

Drake University Occupational Therapy Doctorate Fieldwork Goals, Objectives, and Assignments

Level I Fieldwork Description:

Level I fieldwork is a required and essential component of occupational therapy (OT) education to introduce students to the OT scope of practice throughout a range of authentic practice settings. Students will integrate and apply knowledge and understanding from previous didactic

Level II Fieldwork Description:

Students will complete 2 consecutive Level II fieldwork experiences during the seventh and eighth semesters of the program – both of which, are essential to Drake University’s OTD Program curricular design for developing professional competency in clinical practice. Each experience is 12 weeks in length at full-time equivalents (ACOTE: C.1.13). Students will be supervised by a currently licensed or otherwise regulated licensed occupational therapist with at least one year full-time (or its equivalent) of clinical experience and an understanding of the fieldwork process (ACOTE: C.1.14).

Level II Fieldwork Goals:

“The goal of Level II fieldwork is to develop competent, entry-level, generalist occupational therapists” [American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), 2011, p. 35].

Students

exhibit consistent work behaviors (including effective time management, positive interpersonal skills, and respect for diversity) (AOTA, 2009, p. 6).

Demonstrate consideration of psychosocial factors, to include: In all fieldwork settings, understand the psychosocial factors that influence engagement in occupation, and integrate these factors to develop “client-centered, meaningful, and occupation-based outcomes”.

Incorporate Research, Administration, and Management, which include: In all fieldwork settings, integrate applicable aspects of research, administration, and management skills to benefit current and future occupational therapy services.

Learning Opportunities during Level II Fieldwork:

Students may have weekly on-line journal entries as part of a discussion group. Included in these journal entries, students will be asked to complete evaluations, assessments, screenings, treatment plans, goal writing, intervention strategies, patient education, re-evaluations, and discharge planning – to name a few.

Doctoral Experience Description:

Students will complete one 16-week Doctoral Experience during the ninth semester of the program. This course is an in-depth Doctoral Experience in which the student applies advanced knowledge to the practice of occupational therapy and develops advanced skills (beyond a generalist level) in one or more of the following selected areas: “clinical practice, research, leadership, program policy and development, advocacy, education, and theory development” (AOTA, 2011, p. 37). In relationship to the Drake University OTD curriculum, students will select and apply a portion of the following themes from the curricular threads: application of research and evidence-based practice; service learning; collaborative, compassionate competent care focused on health and well-being; entrepreneurial leadership; and/or adaptive and dynamic teaching-learning environments centered on discovery of knowledge in a variety of settings and contexts. Students will produce a culminating project, which will be used to report their application of advanced knowledge throughout the Doctoral Experience.

Prior to the beginning this course, the student must pass specific competency requirements throughout the didactic component of the OTD program, successfully complete Level I and Level II Fieldwork, and receive a passing score on the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) certification practice exam. This Doctoral Experience occurs under the supervision of a mentor with expertise in one or more of the above advanced practice areas (accordant with the student’s focus area, and the mentor need not be an occupational therapist).

Doctoral Experience Goals:

Students will gain advanced knowledge by scaffolding new information and applying

Doctoral Experience Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student learner will:

Demonstrate advanced skills in occupational therapy practice through work on a self-designed educational experience, which may include developing research, programming, theory, advanced practice skills or locations, as well as experience in administration, management, advocacy, or education.

Demonstrate abilities to be mentored by advanced clinicians and professionals for advancement of skills, knowledge, and abilities necessary for advancing occupational therapy.

Demonstrate advanced skills of an occupational therapist (beyond those of a generalist), which align with t