

The University of Western Ontario
School of Health Studies

Rehabilitation Sciences 4970

Conceptual and Practical Basis for Rehabilitation Practice

Instructor: Dalton Wolfe, Scientist

Fall 2021 – Winter 2022

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Office Room Number: Parkwood Institute, Room B3-191

Office Hours: Appointments available on Request (Will come to Western as needed – however, will be easiest to arrange meetings with student in the times prior to or after the Wednesday class time or during each student’s practicum time.

Course Teaching Assistant: TBD

Class time: Wednesday 3:30-5:30

Class location: Parkwood Institute (Various locations)

Note: At the present time, there are restrictions to student experiential learning opportunities at Parkwood Institute, which may mean some or all of the course may have to be conducted virtually. This is subject to change, based on decisions made by hospital leaders at Parkwood Institute (St. Joseph’s Health Care London).

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.

Antirequisite(s): The former Health Sciences 4900E, the former Health Sciences 4910F/G.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the School of Health Studies; Enrolment in the fourth year of an Honors Specialization module in the School of Health Studies. Application Required.

Extra Information: 2 seminar hours, 1.0 course; Priority will be given to students enrolled in the Honors 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 (typically physical or occupational therapists working with acquired brain or spinal cord injured patients). This “placement” will comprise ~6 hours / week where the student takes direction from the therapist or 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 or the practicum supervisor). 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 are currently restrictions to student experiential learning opportunities at Parkwood Institute, which may mean some aspects of these opportunities may have to be conducted virtually. This is subject to change, based on decisions made by hospital leaders at Parkwood Institute (St. Joseph’s Health Care London).

In addition to the practical component, students will be expected to attend a weekly seminar that will consist of either:

- a) a mix of didactic or interactive seminar format aimed at providing background, overview, concepts, rationale related to specific rehab practices that the students will see as part of their practical work.
- b) a lab or discussion-based format where the course instructor(s) would briefly introduce concepts surrounding rehabilitation practices and/or provide training experiences associated with these practices. This would transition to students presenting their 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 \$6.00 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).

Evaluation

| Evaluation Component | Date | Proportion of Final Grade |
|---|--|---|
| Participation and quality of practicum-related duties | Nov 10/2021 | 15% (12% = practicum, 3% = seminar participation) |
| | Apr 1/2022 | 25% (20% = practicum; 5% = seminar participation) |
| Seminar / Lab / Problem-based Assignments | Due at Wed seminars: Date: TBD | 10% |
| | Date: TBD | 10% |
| Presentation (Summary of Learning Experience – or Topic of Particular Interest) | Presented during last 3 classes of 2 nd Term) Mar 16-30/2022 | 20% |
| Synopsis of Learnings (Written summary ~5 pages; focus on a practice, what student learned and Implications for future) | Due 1 week after last class of 2 nd term Apr 6/2022 | 20% |

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 Use of Electronic Devices

During Lectures and Tutorials: Although you are welcome to use a computer during seminars, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class. **Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of the seminars – nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.**

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

Student Code of Conduct

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at The University of Western Ontario, provide examples of behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For more information, visit <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf>.

English Proficiency for the Assignment of Grades

Visit the website [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](http://www.uwo.ca/academic-calendar)

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) Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form, provided that the conditions for submission are met;
- (ii) 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
- (iii) For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration, in order to be eligible for academic consideration.

Students seeking academic consideration:

- Are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work;
- Are encouraged to make appropriate decisions, based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (e.g., upset stomach) or upsets (e.g., argument with a friend) are not normally an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;
- **Must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence;
- **Are advised that all necessary documentation, forms, etc. are to be submitted to academic counselling within two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities**

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less. The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

- a. Students will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April, and one self-reported absence between May and August;
- b. The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30pm;
- c. The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period, should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (e.g., write a test, submit a paper) during that time;
- d. The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30am on the day following the last day of classes each semester, regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;
- e. Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations (i.e., “bellringers”);
- f. Self-reporting may not be used for assessments (e.g., midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course;

Students must be in touch with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed.

Scholastic Offences

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 website: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.uwo.ca/academic/calendar/)

Additionally,

1. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently

submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Support Services

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/>