

University of Florida
College of Public Health & Health Professions Syllabus
OTH 6906 Doctoral Mentorship 1 (1 cr.)
Spring: 2025
Delivery Format: On-Campus, HPNP
Monday 10:40-11:30 Section A Room 1101
Monday 11:45-12:35 Section B Room 1101

Instructor Name: Linda R. Struckmeyer, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

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Office hours: Monday 12:50-1:40 (except when SOTA or COTAD is meeting) Wednesdays 12-1 in HPNP 2116, and Thursday evenings on zoom (by sign up and sending outlook calendar invite)

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/194TibiKUjcvG0SYkDig6mTg7YParXHDfYobnuugoJfI/edit>

Preferred Communication: email

Prerequisite

OTH 6722 Professional Development in Occupational Therapy

PURPOSE AND OUTCOME

Course Overview

This course provides the first steps of foundational work for development of the 14-week Capstone Experience (OTH6985) and Doctoral Capstone Project (OTH 6911). Students will engage in an exploration of their interest area(s) for the capstone experience and related capstone project. Students create a professional development plan with an initial draft of learning objectives for the capstone focused on developing in-depth exposure (beyond a generalist level) to an area of interest in occupational therapy.

Relation to Program Outcomes

- 1) Students will begin to develop theoretically-sound, evidence-based occupational therapy programs and practices that incorporate an ecological perspective of human health (Theme: Human Occupation and Health)
- 2) Students will integrate rigorous critical thinking and sound clinical reasoning when planning a capstone experience for optimal outcomes for individuals, communities, and populations. (Theme: Critical Thinking for Practice and Scholarship)
- 3) Students will commit to ethical reasoning that intrinsically represents the highest ethical standards, values, and attitudes of the profession (Theme: Professionalism)
- 4) Students will consider how their capstone experience can champion the occupational performance of individuals, communities, and populations to support health and well-being within culturally diverse contexts (Theme: Valuing of Diversity)
- 5) Students will plan for the interprofessional and collaborative perspective of client care (Theme: Collaborative Practice)

Course Objectives

Upon the successful completion of this course, the student will:

- 1) Examine & reflect on area(s) of interest within the scope of occupational therapy practice for the capstone.
- 2) Prepare a Professional Development/Capstone plan related to the capstone experience.
- 3) Describe how your individualized plan relates to Department of Occupational Therapy threads.
- 4) Explore Critically Appraised Topics (CAT) to inform ideas for in-depth learning in area of interest for capstone.

Blended Learning

What is blended learning and why is it important?

A Blended Learning class uses a mixture of technology and face-to-face instruction to help you maximize your learning. Knowledge content that, as the instructor, I would have traditionally presented during a live class lecture is instead provided online before the live class takes place. This lets me focus my face-to-face teaching on course activities designed to help you strengthen higher order thinking skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, and collaboration. Competency in these skills is critical for today's health professional.

What is expected of you?

You are expected to actively engage in the course throughout the semester. You must come to class prepared by completing all out-of-class assignments. This preparation gives you the knowledge or practice needed to engage in higher levels of learning during the live class sessions. If you are not prepared for the face-to-face sessions, you may struggle to keep pace with the activities occurring in the live sessions, and it is unlikely that you will reach the higher learning goals of the course. Similarly, you are expected to actively participate in the live class. Your participation fosters a rich course experience for you and your peers that facilitates overall mastery of the course objectives.

Course Materials and Technology

Required text for this course:

Deluliis, E. & Bednarski, J. (2019). *The entry Level Occupational Therapy Doctoral Capstone: A framework for the experience and project*. Thorofare, NJ: Slack, Inc.

AOTA membership is required. www.aota.org

UF OTD Capstone Manual.

https://ot.phhp.ufl.edu/wordpress/files/2024/04/OTD_Capstone_Student_Manual_2026.pdf

Blank reflection notebook of your choice.

Instructional materials for this course consist of only those materials specifically reviewed, selected, and assigned by the instructor(s). (UF Reg.8.003)

Recommended/Helpful textbooks:

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association: The official guide to APA style* (7th ed.).

Scaffa, M.E. & Reitz, S.M. (2020). *Occupational Therapy in Community and Population Health Practice* (3rd ed.). Philadelphia: F.A. Davis Company.

Additional course materials will be provided on the Canvas e-learning course site.

