Health Focused Patient/Client Management for Physical and Occupational Therapists

Contact Information

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Program Information

The UAB Graduate Certificate in Health Focused Patient/Client Management for Physical and Occupational Therapists is designed to prepare PTs and OTs for expanding roles in the areas of prevention, health promotion, and wellness. Health Focused Patient/Client Management is the integration of health promotion and education methods in OT and PT practice to create a holistic approach to enhance patient/client wellness and quality of life. The ultimate goal of the certificate is to enable graduates to develop and implement clinical and community programs to address lifestyle and behavior factors that underlie many chronic diseases. Emphasis will be placed on program development for persons with disabilities. The concepts addressed in the certificate program are applicable across the patient/client lifespan and in a variety of practice settings.

Requirements

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Credentials Conferred

The Graduate Certificate in Health Focused Patient/Client Management for Physical and Occupational Therapists is awarded by the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Length of Study

The certificate requires 5 semesters to complete; students take 1 course per semester.

Program Entrance Date

Students may begin the program in the spring, summer or fall term.

Admission Requirements

Admissions requirements include completion of a degree in physical or occupational therapy and current licensure as a physical or occupational therapist in the United States or foreign equivalent. Students from countries where English is not the official and primary language must also take and receive an acceptable score on the TOEFL or IELTS.

Degree Requirements

15 credit hours (5 required courses)

Courses

PTC 781. Health Focused Patient/Client Communication and Advocacy. 3 Hours.
Communication and advocacy strategies to effect behavior change at the individual and community level; application of evidence-based and best practice methods/techniques that empower individuals and community to change health-related behaviors.

PTC 782. Health Focused Patient/Client Management I. 3 Hours.
Application of evidence-based and best practice methods/techniques for physical activity/fitness, weight management, and nutrition optimization using a health focused care model.

PTC 783. Health Focused Patient/Client Management II. 3 Hours.
Examines how occupational and physical therapists address smoking cessation, alcohol moderation, sleep health, and stress management using a health focused care model for individuals and community groups. Issues addressed include screening, best practices for interventions, patient education resources, and consultation/referral sources to optimize health outcomes.

PTC 784. Health Focused Care - Synthesis Project. 3 Hours.
Synthesis of content from previous certificate courses to develop a health focused program in the clinical or community setting.