

OTA Students' Perceptions of an Inter & Intraprofessional Level I Experience in Morocco

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Background

- Cultural immersion experiences provide students with authentic, real-life opportunities to engage with clients serving as a powerful tool to enhance students' global perspectives of occupation (Humbert, Burket, Deveney, & Kennedy, 2012).
- Interprofessional & intraprofessional education provides students with an increased understanding of the unique knowledge, skills, scope, function, & roles within their own & among other disciplines (IEC, 2011; Jung, Salvatori, & Martin, 2008).



Objectives

- Participants will be able to state at least three benefits of intraprofessional fieldwork experiences for OT practitioner students.
- Participants will be able to state at least three benefits of interprofessional fieldwork experiences for OT practitioner students.
- Participants will be able to describe at least three benefits of creating international Level I fieldwork experiences for OT practitioner students.

Impressions

- OT/OTA role delineation discussions resulted in a clear understanding of the value of the OT/OTA collaborative relationship.
- Generous exposure to cultural rituals, routines, & traditions contributed to expanding cultural competence.
- Activity analysis of non-traditional jobs & occupations expanded global awareness of occupation.
- Co-treatments with OT and Couples & Family Therapy students provided experience that can be translated to many traditional US settings.
- Interprofessional collaboration provided opportunities for professional advocacy & greater insight on scope of practice.



Outcomes

- Enhanced global perspectives & cultural awareness.
- Increased understanding of the role of occupational therapy abroad.
- Promotion of intraprofessional collaboration.
- Expanded interprofessional teamwork.
- Improved cross-cultural, verbal & non-verbal communication skills.
- Increased advocacy for the occupational therapy assistant role.



Conclusions

Participating in an interprofessional & intraprofessional fieldwork experience abroad offered exposure & benefits that may not be found at traditional fieldwork sites. The benefits will translate into our future careers as occupational therapy practitioners.

References

- Humbert, T. K., Burket, A., Deveney, R., & Kennedy, K. (2012). Occupational therapy students' perspectives regarding international cross-cultural experiences. *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal*, 59(3), 225-234.
- Interprofessional Education Collaborative. (2011). *Core competencies for interprofessional collaborative practice: Report of an expert panel*. Washington, D.C.: Interprofessional Education Collaborative.
- Jung, B., Salvatori, P., & Martin, A. (2008). Intraprofessional fieldwork education: Occupational therapy and occupational therapist assistant students learning together. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 75(1), 42-50.