

CRISTINA DUMITRESCU

EDUCATION

- 2016-2022 **University of St. Augustine**, St. Augustine, Florida
Ed. D for Health Sciences- Specialty in Teaching and Learning (with high honors)
Degree conferral: April 23, 2022
- 2004-2008 **Touro University**, 23rd Street, New York, NY (formerly known as Touro College)
BS/MS Occupational Therapy
Degree conferral: September 2008
- 1995-1998 **Mercy University**, 555 Dobbs Ferry, NY (formerly known as Mercy College)
Associate in Applied Science-- Occupational Therapy Assistant
Degree conferral: August 1998

PERSONAL COMMITMENT AND VISION

- Dynamic promotion and advancement of climate and policies grounded in social justice and equity
- Collaborative leadership and transparent and open communication
- Utilizing data to anticipate challenges, inform decision-making, and build consensus
- Working collectively across disciplines to implement best practices and support partnerships
- Managing and prioritizing tasks with attention to detail and deadlines
- Promoting innovation, faculty growth, and student success
- Contributing to a learning environment that prioritizes academic quality, student engagement and growth, high-impact practices, and global perspectives
- Lifelong learning and reflective practice

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Binghamton University, Binghamton NY

September 2024- Present

Assistant Professor, Tenure Track Faculty, Decker College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Occupational Therapy Division

- Full-time academic appointment with teaching and research responsibilities
- Promote excellence in teaching, research, and support to the program

Mercy University, Dobbs Ferry, New York, 10522 (*name changed in August 2023*)

January 2018 – August 2024

Assistant Professor, OTA Program Director

- Full-time academic appointment with teaching and administrative responsibilities
- Provide overall leadership and direction to program and faculty in achieving its mission, goals, and expected program outcomes
- Coordinate recruitment and selection of department faculty, adjuncts and staff
- Coordinate programmatic assessment and assessment of student learning
- Working with the accrediting agencies to maintain program accreditation
- Completing and submitting all accreditation reports- ACOTE
- Managing and overseeing departmental budgets

- Oversee recruitment, student enrollment and work closely with the program advisory committee
- Promote excellence in teaching, leadership, and service. Manage departmental outcomes and assessment projects
- Prepare course demands and faculty teaching assessments. Mentor program's faculty
- Oversee the maintenance and establishment of current and new clinical affiliation agreements

February 2017 - December 2017

Assistant Professor, Interim OTA Program Director

- Full time academic appointment with teaching and administrative responsibilities
- Completing and submitting all accreditation reports- ACOTE
- Managing and overseeing departmental budgets
- Promote excellence in teaching, leadership, and service
- Manage departmental outcomes and assessment projects
- Oversee the maintenance and establishment of current and new clinical affiliation agreements

February 2011 - February 2017

Assistant Professor, Associate Director/Academic Fieldwork Coordinator for the OT Assistant Program

- Full-time academic appointment with teaching and administrative responsibilities.
- Coordinate all Level I and Level II fieldwork experiences in accordance with accreditation standards.
- Oversee the maintenance and establishment of current and new clinical affiliation agreements.

Summer 2024

- Adjunct Faculty for HLSC 420- Overview of OT- 3 credit course (pre-MS OT Track)

Fall 2023 and Spring 2023 & 2024

- Faculty Advisor for NSG 602-Research Project II- mentoring nursing students through their capstone projects: literature review, data collection, and manuscript preparation

Summer 2023

- Adjunct Faculty for HLSC 210- Overview of Occupational Therapy – 1 credit course
- Adjunct Faculty for HLSC 225- Scientific Writing – 1 credit course

Summer 2010 - January 2011

- Adjunct Faculty- Interim Academic Fieldwork Coordinator for the OTA Program
– OCTR 209 & OCTR 210

Spring 2009 and Spring 2010

- *Lecturer for OCTR 218-Interaction Skills* 3 credit core OTA course

Spring 2004

- Teaching Assistant for the OTA Program -OCTR 218-Interaction Skills – 3 credit core course

Fall 2000

- Teaching Assistant for OTA Program-OCTR 201-An Overview- 3 credit core course

FACULTY EXPERIENCE:

Teaching:

I revise my teaching annually and incorporate new strategies or the use of apps that ensure students' learning, exposure to new technology, and integration of knowledge. The online component necessitated using apps and role-playing strategies to facilitate learning. During this semester, I created self-paced activities that facilitated online teaching and provided new opportunities to improve the quality of education. Also, I increase the use of a student-focused approach by incorporating strategies that allow students to learn, foster team-based learning, and stimulate authentic problem-solving techniques.

