

THE PROFILE OF THE STELLENBOSCH OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

The occupational therapist who has qualified at the University of Stellenbosch must have the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to be regarded as an innovative leader in the field of occupational therapy and to be able to provide service to the benefit of the patient/client.

To meet these requirements, the recently qualified graduate must display the following professional characteristics (qualities):

KNOWLEDGE	Attitude	Skills
<p>A THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF ALL RELEVANT KNOWLEDGE CONTENTS, AS WELL AS EXTENSIVE CAREER-SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE, INCLUDING:</p>	<p>A positive attitude that places the well-being of the patient/client foremost by means of:</p>	<p>By means of clinical deliberation, the skill to integrate and interpret knowledge, and apply it with self-confidence in all environments, in order to contribute to the optimal functioning of the patient/client by means of:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BASIC, PRE-CLINICAL AND CLINICAL CONTENT; ▪ Knowledge of health, the progression of ill-ness and the influence of illness on function; ▪ The bio-psychosocial client-centered approach; ▪ The philosophy of participation in activities (“occupational performance”) as a medium for treatment; ▪ Knowledge of the analysis of activities to be able to make adaptations in relation to the needs of the client in all spheres of his/her daily tasks and specific circumstances; ▪ Knowledge of the management of activities, people and resources in occupational therapy practice; ▪ Knowledge of contextually relevant approaches to the treatment of individuals and groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The maintenance of the professional and ethical standards of the profession; ▪ Acknowledging and showing respect for the diversity of clients within diverse, multicultural communities; ▪ The attitude that learning is a lifelong activity, including a positive attitude to continuing professional development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Being able to select and implement relevant approaches to treatment; ▪ Providing justifiable direct and indirect occupational therapy services; ▪ Effective execution of preventative, promotive, therapeutic and rehabilitative occupational therapy programmes; ▪ Empowering the patient/client to take responsibility for his/he own health; ▪ The initiation and effective management of occupational therapy services in a team context during primary, secondary and tertiary preventative programmes; ▪ Research that contribute to the extension of the scientific knowledge base of the career.