## Northwood Technical College Occupational Therapy Assistant Fieldwork Handbook

## **Glossary**

**Fieldwork**: A limited experience that allows the student the opportunity to apply the course work to a practical setting. This may also be referred to as a clinical experience.

**Fieldwork I**: A student's first type of clinical experience, perhaps in a variety of settings, will allow a student to begin applying their knowledge base to practical applications. This occurs in the third semester.

**Fieldwork II**: Additional practical experiences with increased responsibilities by the student in a supervised setting. Fieldwork II is divided into two placements, and they are referred to as "Fieldwork Level IIA" and "Fieldwork Level IIB". This occurs in the fourth semester.

**Fieldwork Educator**: An individual, typically a clinician (OT/OTR or OTA/COTA), who works collaboratively with the program and is informed of the curriculum and fieldwork program design. This individual supports the fieldwork experience, serves as a role model, and holds the requisite qualifications to provide the student with the opportunity to carry out professional responsibilities during the experiential portion of their education. This person is responsible for the direct supervision of the OTA student during the fieldwork placement.

**Academic Fieldwork Coordinator:** A faculty member of Northwood Technical College who also plays a role in the supervision of the OTA students on their fieldwork experience. This individual also arranges and coordinates the locations for each student's fieldwork placement.

**Professional Standards**: This term covers a variety of smaller topics that refer to an individual's behavior and skills in the workplace. Specifically, professional standards refer to a person's ability to be punctual, respectful, responsible, tactful, poised, confidential, considerate of others, have an ideology of optimism, demonstrate an inner motivation to learn from mistakes, and be a life-long learner. Fieldwork experiences expose the OTA student to professionals in their fields and the professional behaviors which are expected.