- OCTR 218 Interaction Skills (3 credits)
- OCTR 201 OT Practice for the Assistant (3 credits)
- OCTR 207 OT Synopsis: Administration and Management (3 credits)
- OCTR 209 Advance Clinical Education I (3 credits)
- OCTR 209 Advance Clinical Education II (3 credits)
- OCTR 210 Advance Clinical Education II (3 credits)
- OCTR 210 Advance Clinical Education II (3 credits)
- OCTR 211 Professional Development Seminar (1 credit)
- OCTR 214 Adult and Maturity + (FW I) (7 credits)
- OCTR 260 Childhood and Adolescence (FW I) (1 credit)

Arranged for professional guest lecturers for:

- *Mental health, assistive technologies, anatomy review class, end-of-life decisions*
- *OCTR 214 Adult and Maturity*
- *OCTR 218 Interaction skills*

OT Theory and History: In addition to the weekly lectures and course activities, I integrated pre-recorded lectures on selected theoretical topics to facilitate learning and the Perusall.com website. This is a social annotation platform in which I upload and create reading assignments. Students can deeply engage in discussions, comments, and help each other through the annotation comments. Their interactions are automatically graded, motivating students to complete their assigned readings before class. The use of Perusall stimulates students' participation in all classroom activities. In addition to introducing active learning strategies (in which students are resistant to this change), I introduced the informed pedagogy concepts by including DEI topics that addressed the concept of cultural humility and client-centered practice in the relational context of occupations. A Human Library - Culture and Occupation Project helps students explore and adapt to an occupation that strongly reflects a cultural identity. Class discussions and reflective Perusall assignments were used to guide students' learning and understanding.

OT Administration and Management course: The course was set with interactive videos using ICE library selection, lesson plans, and structure discussions. Some sessions were held on Zoom, while others in person. When on Zoom, I used the small breakroom discussions in Zoom format. I navigated from group to group, guiding the group discussions and ensuring students' understanding of concepts as they were building on previous knowledge. Following a comprehensive rubric, students learned and developed a marketing project that included a needs assessment, an environmental and organizational assessment, and a marketing analysis. They explained the ethical business aspects of practice, including, but not limited to, financial management, billing, and coding. Their quality improvement assessment summarized strategies and reflections throughout the assignment.

New course development: Professional Development Seminar: The course runs on the tail end of students' clinical experiences and focuses on developing professional behaviors, including professional communication skills with clients, colleagues, other health providers, and the public. I created Zoom breakroom small group discussions in which students could master skill development in case-study, intervention planning, and occupational therapy interventions in relation to different healthcare settings, being able to carry out entry-level OTA responsibilities.

Service

Department:

- Search Committee for various programs within the school and university
- Orientation and mentoring of new Faculty and Teaching Assistants
- Provided revisions for the 2024-2025 undergraduate catalog
- Successfully maintained, coordinated, and developed new educational contracts
- Provided guest lectures for OTA courses and coordinated guest lecturer attendance, Payments, and budgets.
- Provided all New Student Orientation sessions- August 2024
- Arranged for NBCOT review course to be held at Mercy for those graduates preparing to take the national boards' exam. The review course was outsourced to Educational Resources and was well attended.
- Coordinated yearly free exam prep courses for the graduating class
- Coordinated and revised OTA Student and Fieldwork Manuals with OTA faculty
- Coordinated AOTA/NBCOT- student membership and practice exam subscriptions for all graduates and current students
- Coordinated the OTA program development, admission criteria, and retention (new student interviews- Fall and Spring semester).

