Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Mission Statement
Through excellent teaching, research and service to the community, the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine is committed to enhancing quality of life, promoting participation and autonomy, and improving function for citizens in Alberta and beyond.

The Professors

171.1 Teaching and Scholarship
In recognition of excellence in teaching, Professor Mark Hall was selected as the 2012 recipient of the Faculty Teaching Award. Other teaching award recipients for 2012 are Kim Dao for the Faculty Sessional Teaching Award, and Jorge Fuentes for the Graduate Student Teaching Award.

171.2 Members of the Faculty
172  General Information

The importance of Medical Rehabilitation was recognized by the University when it established a program in Physical Therapy in 1954 and a program in Occupational Therapy in 1960. The Division of Speech Pathology and Audiology first offered courses in 1969.

172.1 Undergraduate Programs

The Department of Occupational Therapy is currently not admitting students to the BScOT Program. Students interested in occupational therapy must apply to the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MScOT) program. Please refer to §205.52.1 Occupational Therapy Graduate Studies and Research General Information section of the Calendar. Contact the Department for more information.

All students must undertake clinical practice during their course of study in approved institutions under the supervision of qualified professional staff. Students will be required to complete some fieldwork/clinical placements in the summer months and may include regional, national and international locations. Students must travel in order to meet the clinical education requirement. Students are responsible for the costs associated with fieldwork/clinical placements (e.g., travel, accommodation, appropriate dress and immunization expenses).

172.2 Programs for Master's Degrees

The Faculty offers master's degrees in Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech Language Pathology as well as a doctoral program in Rehabilitation Science. Refer to §205 Graduate Studies and Research section of the Calendar for program details.

172.3 Membership in Professional Associations

Occupational Therapy

Graduates from the Occupational Therapy program may be eligible for membership in the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT).

To establish eligibility, CAOT requires successful completion of a certification examination.

Physical Therapy

Graduates from the Physical Therapy program may apply for membership in the Canadian Physiotherapy Association and the Physiotherapy Alberta College and Association.

Provincial Licensing: In order to be a practising physical therapist in the Province of Alberta, graduates from the Physical Therapy Program at the University of Alberta are required to take the Physiotherapy Competency Examination which consists of both written (Qualifying Examination) and clinical (Physiotherapy National Examination) examinations. The fee for the examination is the responsibility of the student. Information on the cost of the examination can be obtained from the Physiotherapy Alberta College and Association. Successful completion of the PNE will enable graduating physical therapists to practice in Alberta. Contact (780) 438-0338 for more information.

Speech Pathology and Audiology

All graduates who intend to be certified to practice in Alberta are required to join the Alberta College of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (ACSLPA) and are eligible to join the Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA). Applications may be obtained from ACSLPA at Suite 208, 3132 Parsons Road, Edmonton AB T6N 1L6 (phone: 1-888-537-0589) and from CASLPA at Suite 920 - 1 Nicholas St, Ottawa, ON K1N 7B7.

Provincial Licensing

Graduates from all programs intending to practice in Canada must comply with provincial licensing requirements regardless of their professional qualifications.

Employment in Other Countries

Information regarding practice in other countries may be obtained from the appropriate professional organization, which also advises on the degree of reciprocity of registration to be expected.

172.4 Budget

In the Department of Occupational Therapy, a $30 Sundries Fee is charged in the third and fourth years of the program.

In the Department of Physical Therapy, a $250 mandatory instructional support fee is charged to all students upon entry into the program.

In the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, a variable annual deposit fee is charged.

173  Faculty Regulations

173.1 Professional Ethics/Code of Student Behaviour

Students in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine must adhere to the professional code of ethics of their respective professional/licensing bodies. Refer to §30.3.3 of the Code of Student Behaviour. Amendments to the Code of Student Behaviour occur throughout the year. The official version of the Code of Student Behaviour, as amended from time to time is housed on the University Governance website at www.governance.ualberta.ca.

173.2 Academic Standing and Graduation

(1)  Passing Grade: Under normal circumstances, each student must obtain a grade of no less than D+ in every course during the student’s program of study.

