Hector Merced, M.S., OTR/L  
Program Manager, Occupational Therapy

Hector Merced serves as program manager of the occupational therapy assistant program at the Metropolitan Campus of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®). He has been employed at Tri-C since 1990.

Merced earned a master’s degree in human services with a specialization in professional counseling from Capella University, and a bachelor’s degree in science in occupational therapy from the University of Puerto Rico.

**Speech Topics:**
- **Fall Prevention for Older Adults:** According to the National Council on Aging, one in three community-dwelling persons over the age of 65 falls each year, and this number increases to one in two by the age of 80. Fall-related injuries are often serious enough to result in hospitalization and even premature death; moreover, persons who fall often face significant declines in mobility and independence. This speech will share physical mobility and home safety tips to reduce your risk of falling. (Note: September is Fall Prevention Awareness Month)
- How to help older adults live independently
- Older adults
- Providing culture sensitive healthcare to Latino clients
- Self-esteem issues
- Stress and burnout prevention