University-wide:

- Member of the Admission Committee- Chair- University-wide Committee
- Member of the UCC Committee- University-wide Committee
- Voted to be an At Large Faculty Senate member for AY 2024-2025

Other: School of Health and Natural Science

- o Attended all SHNS Faculty Meetings
- o Attended Faculty Convocations and Seminar Day
- Member of the School of Health and Natural Sciences:
- Member of the School Curriculum Committee
- Member of the Global Initiatives Committee
- Other: Professional Service
 - o Member of the AOTA
 - o Attended several professional continuing education courses (i.e., cognitive rehab, coding and reimbursement, documentation, pain management, and modalities)
 - o Member in good standing of the American Occupational Therapy Association
 - o Member in good standing of the New York State OT Association- NYSOTA
 - o Member in good standing of the AOTF Leaders and Legacy Society
 - o Member in good standing of the World Federation of Occupational Therapy (WFOT)

ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:

Associate Director and AFWC: February 2011 - February 2017

- *Teaching:* Facilitate students' learning through lectures, discussions, practical exercises, or practice-related experiences in assigned teaching units/modules and clinical education discussions. Participate in curriculum development and annual faculty review of curriculum. Participate in teaching evaluation and

use outcome data to modify teaching. Advise students on professional development and preparation for clinical practice.

- *Academic Fieldwork Coordinator- clinical placements:* Identify and secure sites for clinical education. This includes negotiating clinical education contracts, performing a site visit to assist the facility in developing a clinical education program, and reviewing the quality and appropriateness of the clinical education site to meet the program objectives. Initiate and support communication and correspondence between the academic and clinical education sites regarding the curriculum model, course content, clinical education expectations, and placement of students. Assign all students to clinical education settings for Level I and II experiences. Monitor the facilitation of clinical reasoning and reflective practice in Level II clinical education settings. Advise and mediate with students and fieldwork educators on matters of concern during clinical site visits. Collaborate with the clinical educator in assigning the student's final appraisal (grading). Participate in appropriate clinical education support groups (e.g., local clinical education councils, Commission on Education).
- *Overseas Medical Mission Program- two trips-2015 and 2017:* Planned and organized an interprofessional faculty-led experience in Antigua. Students had access to an outpatient clinic at the local University and work directly with patients and staff. Students were able to have a better understanding, awareness, sensitivity, and responsiveness to cultural beliefs and differences, learn how to fit and deliver devices to aid children's walking (canes, walkers, braces), and adapt wheelchairs to allow individuals to go outside their homes into their communities. Under the faculty's guidance, students were able to provide quality health and rehabilitation care to an underserved global population in five full days of clinical training and experience. In addition, they've learned interprofessional teamwork, leadership, and collaboration in a challenging healthcare environment. They directly develop health and rehabilitation intervention plans and strategies for people with disabilities who are medically underserved, based on the individual needs of the patient/client, identify disparities in healthcare delivery, and apply creative and efficient principles for the delivery of cost-effective healthcare.

OTA Program Director: February 2017 – August 2024

- *Accreditation and Assessment:* Lead compliance with ACOTE and all accreditation activities, including annual certification and program assessment review; meet monthly with the faculty in collecting and reviewing programmatic assessment data, using the data to inform curriculum decisions and maintaining alignment to the academic standards; collaborate with the Center of Teaching and Learning (CTL) and Office of Educational Assessment (OEA) programs with university-level programmatic assessment; liaise with CTL and OEA education program directors, and faculty on accreditation, assessment and continuous improvement strategies/support for education programs. Provided strategies to embed within courses to support students' clinical reasoning (e.g., concept mapping, embedded questions in courses, etc.). The structure of time spent in lecture vs. active learning activities was discussed with all OTA faculty during faculty meetings.
- *Curriculum:* Participate and collaborate with the school curriculum committee and university curriculum committee on all curriculum activities related to programs, including alignment with accreditation and assessment requirements. Made major OTA curriculum revisions in response to internal and external assessment recommendations. This restructuring of curriculum content will provide students with information on the clinical conditions along with the other courses taken within the same terms. Liaise with University committees, Office of Admissions, Registrar, program directors, and faculty to encode, approve, and implement curriculum changes.
- *Management of Faculty and Staff Workload Personnel Files and Reviews:* Collaborated with Human Resources to update the identification of each job's responsibilities and workload expectations. Provided Faculty with guidance and advisement on professional growth avoid curriculum drift and ensure alignment with the strategic plan and program's accreditation compliance needs.

