Purpose: This course provides direct exposure to clinical aspects of occupational therapy including observation and participation in a selected fieldwork setting. These experiences are intended to create a link between your classroom learning and the practice of occupational therapy in a clinical setting. Course content emphasizes the development of professional behavior and identity. Course assignments focus on communication, clinical observation, data gathering skills, treatment strategies and documentation. In the sequence of practicum and internship courses, you will develop your own personal clinical style; including skills in interpersonal communication, personal responsibility and knowledge of your impact on others in the clinical setting.

ACOTE Standard B.10.0. Fieldwork Education
The goal of Level I fieldwork is to introduce students to the fieldwork experience, to apply knowledge to practice, and to develop understanding of the needs of clients. Fieldwork education is a crucial part of professional preparation and is best integrated as a component of the curriculum design. The experience should provide the student with the opportunity to carry out professional responsibilities under supervision and for professional role modeling.

Objectives for weeklong practicum & Corresponding ACOTE Standards:
Through the assigned fieldwork experience the students will:

1. Provide therapeutic use of self to develop interviewing and interaction skills with clients with a variety of physical limitations. (B.5.6, B.5.18)
2. Demonstrate personal and professional behavior and competency as they relate to clinical responsibilities. (B.9.6)
3. Effectively interact through written, oral and nonverbal communication with the client, family, colleagues and other health providers. (B.1.1, B.5.18)
4. Identify and use appropriate oral and non-verbal communication including appropriate documentation of evaluation findings and intervention services. (B.1.1, B.4.10, B.5.18, B.5.28)
5. Develop the ability to use appropriate screening and assessment tools to evaluate the client’s occupational performance. (B.4.1, B.4.2, B.4.4)
6. Use evaluation findings based on appropriate theoretical approaches, models of practice, and frames of reference to develop occupation-based intervention plans and strategies. (B.5.1)
7. Grade and adapt the clinical environment, tools, materials, occupations and interventions to reflect the changing needs of the client and modify accordingly during treatment interventions. (B.5.18, B.5.24)
8. Observe and conduct occupational therapy interventions and procedures to enhance ADL and IADL performance. (B.5.2)
9. Gain understanding of the interdisciplinary, referral, and consultative processes. (B.5.22)
10. Understand the continuum of care to include understanding of the role of OT in care coordination, case management, & transition services. (B.5.7)
COURSE POLICY AND PROCEDURES: Level 1 Practicum

During one week of March, you will be assigned to a 40 hour, one week practicum. Facilities are available in most areas of Florida, and in various regions of the country. You will have the option of doing your fieldwork over spring break and taking your spring break the following week. Since you may be spending spring break in your hometown you will have the opportunity to provide preferences of the specific city and/or geographic area for this experience. You will not be able to choose a particular facility as we must currently have an active contract in good standing at the facility in order for you to participate there. Pediatric sites are VERY limited, so please try to provide as many options as you can. You may be somewhat familiar with available sites from the files you reviewed when you selected preferences for your internships.

The Fieldwork Coordinator will make the final placement decisions and try to accommodate your preferences when possible. This course sequence is designed to meet the American Occupational Therapy Association guidelines for Level 1 Fieldwork Experience.

1. All students must have immunization, HIPAA and CPR requirements met prior to the start date of practicum. Many pediatric sites are now requiring fingerprints and background checks.

2. By January 15th, the student will email the fieldwork coordinator at lstruckmeyer@phhp.ufl.edu with four preferences for location, in specific ranking order. If you are requesting a small city/town, please be sure to indicate what other cities are nearby and driving distance (one hour will be considered possible commuting distance). Gainesville has very few pediatric sites so placements there will be limited. Remember, you must do at least one of your Level I practicums outside of the Gainesville area so consider this if you have already completed your Adult practicum in Gainesville. Please provide as many choices as possible and maybe even consider staying will a fellow classmate, relative or friends.

3. The fieldwork coordinator will make assignments with an available pediatric facility.

4. The student will be notified of placements by a posting on the OT website. The name and contact information for your supervisor will be noted on this posting.

5. One month prior to the start date, the student should call or email the supervisor. Remember they are therapists and often difficult to get hold of, be persistent. If you have tried many times and are unsuccessful, do not hesitate to contact the fieldwork coordinator to help locate them. Include the following in your initial contact:
   a. Be sure to thank them for the opportunity they are offering you to train with them.
   b. Ask about any preparations you may need, such as vaccinations, drug test, fingerprinting or background checks. There may be a cost involved in a background check (up to $50) or fingerprinting for school systems (up to $70).
   c. Inquire about the start time, dress code, directions and parking.
   d. Inquire about specific evaluations or treatment modalities used onsite so that you can refresh your skills as necessary.
   e. Ask about specific physical expectations of the site, particularly if you have physical limitations. If accommodations are to be made, please notify the fieldwork coordinator and the Dean of Students Office.
   f. Be sure to check in the site file for any other information that may be pertinent. These files are located in the front office and may be checked out by Margaret Odem. This will also give you some information about the site and patient populations served.
6. Required assignments for practicum class are due on Tuesday, March 18th
   a. Case Study – Hard copy with copy of evaluation or narrative attached.
   b. Clinical Performance Evaluation - completed by supervisor and signed by both supervisor & student. Student is required to turn this into AFW coordinator
   c. Clinical Documentation - Progress note, form as used by facility in practicum site. Must be re-written as many times as necessary until the therapist is completely satisfied with the end result. It must then be signed by the student and co-signed by supervisor after the final critique. Or use SOAP note format provided in class.

   **Academic Honesty:** In this professional program we are particularly sensitive to submission of independent work and completion of accurate referencing in compliance with the University of Florida Rules - 6Cl-4.0l7 Student Affairs: Academic Honesty Guidelines. For further details regarding the University of Florida honesty policy is available at: [www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4017.htm](http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4017.htm)

   All students are required to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines; the following pledge has been accepted by the University and is expected of all students:

   "I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all of their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the University."

   We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. On all work submitted for credit by UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied:

   "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

   **Disability Accommodations:** Students requesting clinical accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office. They will provide documentation for you to provide to the Course Instructor when requesting accommodation. Please request wording to allow sharing the information/request with clinical supervisor(s) if they will also need to make accommodations.

   **OTH 5812 ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING**

   **Course Assignment and Grading Criteria:** This course is graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis. To receive a passing grade of satisfactory you must receive a minimum of 105 points in both clinical performance and in the required documentation activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Performance Evaluation</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progress note</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Study</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
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Minimum 105 points to pass this section