For technical support for this class, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- helpdesk@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT

Topical Outline/Course Schedule

Week	Topic(s)*	Readings
1 Jan. 13	Course overview: OTH 6906 syllabus & assignments Introduction Capstone Experience & Capstone Project Reflection notebook goals	Syllabus Capstone Manual Chapter 1
2 No class Jan.20 MLK Holiday		
3 Jan. 27	Areas of Focus, OT Scope of Practice Worksheet 2a from text book Synthesizing the Evidence & Self-directed Learning Critically Appraised Topics: Group activity/assignment Reflection notebook	Chapter 2 & 3
4 Feb. 3	Integrating Theory into your capstone Professional communication APA Training and Quiz Reflection notebook	Chapter 4
5 Feb 10	Practice ready skills & capstone ideas Self-Directed learning Reflection notebooks check off	Chapter 5
6 Feb 17	Planning your capstone Personal mission statement Discussions & posts	Chapter 6
7 Feb. 24	UF OTD curricular Design & Framework OCIA (New for 2025) Reflection notebook	UF OTD curricular Design & Framework
7. FRIDAY Feb. 28 8:30-10:30	Capstone Fair: start in the first room you signed up for sign will be 1107 door if you don't remember ☼ Professional Dress & name tags	
8 March 3	Lecture: Presentation slide instructions Meetings with Dr. Struckmeyer – sign up here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/194TibiKUjcvgOSYkDig6mTg7YParXHDfYobnuugoJI/edit#heading=h.x6idnaivpht2	
8. FRIDAY March 7 8:30-10:30 ONLINE	Capstone Fair on Zoom ☼ Professional Background/appearance & name on zoom screen	
9 March 10	Interviewing for capstone/resume Capstone goals and objectives About me slide	
10/11 Spring Break and Level 1 Pediatric Fieldwork		

Week	Topic(s)*	Readings
12 March 31	GUEST SPEAKER: Financial aid for FW/online semester/capstone Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) paperwork Reflection notebook- update after Level 1 1:1 Meeting with DCC as you signed up (Planning Form 1)	Chapter 9
13 April 7	Portfolio updates Peer reviews: About me slide Start of Presentations (in person) Reflection notebooks check off 1:1 Meetings continued	
14 April 14 ONLINE	Presentations of "about me" slide 1:1 Meetings continued	
15 April 21 ONLINE	Presentations of "about me" slide 1:1 Meetings continued Reflection notebook on this semester and goal for summer	
	Wrap up & Next steps in capstone process.	

*Schedule is subject to change, any changes will be made in CANVAS announcements.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Assignments

Individual assignments are described under *Assignments* on the course website. Each assignment will be discussed in class and students will be given the opportunity to ask questions about the assignment requirements. Submission of all assignments is in Canvas course.

Grading

Requirement	Due date	Points/% of final grade
Quiz: Capstone Manual	1/19	5
Quiz: Chapters 1-3	1/26	5
Appendix 2a worksheet	1/27	I/C
CAT Journal Club Lab sheet (group assignment)	2/2	5
Quiz: APA	2/9	5
Reflection on self-directed learning/embracing ambiguity (in class) Text or file upload	2/17	2
Quiz: Chapters 4-6	2/23	5
Reflection Paper 1 on Capstone fair	Thursday 3/6	14

Reflection Paper 2 on Capstone fair	3/16	14
Presentation slide /Peer feedback	4/6	20*
Learning Portfolio/Professional Development Plan	4/13	10%
Capstone Professional Development/Planning Form 1 & Advising Meeting	Varies: Form is due on CANVAS 24 hours before your scheduled meeting	10
Professional Identity/self-directed learning reflection & Gator Evals	4/20	5
Reflection check offs & Attestations	4/7 (in person) & 4/20(online post in assignment)	I/C
TOTAL		100

**All assignments must be completed to pass this course (so even missing 1 submission will result in an incomplete) Late assignments will result in a 10% reduction in grade unless previous arrangements have been made. Also see policy for unexcused absences/missing in class work.*

*Per UF academic integrity policy – any assignment worth 15% of grade must be checked for plagiarism (e.g., Turnitin)

UF 3.7	Any single assessment that comprises 15% or more of the total grade uses appropriate security measures such as plagiarism detection and/or proctoring services.
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Points earned	93-100	90-92.99	87-89.99	83-86.99	80-82.99	77-79.99	70-76.99	67-69.99	63-66.99	60-62.99	0-59.99
Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D+	D	D-	E

Please be aware that a C- is not an acceptable grade for graduate students. In addition, a grade of C counts toward a graduate degree only if an equal number of credits in courses numbered 5000 or higher have been earned with an A.

