

## Perception

**Department:** Independent Living Skills

**Priority:** Elective

**Overall purpose of class:**

This class is designed to help students evaluate and compensate for visual perceptual problems. Emphasis is on visual scanning, special relationships, and attention. Students develop strategies for and practicing paying attention to the side experiencing visual neglect. They are challenged to practice special relationships with manipulatives of increasing difficulty.

**Number of classes held per week:**

2

**Optimum class time:**

Morning because this class requires a great deal of alertness and energy.

**Instructor requirements:**

Occupational Therapist

**Number of students:**

8-10

**Student ability range and limitations:**

Wide range of ability if class is appropriate for their type of disability.

**Space and Equipment requirements:**

Table

Room for up to 10 chairs including wheelchairs.

Variety of therapeutic visual perceptual materials

**Student Needs to be met from the perspective of the instructor:**

Students are encouraged to participate in this class if they need to develop insight into their visual deficit and learn compensation techniques. Students in this class have impaired depth perception, spatial comprehension, and visual field. Some ability for abstraction is lost.

**Typical Student Goals that lead to placement in the class:**

Caregivers frequently request this class because of their loved ones tendency to get lost or confused at home, show a tendency to bump into objects or walls on the side of their visual neglect scramble shirt buttons, and so forth.