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Victoria E. Ontiberos  
*University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences*

Steven M. Gerardi  
*University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences*

Elizabeth DeLuca  
*University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences*

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# Sexuality Based Content in an Entry-Level Occupational Therapy Curriculum: A Content Analysis

Victoria Ontiberos, M.Ed., Steven Gerardi, PhD, OTD, MSS, OTR, and Elizabeth DeLuca, OTD,OTR

## BACKGROUND

Sexuality is multifaceted and is developed across the lifespan. While the occupations related to sexuality are within the occupational therapy (OT) scope of practice, the literature does not address how sexual activity is being taught in entry-level OT education programs (Lohman et al., 2017; Whitney & Fox, 2017).

## PROBLEM

**There is a lack of knowledge regarding the extent in which sexuality has been addressed in entry-level OT curriculum at the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences (USAHS).**

## PURPOSE

- To conduct a content analysis of the USAHS OTD curriculum to identify content gaps regarding addressing sexuality in practice; and
- To develop sexuality-based educational materials as a resource for the faculty for potential inclusion in future courses.

## METHODS

The content analysis (CA), focused on sexuality content, was adapted from published methods (Gottipati & Shankararaman, 2018). The CA, and created educational materials were informed by Bloom's taxonomy of learning, ACOTE Section B standards (AOTA, 2018), and notional sexuality specific standards created for the CA.

### Curricular Matrix Development

- Review course syllabi/curriculum in all OTD program courses, of the Fall 2019 USAHS OTD curriculum and extract sexuality specific data for analysis.
- Raw data extraction
- Develop sexuality standards (Table 1)
- Develop a curricular matrix
- Chart the raw data within curricular matrix.

Table 1

ACOTE Section B Standard and Sexuality Specific Standards

ACOTE Section B Standard	ACOTE Section B Sexuality Specific Standard
B.1.1 Human Body, Development, and Behavior	B.1.1. SS. The structure and function of the human body to include sexual and reproductive functioning. Human sexual development throughout the lifespan.
B.3.2 Interaction of Occupation and Activity	B.3.2.SS. Apply, analyze, and evaluate the interaction of occupation and activity, including areas of occupation, performance skills, performance patterns, context(s) and environments, and client factors associated with components of sexuality.
B.3.5. Effects of Disease Processes	B.3.5.SS. Analyze and evaluate the effects of disease processes including heritable diseases, genetic conditions, mental illness, disability, trauma, and injury on sexuality.

### Sexuality-Based Material Development

- Identification of courses for sexuality-based material implementation.
- Faculty meetings to identify needs.
- Development of lecture-based materials, student resource handouts, and vignettes/case studies based on needs.

References:



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## RESULTS

### Sexuality Content Delivery Methods

- Readings = 58.85%, Online Units = 40.33%, Assignments = 0.82%

### Most Frequently Identified Competencies:

- B.1.1.SS, B.3.2.SS, B.3.5.SS

### Courses With Most Sexuality Content:

- Clinical Applications of OT in Pediatrics/Adolescence
- Clinical Applications of OT in Psychosocial and Community Settings
- Clinical Applications in Adulthood
- Clinical Applications in Geriatrics