- *Enrollment management*: Manage course enrollments directly, provide data analysis, and suggest enrollment management plans to the admission and advisement teams to support consistent course/program offerings aligned with the available workload, student demand, and clinical partnership needs.
- *Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)*: Collaborate and participate with the school's committee to support and implement the infusion of EDI into all facets of the program's operations, advocate for equity-driven anti-racist policies and practices in professional development opportunities.
- *Strategic Planning*: Work with the Dean to coordinate and advance strategic planning efforts; collaborate with the OTA faculty on visioning, articulating, and implementing the OTA program's curricular threads, assessment, and strategic plan, which is grounded in equity, diversity, and belonging.
- *Grants*: Provide leadership, assistance, and coordination with all grant-related activities for students to ensure resources and documentation are in place.
- *Direct Student Support*: Provide leadership to support programs with changes to admissions processes/requirements in alignment with accreditation requirements; serve as the primary academic advisor for all students and meet with individual students to resolve concerns.

Hope Agent, Inc.- Corporate Consulting

July 2018 - Present

Administrative Consultant (Reimbursement & Audits) for Corporate Agencies

- *Mentor new Rehab Directors and facilitate transitions and policy development*
- *Provide consulting occupational therapy services for the rehab department*
- *Prepare charts for CMS/Reimbursement agencies audits*
- *Train rehab staff on billing updates*
- *Ensure transition from paper documentation to electronic medical records*

Throgs Neck Extended Care, Bronx, New York, 10465

February 2011- July 2018

Administrative Consultant (Reimbursement & Audits)

- *Provide consulting occupational therapy services for the rehab department*
- *Prepare charts for audits*
- *Train rehab staff on billing updates*
- *Ensure transition from paper documentation to electronic medical record*

November 2000 - February 2011

Director of Rehabilitation

- Responsible for overseeing OT/PT/ST services for long-term and sub-acute patients. Ensure appropriate data collection, staff training, and quality improvement initiatives.
- Implement and develop new programs, documentation, policies, and procedures based on facility and regulatory requirements.
- August 2007: Developed "Ortho Pavilion" program in cooperation with orthopedic medical staff
- July 2007: Implemented "Cognitive-Dementia Programs"

*Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant **COTA** (2000-2002)*

- Responsible for a caseload of 10-14 patients—including all documentation, treatment, family meetings, feeding interventions and MDS completion.

1998 - 2000 **VTA Management Services, Brooklyn, NY**

- *Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (per diem)*

- Responsible for OT treatment planning, chart reviews and positioning in contracted facilities

1994 - 2001 **Mount Vernon Hospital**, Mt. Vernon, NY

- *Certified Nursing Assistant*

PRESENTATIONS: (2010-present)

Dumitrescu, C (2024). *Educators Tools for Teaching: Mindset link to Metacognition*. Poster presentation at the American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida, March 22, 2024

Dumitrescu, C. (2023, April 20). *The Art of Providing Students with Coaching Feedback*. Presentation at the American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Kansas City, MO.

Dumitrescu, C., Kupczynski, L., & Campo, M. (2023). *Predictors of Academic Success in First Semester Nursing Students*. *Journal of Social Science Research*, 19, 67-74.
<https://doi.org/10.24297/jssr.v19i.9399>

Dumitrescu, C. (2022). *Predictors of Academic Success in First Semester Nursing Students*. University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences

Sullivan, C., & **Dumitrescu, C.** (2017) *Best practices in Interprofessional and Intraprofessional fieldwork Models*. American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA., April 2, 2017. (Refereed/Poster Presentation).

Dumitrescu, C., Lucker, G., & Burkhart, A. (2017) *The value of future oral history research in Occupational Therapy* American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA., April 2, 2017. (Panel Discussions).

