

The University of Western Ontario
School of Health Studies

Rehabilitation Sciences 4970

Conceptual and Practical Basis for Rehabilitation Practice

Instructor: Dalton Wolfe, (Assistant Professor, part-time)

A full-time position in the School of Health Studies

Specialization module in the School of Health Studies

Specialization in Rehabilitation Sciences

Prerequisite Checking

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Please refer to the Western Academic Calendar at www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca for information on prerequisites and/or antirequisites.

Course Information

This experiential learning course offers an in-depth examination of the required background, concepts and practical considerations related to a series of rehabilitation practices selected to expose the student to a broad range of activities over several patient populations and associated with a variety of health care disciplines.

Course Objectives

1. To achieve an understanding of the conceptual and clinical basis of key rehabilitation practices across typical rehabilitation populations (e.g., spinal cord injury, acquired brain injury, amputation, stroke).
2. To obtain skills and insight associated with conducting various rehabilitation practices. These practices will include general PT, OT or SLP practices as well as specialized practices such as body-weight supported treadmill training, robotic-assisted locomotor training, use of functional electrical stimulation to enhance both upper and lower limb function, enhancing self-management skills in patients, fitness for persons with disabilities, etc. Some opportunities will also include assisting hospital leaders in the development, evaluation or continuous quality improvement of new rehabilitation programs.
3. To gain an appreciation of what key rehabilitation processes entail and also what they consist of in real-life practice e.g., different assessment procedures, inter-disciplinary care, developing a plan of care, discharge planning.
4. To gain an understanding of the roles and practice patterns of various rehabilitation health care professionals across an inter-disciplinary team.

More Specific Information: This course will revolve around an experiential learning focus. Students will be placed in a clinical setting to work alongside clinicians (this may involve providing support to the clinical process, planning improvements to the clinical program or developing clinical resources). This “placement” will comprise ~6 hours / week where the student takes direction from a preceptor (e.g., Course instructor, clinician or administrative leader) in order to assist with their activities. There may be program development activities assigned to students as part of this (again under the supervision of a member of the clinical team, a hospital program coordinator, a course teaching assistant, or the course instructor). These practical experiences will be designed to assist the student toward achieving an understanding of some of the key therapeutic activities that may comprise a rehabilitation program and also to understand some of the underlying concepts or principles that reflect the rationale for these activities, relative to a specific patient.

Note: As stated earlier, there may be re

observations and learnings associated with their practicum area of focus so as to give an overview to all students of each rehab practice covered in the course.

A special aspect of this course is that it will provide several opportunities for practical experiences. This will involve being at Parkwood Institute, which houses the Southwestern Ontario Regional Rehabilitation Program. During these sessions there will be opportunities to interact with various Rehabilitation Professionals as well as individuals who are living with disability. **It is expected that students provide their own transportation to Parkwood Hospital acknowledging that it does take ~20 min by car and ~40 min by bus between Western and Parkwood.** Parkwood connects with the University via the LTC Richmond bus line (#6). Parking is also available at a cost of \$6.50 at Parkwood Institute.

Course Materials

There are no textbooks for the course. However, various resources associated with the practical experiences will be posted to the course website (OWL).

Late assignments: A late assignment will be penalized by 10% for each day, or part of a day, that it is late. For example, an assignment graded as 41/50 will have 5 points deducted from the mark if handed in one day late and will be recorded as 36/50. There will be no exceptions.

In the event a course commitment (i.e., assignment) is missed, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. It may be that a make-up examination or assignment will be arranged that is agreeable to the student and instructor.

Statement on Evaluation and Compliance to University Policy

The university-wide descriptor of the meaning of letter grades, as approved by Senate:

A+ 90-100

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If at all possible, all Wednesday seminars as well as the practical experiences will take place at Parkwood Institute with the necessity of allowing for travel time (e.g., ~25 min by car / ~40 min by bus) between the University and Parkwood.

Late assignments

Assignments must not be missed unless there is a medical condition, family emergency, or other unforeseen circumstances. A note from your Physician indicating the nature of your condition must be submitted to the School of Health Studies Main Office, and only upon receipt of such a letter will instructors consider a new due date for an assignment. Late assignments may be docked a certain percentage per day, which is determined by the instructor.

Attendance and Classroom Behaviour (online and/or in-person)

In the School of Health Studies, each course instructor sets specific expectations for attendance and participation that are specific to the course, teaching objectives, and learning outcomes. Regular attendance is expected and essential for all courses, but particularly those that include participation grades in their evaluation schemes. Participation means not only attendance, but active engagement in the class, including (for example) contribution to small and large group discussions, a demonstrated effort to prepare for class by completing assigned readings before class, and following the instructor's guidelines for use of electronic devices during class time. Students who miss classes, or parts of classes, are responsible for the material they have miss

breach of this conduct, provides examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and sets out the disciplinary procedures that the University follows. Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf>.

Scholastic Offences

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Academic Consideration

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by extenuating circumstances, including short-term illness or injury. Reasonable academic consideration is a cooperative process between the University, the student, and academic staff. All participants in the process must act in good faith, and fulfil their respective obligations, if it is to succeed.

Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements, may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

- (i) For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or
- (ii) For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to academic advising office in their Faculty of registration, in order to be eligible for academic consideration.

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Student Development Centre -- <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>
2. Student Health -- <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>
3. Registrar's Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombudsperson Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

Health and Wellness

The undergraduate experience is rewarding and challenging socially, emotionally, and intellectually.

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