

# Occupational Therapy Assistant Program



## **PROGRAM RETENTION POLICY: THREE YEAR PLAN**

In an effort to ensure student success, the NSCC OTA Program has developed a policy that outlines reasonable timeframes to complete the Program. Exceptions to the outlined plan of study will be considered for students that require accommodation due to disability, accident, injury or medical/family emergencies. All exceptions will be considered on a case by case basis and may require additional documentation.

Students have a maximum of three years to complete the didactic portion of their OTA education. Three year period begins when the student initiates his/her first OTA class. For students completing the three-year program, the maximum of three years to complete the didactic portion of the OTA education is especially significant.

If a student fails a course, and has the opportunity to repeat that course within the three year time frame, a student may remain in the Program. If a student fails a course, and the repeat course would extend the student beyond the three year time frame, the student would be dismissed from the Program. (This means that if a three-year student fails an on campus course in the last semester of the Program, they will be dismissed from the Program)

Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in all General Education and OTA coursework to successfully complete the program.

### **OTA Course Requirements**

All 1100 level courses must be completed by the end of Fall semester, year two, in order to progress through the Program.

All 1200 level courses must be completed by the end of Spring semester, year two, in order to progress through the Program.

All 2100 level courses must be completed by the end of Fall semester, year three, in order to progress through the Program.

Note: Students must pass each Level I and competency components each semester. If a student does not pass the Level I experience or fails a competency, he/she fails that class. Didactic Course Failure policy applies.

### **General Education Course Requirements**

BIOL 2010 Anatomy and Physiology I must be completed no later than the first fall semester in the OTA Program.

PSYC 1111 must be completed no later than the first spring semester in the OTA Program

Speech, English Composition I and the Humanities Elective must be completed no later than the last fall semester in the OTA Program

### **Level II Fieldwork**

Students have a maximum of 12 months to complete the Fieldwork Level II (internship) portion of their OTA education. The 12 month period begins at the point when a student is eligible to participate in Level II fieldwork. Students are expected to begin their fieldwork at the first month of eligibility. Students desiring to postpone their Level II experiences must provide proof of hardship, physician statement and/or other evidence deemed necessary. Faculty must approve a plan outlining student schedule for completion.