

the Fieldwork

newsletter

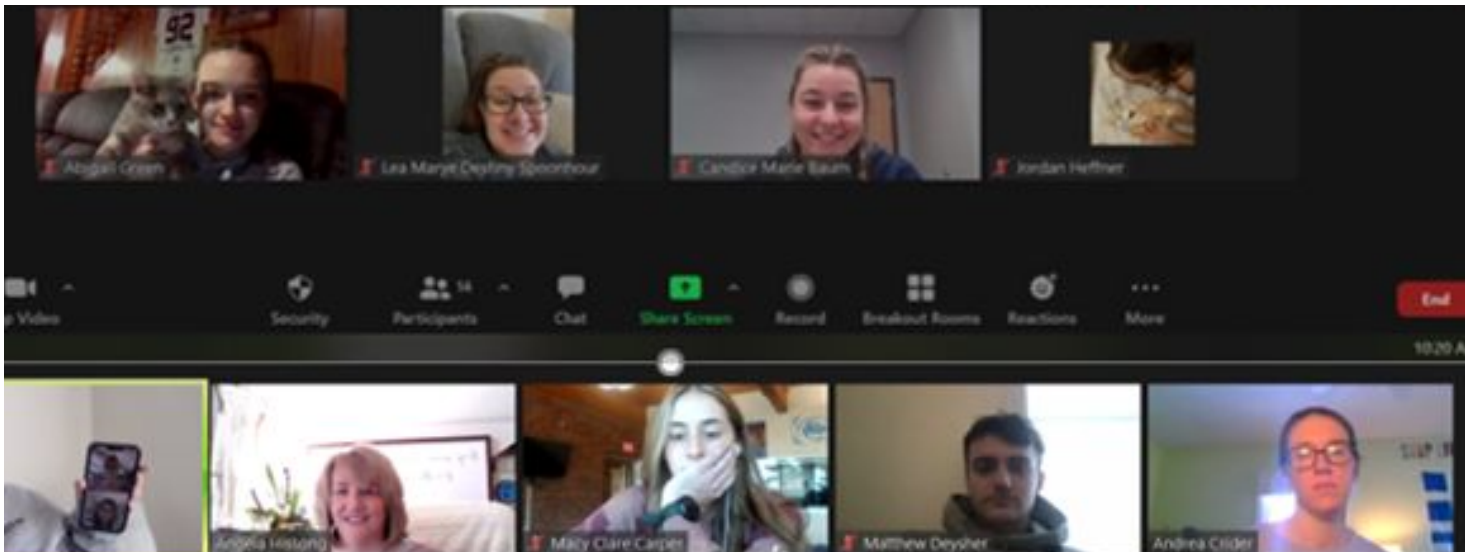


Olivia Hammond began working as the Academic Fieldwork Coordinator (AFWC) in 2012. The Penn State Mont Alto OTA program is accredited by ACOTE through 2024. The current 2018 standards have 16 fieldwork specific standards. This newsletter provides communication, educational opportunities, and awareness of compliance criteria for fieldwork educators.

Allied Health Building

In January 2022, the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program left the Occupational Therapy (OT) House after 30 years and moved into the new Allied Health Building. The Allied Health Building is the new learning hub for the Nursing, Occupational Therapy Assistant, and Physical Therapist Assistant programs. The third floor of the building is the home to the OTA program's three classroom/lab spaces: 1) the Daily Living Lab, 2) the Hand Therapy and Rehab Clinic, and 3) the Pediatric and Wellness Classroom. Students and faculty greatly appreciate our new teaching and learning space. Schedule an appointment with us to see the new building.





