on all assignments and contact the instructor for needed clarification.

• **Comprehensive Final Exam:** Written exam.

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<tr>
<th>Course Grading:</th>
<th>Letter Grade Equivalents:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments 20%</td>
<td>A = 90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Posts 20%</td>
<td>B = 80-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation 20%</td>
<td>C = 70-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (4) 20%</td>
<td>F = 0-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Final Exam 20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total 100</td>
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1) **Punctuality and Attendance:** Students are expected to arrive promptly (5-10 minutes prior to beginning of class) and to attend every class.
   a. **Tardiness** without prior approval from instructor will result in 1 point off the computed final grade percentage per incident up to 5% of final grade. A text message, voice message, or email to the instructor can be left for approval.
   b. **Any excused/unexcused** absence will result in an automatic deduction of 5% in the final grade calculation for the course as determined by the instructor. You are expected to make up missed work and get information and materials missed from your classmates and the instructor.

2) **Time Management:** Late assignments will be deducted 10 points off the grade, per day they are late. If assignments are due at the beginning of class and turned in after class has begun, **5 points will be deducted.**

3) **Acceptance of and participation in giving and receiving constructive criticism:** Students will be responsible for assessing fellow students' performance and modifying performance based on feedback.

4) **Disruptive Behavior:** Behaviors which detract from students learning will not be tolerated. These behaviors include but are not limited to: talking during class when an instructor or other student has the floor, attire that distracts from students learning, entering and exiting during instruction, and incoming messages on electronic devices.

5) **Dress Code:** Please refer to Student Handbook pages 60-61 on appropriate attire for class and off campus activities. This will be strictly enforced. Faculty will inform students of dress code for lab activities.

6) **Computer-Online Netiquette:** As we know, sometimes communication online can be challenging. It’s possible to miscommunicate what we mean or to misunderstand what our classmates mean given the lack of body language and immediate feedback. Therefore, please keep these netiquette (network etiquette) guidelines in mind. Failure to observe them may result in disciplinary action.
   a. Always consider audience. This is a college-level course; therefore, all communication should reflect polite consideration of other’s ideas.
   b. Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to the instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
   c. When reacting to someone else’s message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a face-to-face situation.
   d. Professional behavior: students will not be lying in bed, but will be alert and attentive in a sitting position, preferably in a quiet environment.
e. Students will dress appropriately: No pajamas or tank tops will be allowed during online classes.

7) **Electronic Devices:** Cell phones and any other electronic device should be turned off during class unless otherwise permitted by instructor.

8) **Computer** use will need prior approval by the instructor.

9) **Clinical observations:** it is recommended students wear polo or button up shirts, pants and closed-toe, non-skid shoes.

**COVID-19 PRECAUTION STATEMENT:** Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

**From the UTEP Dean of Student Affairs** (https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html)  

**Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty**

A fundamental principle for any educational institution, academic integrity is highly valued and seriously regarded at The University of Texas at El Paso. More specifically, students are expected to maintain absolute integrity and a high standard of individual honor in scholastic work undertaken at the University. At a minimum, you should complete any assignments, exams, and other scholastic endeavors with the utmost honesty, which requires you to:

- acknowledge the contributions of other sources to your scholastic efforts;
- complete your assignments independently unless expressly authorized to seek or obtain assistance in preparing them;
- follow instructions for assignments and exams, and observe the standards of your academic discipline; and
- avoid engaging in any form of academic dishonesty on behalf of yourself or another student.

For the official policies on academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty, please refer to Handbook of Operating Procedures.

**Academic Integrity**

“Academic Integrity is a commitment to fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behavior that enable academic communities to translate ideals into action.” Specifically these values are defined as follows:

- **Honesty:** advances the quest for truth and knowledge by requiring intellectual and personal honesty in learning, teaching, research, and service.
- **Trust:** fosters a climate of mutual trust, encourages the free exchange of ideas, and enables all to reach their highest potential.
- **Fairness:** establishes clear standards, practices, and procedures and expects fairness in the interaction of students, faculty, and administrators.
- **Respect:** recognizes the participatory nature of the learning process and honors and respects a wide range of opinions and ideas.
- **Responsibility:** upholds personal responsibility and depends upon action in the face of wrongdoing.

**Scholastic Dishonesty**

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable to another person.

- **Cheating**
  - Copying from the test paper of another student
  - Communicating with another student during a test
  - Giving or seeking aid from another student during a test
  - Possession and/or use of unauthorized materials during tests (i.e. Crib notes, class notes, books, etc)
  - Substituting for another person to take a test
  - Falsifying research data, reports, academic work offered for credit

- **Plagiarism**
  - Using someone’s work in your assignments without the proper citations
  - Submitting the same paper or assignment from a different course, without direct permission of instructors

- **Collusion**
  - Unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments

**Americans with Disabilities Act:**

If you have or suspect a disability and need accommodations, you should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148. You can also email the office at cass@utep.edu or go by their office in Union Building East. For additional information, visit the CASS website at [http://sa.utep.edu/cass/](http://sa.utep.edu/cass/)

**Test Proctoring Software**

All iRATs and written exams will make use of Respondus Lock Down Browser and Respondus Monitor inside of Blackboard to promote academic integrity. You are encouraged to learn more about how to use these programs prior to the first test.

Please review the following guidelines:

1. **The assessments will only be available at the times identified on the course calendar.**
2. A reliable Internet connection is essential to completing the exam. If you must go to a location to take the exam (such as the library), be sure to follow their health and safety requirements.
3. You have 1 attempt to take the test. Once the window closes, your answers will be saved, and no changes can be made.
4. Respondus Lockdown Browser will require that all internet tabs are closed prior to the start of the test.
5. Respondus Monitor requires a webcam and microphone.
6. You will be required to show the webcam your student ID prior to the start of the test.
7. Your face should be completely visible during the test. Blocking the camera will disable the test.
8. No notes or textbook materials are permitted during the test. Respondus Monitor requires you to take a video of your surrounding area (desk, chair, walls, etc.)
9. You should not have conversations with other people and/or leave and return to the area during the test.
Student responsibilities:

1. Regular class attendance and participation. Understand Punctuality and Attendance policies.
2. All information presented in all learning activities.
3. Prior approval from instructor for any excused absence.
4. Completion of all reading materials before attending class.
5. All assignments are due as indicated on the course outline. Late assignments will be deducted 10 points off the grade, per day they are late. If assignments are due at the beginning of class and turned in after class has begun, 5 points will be deducted.
6. If a student is unable to take a scheduled exam or quiz, s/he is responsible for notifying the instructor before the examination. Another student informing the instructor of an absence is not acceptable.
7. Professional preparation of entry-level clinicians requires students master the skill of active participation with team members; therefore, students are expected to participate in classroom and lab activities and discussions. Lack of consistent participation will result in a non-negotiable deduction of 2% off the final class grade.
8. For all clinical observations, it is recommended you wear pants (twill or chinos), closed-toe, non-skid shoes, and polo or button-up shirts.
9. Distracting behaviors such as texting, checking email, viewing social media will not be tolerated as this is distracting to the class. If there is a family emergency that requires you to use your cell phone, please notify the instructor as soon as possible.

Disclaimer: Due to the content of this course, there will be physical contact with other classmates and instructors in order to fully comprehend and correctly perform specific evaluation and intervention techniques. By reading and signing this statement, you agree to fully participate and accept the necessity for physical contact by instructors, guest speakers, and other classmates for professional and educational purposes.

Student Name: ____________________________________

Student Signature: ____________________________________  Date: ________________