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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

ARBEIDSTERAPIE

WHAT IS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY?

Persons with a physical or mental disease and/or disability are treated by means of participation in everyday activities. For example, a person who has lost the use of his legs in an accident has to learn from scratch how to do everday things in a wheelchair. The occupational therapist assists this person to function as normally as possible in society. The occupational therapist is trained to apply specific techniques and procedures in a scientific manner with regard to the patient. The remaining abilities of the person are developed to the maximum in order to enable the person to lead a meaningful and independent existence. You therefore play an important part in giving hope to someone by developing abilities to make his life easier. Occupational therapy is also applied to persons wih development backlogs or learning disabilities or people with psychosocial dysfunctions. Qualified occupational therapists are registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa.

SCHOOL SUBJECTS

Biology, Physical Science and Mathematics.

WHAT DOES THE TRAINING ENTAIL?

The syllabus is an integration of human and natural sciences reflecting the performance of activities by a person during his lifetime. Students learn how to apply the occupational therapy process to persons whose functioning has been affected by development backlogs, neglect, disease, trauma etc.

TRAINING
UNIVERSITY

The B.Occupational Therapy or BSc (Occupational Therapy) degree is offered at most universities. The duration of the course is four years.

Students perform clinical practical work at several clinics, bodies and hospitals as well as in the community.

RESEARCH

Postgraduate students have to do research, and topics vary from the ergonomical design of wheelchairs to the effect of musical activities on the behaviour of psychiatrically disturbed patients.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Occupational therapists can be employed in several areas, for example in physical and psychiatric hospitals, schools, homes for the aged, welfare organisations, municipal clinics and community organisations. In the private sector there are also employment opportunites with insurance companies and private practices.

WAT IS ARBEIDSTERAPIE?

Persone met 'n liggaamlike of geestelike siekte en/of gestremdheid word behandel deur deelname aan alledaagse aktiwiteite. Iemand wat bv. die gebruik van sy bene in 'n ongeluk verloor het, moet van voor af leer hoe om in 'n rolstoel alledaagse dinge te doen. Die arbeidsterapeut help hierdie persoon om weer so normaal as moontlik te funksioneer. Die arbeidsterapeut word opgelei om spesifieke tegnieke en prosedures op wetenskaplike wyse toe te pas ten opsigte van die pasiënt. Die oorblywende vermoëns van die persoon word maksimaal ontwikkel om die persoon in staat te stel om 'n betekenisvolle en onafhanklike bestaan te voer. Jy speel dus 'n belangrike rol om iemand weer hoop te gee deur vermoëns te ontwikkel om die lewe vir hom makliker te maak! Arbeidsterapie word ook toegepas op persone met ontwikkelingsagterstande, leergestremdheid of 'n psigososiale wanfunksie. Gekwalifiseerde arbeidsterapeute registreer by die Raad vir Gesondheidsberoepe van Suid-Afrika.

SKOOLVAKKE

Biologie, Natuur- en Skeikunde en Wiskunde.

WAT BEHELS DIE OPLEIDING?

Die sillabus is 'n integrasie van mens- en natuurwetenskappe wat die aktiwiteitsverrigting van 'n persoon oor sy lewensloop reflekteer. Studente leer hoe om die arbeidsterapie-proses toe te pas op persone wie se funksionering aangetas is deur ontwikkelingsagterstande, verwaarlosing, siekte, trauma ens.

OPLEIDING
UNIVERSITEIT

Die B.Arbeidsterapie of die BSc (Arbeidsterapie) graad word by die meeste universiteite aangebied. Die duur van die kursus is vier jaar.

Studente doen kliniese praktiese werk by verskillende klinieke, instansies en hospitale sowel as in die gemeenskap.

NAVORSING

Nagraadse studente moet navorsing doen, rakende onderwerpe wat wissel van die ontwerp van rolstoele tot die effek van musiekaktiwiteite op die gedrag van psigiatries-versteurde pasiënte.

LOOPBAANGELEENTHEDE

Arbeidsterapeute kan in verskeie velde werk, byvoorbeeld in fisiese en psigiatriese hospitale, skole, sentrums vir bejaardes, welsynorganisasies, munisipale klinieke en gemeenskaps-organisasies. In die privaatsektor is daar ook werkgeleenthede by versekeringsmaatskappye en privaatpraktyke.