ACOTE STANDARD

B.4.24. Effective Intraprofessional Collaboration

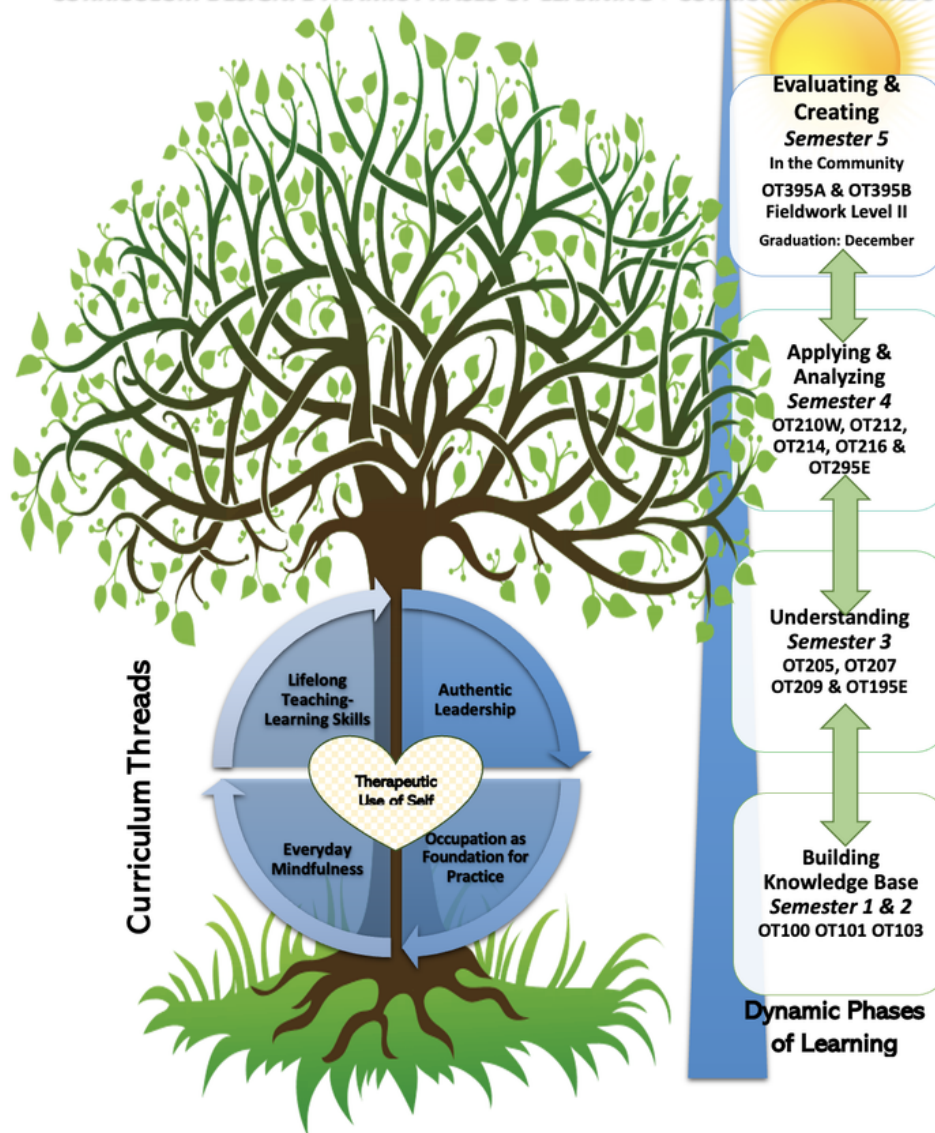
Demonstrate effective intraprofessional OT/OTA collaboration to explain the role of the occupational therapy assistant and occupational therapist in the screening and evaluation process.

Mont Alto has created two intraprofessional learning experiences to meet ACOTE standard 4.24. In OT 210W Clinical Reasoning and Documentation, Penn State OTA students met virtually with West Virginia University OT students to watch a video case scenario. The students worked together to design goals, and interventions based on an [AOTA Occupational profile](#).

In OT 216 Physical Wellness and Rehabilitation, Penn State OTA students from the Mont Alto, Dubois, and Shenango campuses are paired with pair with OT students from Gannon University. Student pairs are assigned a virtual video case study that they collaboratively use to complete a plan of care throughout the semester. The OT students complete the evaluation for the virtual patient. The OTA students then create a series of six treatment sessions based on the results and goals from the assessment. OT/OTA students then meet virtually and provide each other feedback throughout the process from professional perspectives.

The students reported positive benefits of each of these experiences is in preparing them to work collaboratively on Level II experiences. Students also reflect that they have greater insight into OTA and OT roles and the importance of intraprofessional communication to achieve optimal patient outcomes.

**ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (OTA)
CURRICULUM DESIGN: DYNAMIC PHASES OF LEARNING + CURRICULUM THREADS**



Fieldwork Updates

ACOTE Standard C.1.1. Fieldwork Program Reflects the Curriculum Design

C.1.1. Ensure that the fieldwork program reflects the sequence and scope of content in the curriculum design, in collaboration with faculty, so that fieldwork experiences in traditional, nontraditional, and emerging settings strengthen the ties between didactic and fieldwork education. In summary, the philosophical foundation of the Penn State OTA teaching-learning process is that it prepares graduates to assume the role of a lifelong learner via clinical reasoning skills, thus moving them to continued levels of higher learning. During fieldwork, Penn State OTA students apply the classroom portion of the curriculum to their hands on experiences at the evaluation and creation level of learning.



Thank you!

Thank you for your continued dedication to our program. We could not continue our program without our community partners and you, who have continued to take our students. Placing students during COVID continues to be a challenge.

I have two students in the current cohort who will complete skilled nursing facility placements. I continue to struggle to find skilled nursing and physical rehabilitation placements due to the COVID restrictions. Please contact me if you have any leads or work in one of these areas and would be willing to take a student.

OTPF 4th Edition

The OT Practice Framework 4th edition has been released. It can be found in the August supplement to AJOT. There is now a 9th area of occupation, Health Management.

For additional fieldwork resources, please visit our [webpage](#).

ACOTE Reaccreditation

In the fall of 2022, we will begin our 18-month journey to prepare and compile the documents for our reaccreditation. We will be looking for volunteers to represent past students, fieldwork educators, and employers for onsite focus groups in April 2024.

Contact Us

For more information regarding the Penn State Mont Alto OTA Program please contact:

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