(2)  Failure in Fieldwork or Clinical Work:

   a. A student must successfully complete each fieldwork/clinical course to graduate from the program. A student may fail only one fieldwork/clinical course during the student’s program. If a student fails a fieldwork/clinical course, that course must normally be successfully repeated before subsequent fieldwork/clinical courses can be taken. If a student fails a repeat fieldwork/clinical course, the student will be required to withdraw from the program. If a student fails another separate fieldwork/clinical course, the student will be required to withdraw from the program. For further information, Occupational Therapy students refer to §174.1.

   b. A student who fails a fieldwork/clinical placement may appeal that decision. Information regarding appeal procedures is available in the fieldwork/clinical placement procedures manual.

(3)  Promotion and/or Continuation

   a. Any student failing to obtain a minimum GPA of 2.0 in any academic year will be required to withdraw from the Faculty.

   b. Students identified as second-time problem students by the Revisions Committee and referred to the Department Chair for review may also be required to withdraw.

(4)  Grade of Incomplete: Subject to the approval of the Dean, a grade of incomplete is normally used when a student is prevented by illness, domestic affliction or other extreme circumstances from completing the course requirements at the specified time. Where this grade has been given, the student must submit the assignment within 10 days after the series of final examinations scheduled for this particular course is complete, except in cases where, at the discretion of the Department Chair, the Dean grants an extension. Failure to comply with this regulation results in a grade of 0 for the portion of the course in which the grade of incomplete was given.

(5)  Time Limits for Completion of Programs: Students are normally required to complete all requirements for their undergraduate degree within three years for Occupational Therapy from the date of admission to the Faculty.

(6)  Post Diploma Degree Completion: (Note: The Post Diploma BScPT completion program was discontinued effective September 1999.) Students admitted to the BScOT program are normally required to complete all requirements for their undergraduate degree within two years of the admission date.

(7)  Electives: An elective course is approved if it (a) does not duplicate material covered in any compulsory course in the student’s program; (b) does not duplicate material covered in the previously approved elective courses; (c) is offered when no timetable conflict exists. Permission to take courses in other universities toward meeting the elective requirements of the student’s program is normally granted if these criteria are met. Credit is granted for approved off-campus courses if a grade of C (or equivalent) is obtained.
Residence Requirements: The residence requirement for the Post Diploma (Degree Completion) program in the Department of Occupational Therapy normally consists of completing ★24 offered by the University of Alberta on or off campus in Fall/Winter or Spring/Summer, of which at least ★18 must be taken within a 12-month period.

First-Class Standing: For the purposes of granting First-Class Standing and for granting awards open to students in more than one Department in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, a full normal academic course load is defined as a minimum of ★30 taken during Fall/Winter.

Academic and Clinical Requirements: To graduate, a student must meet the academic and clinical requirements outlined in the Calendar.

Degree With Distinction: The Degree “With Distinction” is granted to students who obtain a minimum GPA of 3.5 in each of the final two years (third and fourth years) of the program, in each of which the student must take a minimum of ★18 in Fall/Winter. Post Diploma Degree Completion students are not eligible to receive the Degree With Distinction.

Repeating Courses
   a. Students may repeat a failed course only once.
   b. Students registered in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine may not repeat any successfully completed course in their program.
   c. Students in any Faculty may not repeat for credit any successfully completed course offered by the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine.

Reexamination Criteria: See §23.5.

Credit by Special Assessment

A student admitted to a degree program in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine may receive degree credit in a limited number of courses for knowledge or skill obtained in either a university or non-university context. “Non-Medicine” may receive degree credit in a limited number of courses for knowledge or skill obtained in another university, college, Faculty, or school are given advance credit in obtained credits by special assessment (or similar means) while enrolled to complete that assessment.

Unless extenuating circumstances exist, students who do not complete assessment requirements by the specified deadline are considered to have cancelled their application and must reapply if they want to complete that assessment.