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D+	D	D-	E	WF	I	NG	S-U
Grade Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:
<https://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/#Grades>

Policy Related to Attendance, make up work and exams: all assignments are due in CANVAS on the on the date assigned. Attendance to program and course activities is required of OTD students. For a review of the OTD Attendance policies and documentation requirements see the OTD Student Handbook. A minimum of 80% attendance is required to pass this course. Emergency issues will be handled on an individual basis.

All faculty are bound by the UF policy for excused absences. For information regarding the UF Attendance Policy see the Registrar website for additional details:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

Expectations Regarding Course Behavior

Professional Behavior is expected of health professional students at all times. Also see Professional Identity assignment.

Personal responsibility for prompt arrival, and regular participation and attendance all course activities; with appropriate and judicious use of class and lab time is expected.

Health professional students are expected to treat peers, professors, teaching assistants, guest lecturers, clinical personnel, children and their families with consideration, confidentiality (HIPPA compliant), and respect.

Preparation for class: To maximize the use of class time, students are expected to read and study assigned readings in text and course syllabus prior to coming to class.

Participation: Students are expected to actively participate in discussions and class activities. Attendance assists student to develop knowledge and skill in interpersonal relationships and communication by relating to others of different backgrounds and performance deficits. A minimum of 80% attendance is required to pass this course per OTD student manual/policy. **Professional work habits also include:** being on time for class and staying until class is dismissed; being courteous in lecture by refraining from chatter or other distracting behaviors; turning off your cellular phone; not reading other material during; getting your work in on time; arranging with another students to get handouts or announcements if you cannot attend class.

Laptop policy: Course instructor reserves the right to prohibit laptop use privileges during class times. Students shall lose laptop privileges if content becomes disruptive to classmates or if it is used for unrelated course objectives. Acceptable uses include taking notes, accessing course-related documents (on or off line), following along with power point documents or class demonstrations, course-related internet searches, and performing class projects. The definition of "use unrelated to course objectives" includes, but is not limited to use of instant messaging, Face Book, chat rooms, games, surfing the net, etc.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity. As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For additional information regarding Academic Integrity, please see Student Conduct and Honor Code or the Graduate Student Website for additional details:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

<http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html>

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior. Any use of AI must be cited and referenced in your work.

Recording Within the Course:

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Policy Related to Guests Attending Class:

Only registered students are permitted to attend class. However, we recognize that students who are caretakers may face occasional unexpected challenges creating attendance barriers. Therefore, by exception, a department chair or his or her designee (e.g., instructors) may grant a student permission to bring a guest(s) for a total of two class sessions per semester. This is two sessions total across all courses. No further extensions will be granted. Please note that guests are **not** permitted to attend either cadaver or wet labs. Students are responsible for course material regardless of attendance. For additional information, please review the Classroom Guests of Students policy in its entirety. Link to full policy:

<https://phhp.ufl.edu/policy-classroom-guests-of-students/>

Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Additional Academic Resources

- [Career Connections Center](#): Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.
- [Library Support](#): Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- [Teaching Center](#): Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
- [Writing Studio](#): 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.](#)
- On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#)
- Enrollment Management Complaints (Registrar, Financial Aid, Admissions): [View the Student Complaint Procedure webpage for more information.](#)

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, it is strongly recommended you register with the Dean of Students Office <http://www.dso.ufl.edu> within the first week of class or as soon as you believe you might be eligible for accommodations. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation of accommodations to you, which you must then give to me as the instructor of the course to receive accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible after you receive the letter. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

Counseling and Student Health

Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- *U Matter, We Care*: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center*: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- *Student Health Care Center*: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the [Student Health Care Center website](#).
- *University Police Department*: Visit [UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

- *UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center*: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the [UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).
- *GatorWell Health Promotion Services*: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-2734450.

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

Inclusive Learning Environment

Public health and health professions are based on the belief in human dignity and on respect for the individual. As we share our personal beliefs inside or outside of the classroom, it is always with the understanding that we value and respect diversity of background, experience, and opinion, where every individual feels valued. We believe in, and promote, openness and tolerance of differences in ethnicity and culture, and we respect differing personal, spiritual, religious and political values. We further believe that celebrating such diversity enriches the quality of the educational experiences we provide our students and enhances our own personal and professional relationships. We embrace The University of Florida's Non-Discrimination Policy, which reads, "The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act." If you have questions or concerns about your rights and responsibilities for inclusive learning environment, please see your instructor or refer to the Office of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs website: www.multicultural.ufl.edu
