Program Description:

This course will provide knowledge, understanding and basic components of sensory integration theory and application to the classroom, home, and clinical setting. This knowledge will allow an occupational therapist to support a child's ability to participate in expected daily school and home routines, activities, or "occupations" by supporting academic achievement, promoting positive behaviors necessary for learning and social-emotional development, and performing motor tasks to actively engage within their natural environments. Neurofoundations, sensory functioning and sensory dysfunction will be addressed for children 3-21 years of age in the school, home, and clinical setting. Application of sensory processing principles will be addressed in relation to assessment to identify needs and strengths as well as evidence based, interventions in the classroom and clinic setting. Further exploration of sensory processing skills will be addressed through learning styles, language acquisition and motivational versus sensory behavior of a child.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define sensory integration and neurologic components such as, the senses, the sensory-motor loop, basic neuroanatomy, and central nervous system functioning to apply sensory integration theory to occupational performance.

2. Identify sensory dysfunction and its effects on academic, social-emotional, behavioral, and motor performance during occupations.

3. Describe how sensory functioning impacts learning, language, and communication skills.

4. Identify evidence-based interventions to address specific sensory dysfunction with successful outcomes.

5. Define intervention plans to address specific sensory dysfunction in a child's occupation at home, school and in the community.

6. Discuss appropriate environmental and occupation modifications to effectively address sensory functioning at home, school and in the community.

7. Identify progress monitoring tools to effectively measure outcomes for sensory functioning.

Program Schedule:

9:30-10:30 Sensory Integration Foundations

10:30-11:45 Sensory Dysfunction and its effects on academic, social-emotional, behavioral, and motor performance during occupations.

11:45-12:15 Sensory functioning and the impact on learning, language, and communication skills.

12:15-12:45 Break

12:45-2:00 Sensory Evidence Based Interventions

2:00-2:30 Sensory Environmental Modifications

2:30-3:00 Progress Monitoring for Sensory Interventions