Figure 1

Sexuality Content Delivery Methods in Passing and Not in Passing

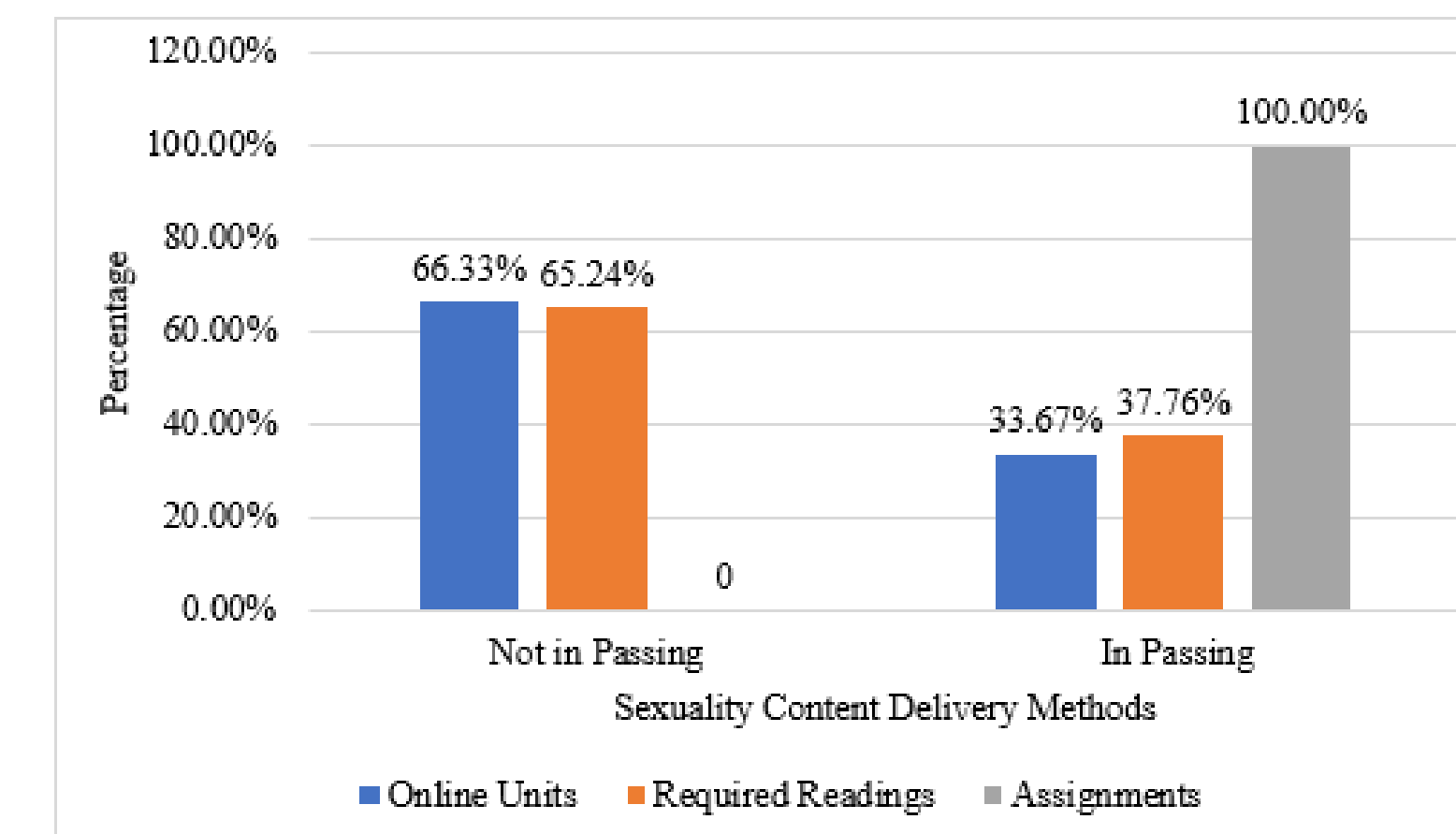


Table 2

Sexuality-Based Materials Created and Implemented

Course	Content Focus	Method of Delivery
Domain of Occupational Therapy (OCT5140)	Sexuality and the Domains of Occupational Therapy	Online Unit Voiceover
Conditions Impacting Occupational Performance (OCT5230C)	Overview of Pediatric Rehabilitation and Sexuality Chronic Conditions Impacting Sexuality	In-Person Presentation
Clinical Applications of Occupational Therapy in Psychosocial and Community Settings (OCT5335C)	Health, Wellness, and Sexuality	Online Unit Voiceover In-Person Presentation
Clinical Applications of Occupational Therapy in Pediatric/Adolescence (OCT5355C)	Sexuality and Pediatric Rehabilitation: OT Role	Online Unit Voiceover In-Person Presentation
Clinical Applications in Adulthood (OCT5410C)	Let's Talk About Sex: Understanding the Impact of Brain Injury on Sexuality and Sexual Function	In-Person Presentation
Clinical Applications in Geriatrics (OCT5425C)	Sexuality and Cognition/Psychosocial Issues in Later Life	In-Person Presentation

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