

Incorporating Psychosocial Issues into Fieldwork II

Psychosocial Information ideas are intended to assist fieldwork educators in incorporating psychosocial issues into Fieldwork II. AOTA requirements for fieldwork have changed over the years, and while a psychosocial placement is no longer “a specific requirement” for Level II Fieldwork, the faculty and Advisory Committee of the Northwood Tech Occupational Therapy Assistant program feel that psychosocial issues will always be a major component area of occupational therapy.

The following suggestions may be used to facilitate discussion and application of psychosocial components into any fieldwork setting.

- ❖ Northwood Tech students have purchased the book, Quick Reference to Occupational Therapy, by Kathlyn Reed. This resource identifies psychosocial issues related to many medical conditions. The fieldwork student may use this reference to identify psychosocial issues and treatment for specific diagnoses. Your fieldwork student could be required to identify and address psychosocial factors with each of their clients. The student could be required to plan activities appropriate for psychosocial areas of practice. The student could implement activities that address psychosocial areas of practice.

- ❖ The Psychosocial Information ideas included are organized by using these terms:

A. Values

Identifying ideas or beliefs that are important to self and others.

B. Interests

Identifying mental or physical activities that create pleasure and maintain attention.

C. Self-Concept

Developing the value of the physical, emotional, and sexual self.

D. Role Performance

Identifying, maintaining, and balancing functions one assumes or acquires in society (e.g., worker, student, parent, friend, religious participant).

E. Social Conduct

Interacting using manners, personal space, eye contact, gestures, active listening, and self-expression appropriate to one’s environment.

F. Interpersonal Skills

Using verbal and nonverbal communication to interact in a variety of settings.

G. Self-Expression

Using a variety of styles and skills to express thoughts, feelings, and needs.

H. Coping Skills

Identifying and managing stress and related reactors.

I. Time Management

Planning and participating in a balance of self care, work, leisure, and rest activities to promote satisfaction and health.

J. Self-Control

Modifying one's own behavior in response to environmental needs, demands, constraints, personal aspirations, and feedback from others.

Please feel free to contact me at anytime. I can be reached at 715-319-7263 or becky.mika@NorthwoodTech.edu.

Thank you.

Handwritten signature of Becky Mika in cursive script.

Becky Mika, OTR/L, MBA-HCA
OTA Program Director/Instructor