Lucker, G., **Dumitrescu, C.**, & Burkhart, A. (2017) *A Systematic Approach To Updating and Recording State-Level History of the Profession* American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA., April 2, 2017. (Panel Discussions).

Dumitrescu, C., Stancanelli, J., & Moorehead, S. (2016). *Leadership Within Interprofessional Teams: Developing Partnerships*. American Occupational Therapy Association Conference, Chicago, IL. April 7, 2016. (Short Course Presentation).

Dumitrescu, C. & Sullivan, C. (2015). *Leadership: A complex system of interactions* American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, April 26, 2013. (Refereed/Poster Presentation).

Dumitrescu, C. & Sullivan, C. (2014). Leadership is everyone's Business. *OT Practice* 19(15), 10.

Dumitrescu, C. & Sullivan, C. (2014). *Leadership: A challenging system of interactions*. American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, San Diego, Ca., April 26, 2013. (Refereed/Poster Presentation).

Dumitrescu, C. & Sullivan, C. (2013). *The transformational journey from OTA to OT: An analysis*. American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, San Diego, Ca., April 26, 2013. (Refereed/Poster Presentation).

Dumitrescu, C. & Sullivan, C. (2013). *Leadership: A challenging system of interactions*. American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, San Diego, Ca., April 26, 2013. (Refereed/Poster Presentation).

Sullivan, C. & **Dumitrescu, C.** (2012). *A transformational journey from OTA to OTR*. New York State Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, Rochester, New York, November 11, 2012. (Refereed).

Dumitrescu, C. (2010, November). *Factors that determined why occupational therapy assistants return to graduate school to obtain their occupational therapy degree*. Columbia University, New York State Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference, New York, NY October 2010

(Refereed/Poster Presentation).

Textbook Reviews:

June 2013

Reviewed two chapters of the book entitled *The Interprofessional Health Care Team* by D. Weiss, F. Tilin, & M. Morgan for Jones and Bartlett Learning

June 2012 and July 2015- 2nd edition

Reviewed 15 chapters of a textbook titled *Occupational Therapy Aide: A Worktext*. by Roberta Weiss for Cengage Learning

Publications:

Jacobs K. et al (2023). The Management and Administration for the OTA: Leadership and Application Skills (2nd edition) Manuscript submitted for publication. C. Dumitrescu authored chapters 7 and 14

Dumitrescu, C., Kupczynski, L., & Campo, M. (2023). *Predictors of Academic Success in First Semester Nursing Students. Journal of Social Science Research, 19,* 67-74.

<https://doi.org/10.24297/jssr.v19i.9399>

EXAMPLES OF CONTINUING EDUCATION: (a complete list is available upon request)

Matt Lewis (2011). *clickers-* Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, March 23rd, 2011.

Rita P. Fleming-Castaldi (2011). *Realities and strategies for success for OTA students taking the exam.* Live webinar May 25th, 2011

Matt Lewis (2011). *Introduction to E-Portfolio.* Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, May 24th, 2011.

Gladstone, C. & Varughese, R. (2012). *e-Portfolio: From grades to Growth.* Mercy College, Bronx, NY, April 26, 2012.

Buhler, H. & Golisz K.(2012). *SHNS Mentoring Workshop.* Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY, March 29, 2012.

Draper, J. (2012). *Wimba Training.* Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY, March28, 2012.

Imber-Black, E. (2012). *Demystifying writing for publication in scholarly journals.* Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY, February 17, 2012.

Ferrara V. (2013). *Health Professions Assessment Retreat.* Mercy College, D F, NY May 3, 2013

Ferrara V. (2013). *Assessment of writing in the disciplines.* Mercy College, DF, NY October 9, 2013

Toglia J. (2023). *Metacognition Fellowship- STEM Fellow Grant.* Mercy College April, 2023.

ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (a complete list is available upon request)

August 2023 Coaching Fundamentals and Techniques – Marie-Christine Potvin PhD and Nicole Gerhardt OTD- Jefferson University

April 2015 Medicare Documentation Compliance
 June 2013 ACP- Advance Modalities Procedure (e-stim, ultrasound, TENS, PENS)
 March 2010 Skilled Nursing Coding Success
 January 2007 RUG 53 Strategies for Success – Diana Brown RN JSC INK
 April 2006 MDS/PPS Calculating rehab category – Miriam DeLeon PT
 April 2005 Medicare Reimbursement and Documentation Updates for Rehabilitation Services -
 Thomas J. Slominski, MA
 March 2005 Improving MDS Skills and Performance
 January 2005 CMS Issues new Survey Guidelines for Pressure Ulcers - Karen N. Blake HIN
 February 2003 The Basics of Writing Policies and Procedures - Mark Truitt from Rockhurst University
 January 2003 Coding and Billing for Rehab/Therapy services. Cross Country University
 November 2002 Practical Ways to Improve MDS/MRA PPS Links
 October 2002 PPS Classification and Relationship to the MDS
 Sept 2002 Medicare Documentation for Rehabilitation Services – Preparing for Federal Audits
 Speaker Thomas J. Slominski, MA
 November 2001 Vestibular Treatment - Susan E. Bennett PT
 Documentation Issues – Regina A. Rhodes MS PT
 Reimbursements Updates – Christopher J. McCarthy LLP
 October 2001 Managing the Hemiplegics UE an NDT Perspective Part I and II – Cathy Ryan OT

AWARDS:

November 2004- New York State OT Association – *“Significant Contributions to the Profession”*
 September 2008 – Upon graduation from Touro College, received: *“The Clinician Award -
 Outstanding Clinical Achievement in the Occupational Therapy Program”*
 June 2011- MOTEC Award-Active Service for the 2010-2011 Academic Year.
 April 2015- American Occupational Therapy Association- *“Service Commendation”* for the Community of
 Leaders, 2013-2015 and Reviewer, Middle Manager Program, 2013-2014
 April 2016- American Occupational Therapy Association- *“Service Commendation”* for the Community of
 Leaders, 2013-2015 and Reviewer, Middle Manager Program, 2014-2016
 June 2016- Touro College Alumni Re-Union- Alumni Award- for Professional Accomplishments
 November 2015- New York State OT Association: Merit Award-*“Significant Contributions to the
 Profession”*
 November 2015-NYSOTA Annual Conference- NYSOTA Historian

CERTIFICATES:

2004- **Fieldwork Supervision of OTA students from Mercy College**
 2023- American Occupational Therapy Association's: **Framework for Occupational Therapy Curriculum
 Design Workshops**

- CPR Certified
- AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) Certified

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & SERVICE:

1997-Present Member, American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)
 Membership #4032098
 1997-Present Member, New York State Association of Occupational Therapists
 Membership # 1083
 1997-Present Member, Westchester District of the New York State Occupational

Therapy Association (Now called WestRoc District)
 - Vice Chair (2002-2004)

2000-Present Member, World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT)

2008-2010 Member, Mercy College, OTA Program, Professional Advisory Council

2011-Present Member, Metropolitan Occupational Therapy Educational Council (MOTEC)

September 2011 Middle Management Development Training- AOTA Headquarters Bethesda, MD

2013-Present Member, The Community of Leaders (CoL) which is a subcommittee of the Emerging Leaders Development Committee (ELDC) with in AOTA.

2013-Present Member, Middle Managers Review Committee -with AOTA

June 2013 Participated in Abstract Reviews process for the 16th World Federation of Occupational Therapy Congress in Japan

2015-Present Leaders and Legacies Society-AOTF

2017- 2019 AOTA Coding TEAM- CPT & RUC

2022- Present ACOTE- Accreditation Evaluator

CERTIFICATION/LICENSE:

2009-Present Occupational Therapist Registered
 NBCOT Certification #: 259616

2009-Present: New York State Occupational Therapy License #: 015952-1

Additional qualifications:

- Fluent in Romanian, able to communicate in Spanish, Italian, and French
- Competent in computer use (Microsoft Office, Excel, EXXAT, ExamSoft, SPSS, VoiceThread, Lucid chat, Blackboard, and Perusall)

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST