

The Digital Shift: Navigating online and in-person learning

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In an era marked by rapid change due to events like the COVID-19 pandemic and advancements in digital technologies, the landscape of Occupational Therapy Education and Practice is being significantly reshaped. These developments profoundly affect how students learn, the challenges they encounter, and their professional aspirations. Many faculty members are increasingly using online platforms and digital tools to deliver instructions. Simultaneously, options for delivering interventions online are emerging. This evolution in education and practice raise crucial questions about how we prepare faculty members and students for this changing landscape of Occupational Therapy Education and Practice.

This workshop invites occupational therapy educators to explore which domains of the professional knowledge and practice skills that can be effectively taught online and which require in-person delivery. We will also discuss various educational tools and interactive platforms suitable for online learning, and discuss the limitations and challenges of virtual instruction. By mapping out the domains of our professional knowledge and practice as well as the capabilities and boundaries of virtual learning, participants will be better prepared to blend these methods with conventional in-person interactions to enhance overall educational effectiveness in occupational therapy.