

## POTH 635 ENABLING UPPER EXTREMITY FUNCTION

**Credits:** 3

**Instructor:** Barbara Shankland, BSc(OT), MSc, OT(c), erg, CHT

**Access to instructor:**

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**Course Description:** This course will enable students to explore and apply fundamental therapeutic skills for competent practice in occupational therapy in upper extremity rehabilitation following injury.

**Expanded Course Description:** This professional complementary course will provide occupational therapy students with advanced knowledge and application of therapeutic skills in upper extremity rehabilitation. Students will define and identify their roles as occupational therapists in enabling occupation and function following upper extremity injury and further develop their verbal and written communication skills. Students will acquire knowledge about traumatically acquired and degenerative conditions, post-surgery protocols, upper extremity assessments, and treatment. They will build on their competencies in evidence-based clinical reasoning and critical thinking based on clinical and recovery profiles.

**Course structure:** This course includes 6 hours of in-class time per week for 9 weeks, comprising lectures and HOWs.

**Learning outcomes:** On completion of this course, the students will be able to:

*Expert in Enabling Occupation*

1. Describe basic hand and upper extremity anatomy and physiology;
2. Describe various upper extremity conditions and injuries and their associated complications;
3. Identify health conditions and/or situations that can have an impact on effective healing;
4. Select, administer and analyze the results of various upper extremity assessments;
5. Recognize different rehabilitation interventions and compare and contrast them;
6. Justify the occupational therapy role in enabling occupation and function in upper extremity rehabilitation.

*Communicator*

7. Communicate findings through professional occupational therapy reports (oral and written)

*Collaborator*

8. Effectively work with other team members to achieve client-centred goals;
9. Effectively communicate with clinical partners to establish a positive working relationship.

*Scholarly Practitioner*

10. Design an upper extremity evidence-based occupational therapy treatment program optimizing occupation and engagement.
11. Use reflective practice in the assessment and treatment of clients with upper extremity conditions

*Professional*

12. Demonstrate ethical practice and respect for diversity.
13. Appropriately modify assessment and treatment plans based on ethical considerations and client values.

**Course Content:** The focus of the course will be on the occupational therapy assessment and treatment of traumatically acquired and degenerative conditions and post-surgery protocols. This process integrates client-centered practices with the clinical reasoning skills required for competent practice. Lecture and seminar themes for clinical thinking and professionalism to optimize occupational performance following upper extremity injury are outlined in the course schedule.

**Course Materials:**

- No textbook is required for this course.
- A list of required readings, handouts and lecture notes will be posted on MyCourses.

**Copyright of course materials:** Instructor generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions, etc.) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

**Assignments and Evaluation:** A description of each of the assignments and evaluation methods will be provided in the course schedule during the first class.

This course falls under the regulations concerning theoretical and practical evaluation as well as individual and group evaluation. Please refer to the section on marks in the Rules and Regulations for Student Evaluation and Promotion of the Occupational Therapy Course Guides.

**Plagiarism/Academic Integrity statement:** McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see [www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/) ) for more information).

**Consequences of not completing assignments as requested:** Late submissions will be penalized 5% per day, including weekends.

**Dress Code:** Professionalism with respect to dressing is encouraged throughout the course of the semester. It is each student's responsibility to have appropriate attire during all class assignments and learning activities. When working with clients or simulated patients, student must be dressed professionally.

**Skills Building Attendance Mark:** Attendance at all seminars is mandatory. Students will not be able to miss more than 15% (i.e. more than 1 per term) of the seminars without a written excuse. If they do, 10% of the total course mark will be removed.

**Disability:** If you have a disability you may register with the Office for Students with Disabilities at 514-398-6009. You are also welcome to contact the instructor to arrange a time to discuss your situation.

**Professional Conduct:** Professionalism and accountability are expected throughout the course of the semester.

**Technology in Class:** Your respectful attentive presence is expected, therefore while you are permitted to use your laptop in class, it is understood that you will not be using your laptop or cell-phone for social purposes during class time (e.g. of teacher-student as well as student-student interactions. This includes the on-going respectful nature email, msn, sms). Your cell phone should be on silence during class time and phone calls should only take place during the break or after class.

**Right to submit in English or French written work that is to be graded:** In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded. However, alternating between French and English within an assignment is not acceptable.

**Course evaluations:** End-of-term course evaluations are one of the ways that McGill works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student's learning experience. You will be notified by e-mail when the evaluations are available on Mercury, the online course evaluation system. Please note that a minimum number of responses must be received for results to be available to students.

**In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.**