

Post-Graduate Diploma in Vocational Rehabilitation [DVR]

(Code: 10220141)

South African disability equity legislation has promoted the rights of people with disabilities in terms of employment and education. People with disabilities can compete with able-bodied people in a non-discriminatory environment to gain access to schooling, education, training and employment.

Occupational Therapists are one of the key role players in terms of facilitating employment of people with disabilities. Knowledge and skills required in the field of vocational rehabilitation include:

- Job analysis
- Ergonomic analysis
- Disability equity legislation
- Functional Capacity Evaluation
- Reasonable accommodations
- Facilitated placement
- Disability management
- Work preparation and return-to-work programs
- Predetermined time standards
- Method study techniques
- follow up and support programs
- Awareness and sensitisation programs

Occupational Therapists who work in the field of vocational rehabilitation are employed in various settings including:

- Hospitals (physical and psychiatric)
- Industries such as large manufacturing companies
- Insurance companies
- Private practices
- Mining industries
- Metropolitan councils
- Protective and sheltered workshops
- Non-governmental organizations

Post Graduate study opportunities

The University of Pretoria's Occupational Therapy Department offers a unique opportunity for study in the area of vocational rehabilitation. The Post Graduate Diploma in Vocational Rehabilitation is presented every second year. Students attend 4 one-week block courses at the University van Pretoria, and complete their examinations at the end of the period. The emphasis is on building skills and students are required to work in an area where they can apply their knowledge and skills learnt in class.

The diploma consists of four modules presented by skilled practitioners in their area of expertise. The modules are as follows:

- Vocational Rehabilitation (BRH 700)

Course work entails selected disability equity laws such as the Constitution, Employment Equity Act, Labour Relations Act, Access to Information Act and various related laws. Other aspects include vocational rehabilitation intervention strategies, prevocational training, work hardening, disability management, placement approaches and networking.

- Workstudy (WSD 701)

Course work entails job analysis, work visit skills, work study, and selected method study and work measurement techniques.

- Groups in Occupational Therapy (selected) (GRA 701)

Course work entails selected group techniques, counselling and interviewing.

- Financial Administration (WSD 702)

Course work entails business management, selected financial management skills, budgeting, risk management and marketing.

The next course will be offered in 2012. Applications close in October 2011, but places are limited and it is suggested that potential students contact the Department of Occupational Therapy from middle March 2011.

Contact person and diploma coordinator

Name: Tania Buys

Tel: +27 (0)12 354 1179 (mornings only)

E-mail: tania.buys@up.ac.za