

UND SMHS Strategic Plan Individual Unit Report for 2020

GOAL 1 for OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

LEARNING

One UND Strategic Plan Goal 1: Provide a strong undergraduate liberal arts foundation
UND SMHS Strategic Plan Goal 1: SMHS Units that offer educational programs will expand their curricula to include learning outcomes that align with UND's Essential Studies goals.

- Critical Inquiry and Analysis
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Written Communication
- Oral Communication
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Knowledge and Skills

1. Describe if/how your unit has addressed this goal.

The OT Department has validated two OTD courses to address UND Essential Studies goals. OT 400 Culture and Occupation, and OT 403 Research Methods, have been validated to address *Intercultural Knowledge and Skills*, and *Advanced Communication*, respectively. Assessment will be addressed below. Additionally, the OT department has finalized expanded bachelor's degree options, to be awarded at the end of the first professional year, in Psychology, Kinesiology, and Rehabilitation Science. These degree options are in addition to the previously approved Bachelor of General Studies with an emphasis in Health Sciences degree option. Finally, the department has also identified support of high-quality teaching practices among occupational therapy faculty with a focus on improvement and achievement of outcomes for every student. Faculty trainings in team-based teaching and subject-centered learning were held in August of 2018, January of 2019, August of 2019, and April of 2020 to prepare faculty for the shift to the OTD. We found that revisiting the curricular design is needed as we bring on new faculty and shift to concept-based learning and instruction.  **On Track**

2. Describe how your efforts are measured/assessed.

The OT Department has selected eMedley as the primary assessment tool for tracking of program accreditation standards outcomes on a course by course basis. Identified standards for each course are loaded into the platform; exams are conducted through the eMedley platform, and each exam item is linked to an identified standard. This allows for real-time tracking of mastery of standards through examination. Additionally, selected significant assignments for each course are tracked through loading of graded student rubrics, including assignments in OT 400 and OT 403 (discussed above), to assess students' mastery of accreditation standards for OT education.

When assessing outcomes for Essential Studies validation, data collection and analysis of designated assignments for OT 400 and OT 403 were conducted through eMedley for the 2019-2020 AY. In OT 400, *Intercultural Knowledge and Skills*, and *Critical Inquiry and Analysis* were assessed through the Final Goal Reflection paper, which analyzes the student's understanding of their own cultural competency progression through the course, and how that understanding relates to their interactions with others professionally, and in the larger society. In OT 403, *Critical Inquiry and Analysis*, *Written Communication*, and *Information Literacy* were assessed through the development of a Critically Appraised Topic (CAT), which required the student to analyze current evidence on a designated clinical topic, select and synthesize the evidence in a clinical scenario and supporting literature review, and then develop this synthesis into a "bottom-line" clinical significance statement for occupational therapy practitioners. The CATs will be available through the UND Scholarly Commons beginning summer 2020.

 **On Track**

3. How were the data analyzed and what were the outcomes?

The eMedley platform allows for course-by-course tracking of accreditation standards and essential studies outcomes, in a variety of report formats based on the data entered for student assignments and examinations. The analysis of student mastery of content is reviewed by the course director, the coordinator of OTD education, the department curriculum committee, and ultimately the faculty as a whole at the end of each semester. Where concerns are noted, discussion with the identified personnel occur, and changes are made. At this time, while student outcomes on accreditation standards are in progress for the OTD program, no standards have been identified as unaccounted for. Essential studies outcomes are determined as met, and a report will be made available to the Essential Studies Committee when requested. ● On Track

4. Describe how your unit will implement any further changes and what barriers may exist.

The OT department will continue to utilize the eMedley platform for tracking of accreditation standards and essential studies outcomes as necessary for graduation from a professional OT program. This will provide the department a clear and real-time vision regarding the mastery of required OT content in anticipation of students completing the program and taking the national certification exam for licensure. It is also anticipated that this will allow faculty to clearly and confidently address how their courses fit into the large curricular picture during the ACOTE on-site accreditation site visit for the OTD, anticipated during fall 2021.

The most significant barrier is the time faculty must dedicate to loading the rubric shells, the exams, and the students' rubric scores to assess learning outcomes. It is anticipated that this time barrier is front-loaded, and once a complete cycle of the program is achieved, the data collected in eMedley will require only routine updating and maintenance. ● On Track

PROVIDE A RATING OF YOUR PROGRESS ON THIS GOAL: ● On Track; ● Delayed; ● Behind
(additional space for text is provided on page 2 if needed)

Additional Information on Goal 1 (optional):

Insert any additional information here.

