Issues in Occupational Therapy and Health Care

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)
1. Discuss basic medical, legal, and ethical principles relative to the practice of occupational therapy and the delivery of health care.
2. Describe/define relevant provisions of the Washington RCW, OT Practice Act, WACs, and Uniform Disciplinary Act.
3. Relate documentation standards and criteria to the various agencies involved in establishing criteria.
4. Describe legal/ethical issues involved in other documentation responsibilities such as technology communication, requests for information, patient refusal of treatment, and incident reports.
5. Discuss trends, proposed reforms, and the economics of the delivery of health care in Washington and in the United States.
6. Identify forms of medical insurance coverage in Washington and their relationship to health care providers.
7. Compare and contrast the Medicare and Medicaid systems and their implications on health care reimbursement and documentation.
8. Discuss aspects of professionalism in occupational therapy as it applies to the OTA.
9. Describe the different types of billing guidelines as they pertain to occupational therapy and discuss fraud and abuse compliance issues in occupational therapy billing.
10. Discuss the role of assertiveness in relationships with difficult patients and staff and develop clinical problem-solving strategies for resolution.
11. Identify key elements of successful interview situations.
12. Write an appropriate resume in preparation for a job search.
13. Develop a continuing education/professional development plan.
14. Using patient scenarios, document a discharge summary, incident report(s), and progress notes.

OTA 201 Course Outline

I. Medical/Legal/Ethical Principles
   A. Washington OT Practice Act
   B. Washington Administrative Code
   C. Documentation Standards and Agencies Involved with establishing criteria
      1. Federal Government
      2. State Government
      3. Professional Agencies
      4. Accrediting Agencies
      5. Health Care Facility
   D. OTA Standards of Documentation and Appropriateness of Care
   E. Occupational Therapy Scope of Practice
   F. OTA State Licensure requirements
   G. Structure and organization of Occupational Therapy Practice

II. Ethical Issues and Strategies for Problem Solving in Clinical Practice
   A. Standards of Ethical Conduct for the OTA
B. Confidentiality
C. Documentation and recording
   1. Medicare guidelines
   2. Discharge summary
D. Disclosure of information
E. Informed consent
F. Unethical or incompetent conduct and mandatory reporting laws

III. Economics and Trends of Health Care Funding
   A. Medical insurance plans and reimbursement
   B. Medicare and Medicaid systems and reimbursement
   C. Allocation of health care resources
   D. Liability and Malpractice issues
      1. Incident reports
      2. Patient Rights
   E. Billing and Reimbursements

IV. Psycho-social Aspects of Illness
    A. Assertiveness

V. Preparation for Continuing Profession Growth and Development

VI. Resume Writing and Interviewing