Transfer of “Credit by Special Assessment”: Students who have obtained credits by special assessment (or similar means) while enrolled in another university, college, Faculty, or school are given advance credit in such courses only to the extent that the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine accepts such courses in its degree programs.

Grades Assigned to Special Assessment Courses: In a course attempted by special assessment, the results are recorded either as a grade point or pass/fail according to the practice in the regular course. Students may not appeal the results in a course attempted by special assessment. Courses attempted by special assessment and failed are recorded on students' transcripts and computed into their academic records.

Fees: For information regarding fees, please refer to §22.2.

173.4 Practicum Intervention Policy

The Dean, or supervisor acting on behalf of the Dean, may immediately deny assignment of a student to, withdraw a student from, or vary terms, conditions, or site of practicum/clinical placement if the Dean or supervisor has reasonable grounds to believe that this is necessary in order to protect the public interest. Refer to §23.8.2 Practicum Intervention Policy for additional information.

173.5 Fieldwork/Clinical Practice Requirements

Procedures: The procedures governing fieldwork/clinical practice are binding and will be provided in a procedures manual. Also refer to §174.1 and for information specific to the Occupational Therapy program.

Fieldwork/Clinical Practice at Sites: When students attend required fieldwork/clinical placements at approved institutions, students will also follow the administrative procedures and regulations of that institution. Students must attend fieldwork/clinical placement orientation seminars.

CPR Certification: Students in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine must obtain certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) before entering their clinical fieldwork placements. All fees and other costs for CPR certification and recertification are the students' responsibility. Students must maintain their certification by recertifying in each of the subsequent years they are in the program.

Occupational therapy students may complete approved CPR certification courses offered elsewhere.

Security Clearance Check: Students should be aware that under the Protection for Persons in Care Act, they may be required to satisfy a criminal records check before being allowed to serve a period of internship, practicum placement, work experience or to complete a course requirement. Refer to §23.8.3.

Immunization Requirements and Bloodborne Pathogens Policy: Rehabilitation Medicine students are health care professionals who will be exposed to patients during the course of studies at the University. To ensure, insofar as possible, both student and patient safety, the Faculty requires immunization, or proof of immunity, to poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and hepatitis B. As well, varicella titre and TB testing are required. A two-step tuberculin skin test is required in the first year of the program and should be performed by the University of Alberta Health Centre.

The University of Alberta recognizes its duty to minimize the risk of transmission of bloodborne pathogens to/by individuals studying or working at this University. The Bloodborne Pathogens Policy limits the possibility of bloodborne pathogens within the educational setting. The University recognizes, however, that it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of infection. Refer to §20.5 University Bloodborne Pathogens Policy, for additional information.

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The Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, in accordance with University policies and other available guidelines, has developed the following policies concerning bloodborne pathogens. These policies will be reviewed and adapted as further information becomes available.

Hepatitis B: Hepatitis B surface antigen testing will be performed by the University of Alberta Health Centre. For those students who test negative for hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAG), hepatitis B vaccination will be required. An exception will be made for those individuals who have proof of prior vaccination and test positive for antibody to hepatitis B surface antigen (antiHBs). After vaccination, students will receive a second test to determine if they have converted to produce the appropriate antibody titre. If they have not converted they will receive a second vaccination and again be tested. Those students who then fail to convert will be counsellised as to their potential risk status during training and future practice.

For those students who test positive for HBsAG, their “e” antigen (HBeAG) status and the presence of hepatitis B viral DNA will be determined. If they are found to be positive for the “e” antigen or the viral DNA they will be counsellised as to their risk of infecting patients.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV): The data relating to transmission of HIV from a health care worker to a patient in a health care setting are limited. Transmission from patients to a health care worker is more common. All students accepted into the Faculty are encouraged to undergo HIV testing at any time during their program when concerns about infection have arisen. Testing for HIV is not mandatory.

Immunization/bloodborne pathogen requirements must be fulfilled by the date published in the fieldwork/clinical placement procedures manual. Students must sign a waiver if they are unable to meet these requirements due to medical contraindication.

