NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
OCT 100 – INTRODUCTION TO OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (3 CR.)

Course Description
Introduces the concepts of occupational therapy as a means of directing a person's participation in tasks selected to develop, maintain or restore skills in daily living. Examines the role of the assistant for each function of occupational therapy, and for various practice settings in relationship to various members of the healthcare team. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the rich history and the theoretical and philosophical foundations of occupational therapy. The course is also intended to introduce students to the major concepts of the profession including occupation and occupational science, the occupational therapy domain and process, and to introduce students to the roles, functions, and supervisory regulations of occupational therapy assistants across various practice settings.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites
Prerequisite: Admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program.

Course Objectives
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- Articulate an understanding of the importance of the history of the profession and the philosophical base of occupational therapy
- Understand the AOTA's Occupational Therapy Code of Ethics, and Core Values and Attitudes of Occupational Therapy Practice as related to daily practice, including expectation of being an ongoing learner and use of sound judgment in making decisions
- Articulate how an OTA's role is enhanced by knowledge of and involvement in international, national, state, and local occupational therapy associations and related professional associations Participate in professional advocacy
- Describe ethical considerations for clients at risk for social injustice, occupational deprivation and disparity
- Articulate the value of occupation to support performance, participation, health and well-being and the importance to balance areas of occupation to achieve health and wellness
- Explain the importance of occupational science and its relationship to the profession of occupational therapy
- Explain the occupational therapy domain and process
- Describe the various roles of the OTA as a practitioner, educator and research assistant in occupational therapy across diverse practice settings in relation to many members of the health care team
- Identify interventions consistent with models of occupational performance
- Describe the role of the OTA in care coordination, case management, and transition services in traditional and emerging practice environments
- Describe the contexts of health care, education, community, and social systems as related to OT practice
- Describe the basic supervision regulations of an OTA in the profession of occupational therapy
- Explain the basic features of theories, models of practice, and frames of references used in occupational therapy
- Understand the basic roles of the members of the interdisciplinary healthcare team, including specialists
- Articulate the confluence of the profession's history, theory and sociopolitical climate on current practice
- Explain the role of occupation in the promotion of health and the prevention of disease and disability for the individual, family, and society
- Articulate ways to promote Occupational therapy
- Identify professional behaviors and their impact on professional relationships and conflict resolution

**Major Topics to be Included**

- Introduction to the profession's history, code of ethics, core values and attitudes, theoretical (frames of references and models), and philosophical foundations and impact on current practice
- The definition and unique nature of occupation as related to occupational therapy
- Occupational science and its relationship to occupational therapy
- Supervision regulations of an OTA
- Professional organizations and policy implications for OT
- Roles and functions of an OTA in various areas of practice and relation to other members of the healthcare team
- Professional behaviors – communication/ conflict resolution
- Overview of the Occupational therapy process
- Interviewing skills
- Developmental tasks, common diagnoses, common settings, and common interventions across the lifespan
- Emerging practice areas; prevention and wellness in OT