Note: For updates on changes to medical testing and immunization refer to the Faculty Office.

Fit Testing for Respirator Mask, as required.

Dress requirements: Students will be advised of dress requirements at the time of registration.
173.6 Appeals and Grievances

Every student may have individual grades reviewed. Students should first approach the instructor concerned, then, if necessary, see the Department Chair.

Decisions affecting a student's academic standing may be heard by the Faculty Academic Appeals Committee. Full academic appeal regulations may be obtained in the Office of the Dean.

Certain unsuccessful appeals at the Faculty level may be further appealed to the GFC Academic Appeals Committee. See §23.8.

Deadline

All appeals regarding academic standing must be received in writing by the Dean, within 21 calendar days, following publication of final results.

174 Programs of Study

174.1 Degree of BSc in Occupational Therapy

(1) Fieldwork Policy: Also refer to Faculty regulations in §§172.1, 173.2(2), 173.4 and 173.5. All students must complete five full-time fieldwork placements at approved facilities under the supervision of qualified staff. Each placement is assigned a course number, and fieldwork courses are normally scheduled as follows:

- OCCTH 324 Fall term of third year
- OCCTH 328 Spring following third year
- OCCTH 428 Fall term of fourth year
- OCCTH 433 Winter term of fourth year
- OCCTH 434 Winter term of fourth year

Although efforts are made to consider individual requirements, if a student declines a placement, that placement is released to another student. Due to the limited national supply, another placement normally is not available until the next selection period. Declining a placement lengthens students' programs and delays their graduation.

Before undertaking fieldwork courses in each year of the program, students must attend an annual fieldwork seminar, and fulfill all fieldwork prerequisites.

A student who has been assigned a grade of "W" or "NC" in a practicum placement is entitled to a second registration in this course, subject to satisfactory completion of such remedial work as may be assigned by the Faculty. A student who receives a "W" or "NC" in a fieldwork placement must repeat the course in a similar setting and type of service. If a student receives a "W" or "NC" in the second attempt of a practicum placement, the student is required to withdraw from the Department of Occupational Therapy.

Reexaminations are not possible in fieldwork courses; students who fail a fieldwork placement must repeat that course. They must reregister and pay the required course fees, or register and pay the required course fees for an additional OCCTH 486 module on the same or similar topic.

If a student receives two "NC" grades for any OCCTH 486 module, the student is required to withdraw from the Department of Occupational Therapy. Students may appeal a grade of "NC" received for an OCCTH 486 module in accordance with §§23.8 and 173.6.

(2) Promotion: Students normally complete courses according to the Program sequence. If a student has deficient credit in a course or courses from a previous term, through failure or otherwise, that student must normally clear the deficiency the next time the course(s) is/are offered and is considered a repeating student.

(3) Program

Year 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INT D 410</td>
<td>(32.5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCCTH 307</td>
<td>(28)</td>
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<td>OCCTH 308</td>
<td>(52)</td>
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<td>(39)</td>
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<td>OCCTH 323</td>
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<td>OCCTH 324</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCCTH 362</td>
<td>(52)</td>
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<td>REHAB 483</td>
<td>(65)</td>
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Spring

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCCTH 328</td>
<td>(8 weeks)</td>
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174.2 Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Medicine

Master of Science degrees are offered in the areas of Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech/Language Pathology. The Faculty also offers a MSc and PhD in Rehabilitation Science. See §205.

The Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine offers a number of credit post-baccalaureate certificate programs which formally acknowledge the study of particular themes within the rehabilitation discipline. The programs are designed to build on existing expertise of practicing clinicians and current students. The certificate programs provide both profession-specific as well as interdisciplinary evidence-based content and are offered in various formats which may include distance technologies and face-to-face learning. See §205.68.4.

175 Courses

Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine courses can be found in §231, Course Listings, under the following subject headings:

Occupational Therapy (OCCTH)
Physical Therapy (PTHER)
Rehabilitation Medicine (REHAB)
Speech Pathology and Audiology (SPA)