

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (OT)

## Degrees Offered: Clinical Doctorate (OTD), M.S., Graduate Certificate

*These programs are offered in Durham.*

Occupational Therapy enables people to participate successfully in their desired life activities to support leisure, play, work, education, self-care, and home management. The Department of Occupational Therapy offers an entry level Master of Science (MS-OT) and an entry-level Clinical Doctorate Degree (OTD) in Occupational Therapy, as well as an online Graduate Certificate in Assistive Technology.

## MS Degree in Occupational Therapy

The Master's Degree prepares students for entry level occupational therapy practice. Students gain the knowledge and skills to work with people of all ages to enable their participation in desired activities within their natural environments.

The MS Occupational Therapy Program at the University of New Hampshire is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), 7501 Wisconsin Ave. Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD 20814. Tel. 301-652-6611, Website: [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org)

Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the Certification Examination for the Occupational Therapist, administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an occupational therapist, registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice. State licenses are usually based on the successful results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

## Admission Requirements

### Professional Master's Program in Occupational Therapy (Duration: 2.5 years)

(This admissions process applies to candidates with completed undergraduate degree(s) and UNH seniors who are not in the BS/MS Occupational Science/Occupational Therapy program.)

Applicants need a minimum overall grade point of 3.0 in undergraduate coursework and the following prerequisite courses:

- Human anatomy and physiology (two courses with labs)
- Neuroanatomy
- Clinical Kinesiology
- Human development (one lifespan development course that covers infancy to senior adults, or two courses, one child and one adult development course)
- Statistics
- Medical Terminology (only required for applicants beginning the program in 2023)
- Abnormal Psychology (only required for applicants beginning the program in 2023)

Applicants must complete and submit the [Prerequisite Verification Form](#) with their application. Priority for admission will be given to applicants with all prerequisite courses completed. Prerequisites must be completed prior to the start of the Professional Master's Program.

Three letters of reference must accompany the application. Two of these must address the applicant's educational abilities/performance, and be from academic faculty. One letter must address the applicant's interpersonal/communication skills as observed in a volunteer or paid-employment setting.

Decisions are made as applications are received. Applicants should periodically review their application status on the Graduate School website and contact the Graduate School about missing items. Admission to the occupational therapy program is a competitive process and not all qualified students are admitted. Applicants will be notified of admission by mid-March.

## Clinical Doctorate in Occupational Therapy [OTD]

The entry-level Clinical Doctorate Program in Occupational Therapy is designed for students to graduate with advanced skills in areas of clinical practice, academic teaching, and program development. The program is scheduled to begin in Summer of 2023.

The OTD program at the University of New Hampshire has received candidacy for accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), 7501 Wisconsin Ave. Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD 20814. Tel. 301-652-6611, website: [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org) The program must have a pre-accreditation review, complete an onsite evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the National Certification examination.

Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the Certification Examination for the Occupational Therapist, administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an occupational therapist, registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice. State licenses are usually based on the successful results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

## Admission Requirements

### Clinical Doctorate in Occupational Therapy [Duration: 3 years including summers]

Applicants need a minimum overall grade point of 3.0 in undergraduate coursework and the following prerequisite courses:

- Human anatomy and physiology (two courses with labs)
- Neuroanatomy (lab option)
- Clinical Kinesiology
- Human development (one lifespan development course that covers from birth to old age, or two courses, a child and an adult development course)
- Statistics
- Medical Terminology
- Abnormal Psychology

Applicants must complete and submit the Prerequisite Verification Form with their application. Priority for admission will be given to applicants with all prerequisite courses completed, however, applicants will be considered if they have 1-2 remaining prerequisite courses. Prerequisites must be completed prior to the start of the Professional Master's Program.

Three letters of reference must accompany the application. Two of these must address the applicant's educational abilities/performance and come from academic faculty. One letter must address the applicant's interpersonal/communication skills as observed in a volunteer or paid-employment setting.

Decisions are made as applications are received. Applicants should periodically review their application status on the Graduate School website and contact the Graduate School about missing items. Admission to the occupational therapy program is a competitive process and not all qualified students are admitted. Applicants will be notified of admission by early spring.

### **UNH BS-OT Students Apply to the Advanced Standing MS Program or Advanced Standing Clinical Doctorate (OTD)**

Students who are completing the undergraduate portion of our occupational therapy program declare their intent to apply to our Advanced Standing MS Program or the OTD program by the end of their sophomore year. These students take professional courses as part of their baccalaureate degree requirements.

Students applying to the Advanced Standing programs must apply for admission to the Graduate School and meet Graduate School requirements for entry into the graduate portion of their program, and be officially admitted by the Graduate School. This process occurs in the spring semester of the senior year. An overall minimum grade point of 3.0 is required for admission. Students must earn a grade of B- or above in all OT courses at 700 level. However, they may not earn more than 8 credits at B- or lower in OT courses at 700 level or above. They must have passed all level I fieldwork requirements.

Students should speak with their academic advisor regarding specific application requirements for writing a personal statement and letters of recommendation.

Students in the baccalaureate degree program in occupational therapy may also complete a graduate certificate by applying early into the accelerated master's program. Accelerated admission enables students to take graduate certificate courses at the 800 level in the J term and spring semester of their senior year in the BS program, as described below.

### **UNH BS/MS Students Applying to the Graduate Certificate Program in Assistive Technology and the Advanced Standing MS Program**

Students interested in earning a dual degree, an Assistive Technology Graduate Certificate and a Master's in Occupational Therapy, apply in the fall semester of the senior year to the accelerated master's program. Accelerated admission enables students to take graduate certificate courses at the 800-level in the J term and spring semester of their senior year as they complete their BS degree.

Application for admission as an accelerated master's candidate must be completed by the posted deadlines. An overall minimum grade point of

3.2 and grades of B or better in all senior-level OT coursework is required for admission.

Two letters of recommendation must accompany the application for BS/MS students:

- one from the student's undergraduate academic adviser
- one from an Occupational Therapy Department faculty member.

Students in the accelerated master's professional program can **only** register in the graduate certificate-related courses at the 800 level; all other senior OT courses must be taken at the 700 level. Students in the Assistive Technology Certificate Program also submit an application to the Advanced Standing MS Program in the spring of their senior year, indicating on that application that they are earning dual degrees.

<https://chhs.unh.edu/occupational-therapy>

## **Programs**

- [Occupational Therapy \(OTD\)](#)
- [Occupational Therapy \(Advanced Standing\) \(OTD\)](#)
- [Occupational Therapy \(M.S.\)](#)
- [Occupational Therapy \(Advanced Standing\) \(M.S.\)](#)
- [Assistive Technology \(Graduate Certificate\)](#)

## **Courses**

### **Occupational Therapy (OT)**

#### **OT 810 - OT Practice and Professional Roles**

##### **Credits: 3**

Students are introduced to foundation knowledge, values and philosophy of occupational therapy practice. Students learn skills to apply professional behaviors and skills required to be ethical practitioners. They learn about various practice settings and systems within which occupational therapists practice to prepare them to begin to make decisions regarding their fieldwork site selections. They are introduced to models of OT practice.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

#### **OT 815 - Introduction to Group Process: Theory and Application**

##### **Credits: 2**

This course provides a theoretical foundation of group process in occupational therapy practice across practice settings. It explores several group theory perspectives and applies them to OT practice considering multiple group models, group leadership concepts, group process, therapeutic use of self, and contexts/environments. Students will learn to articulate core principles of group process and identify the role of occupational therapy practitioners in using groups as an intervention method and/or service delivery model.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 830 - Assistive Technology for Enhancing Occupational Performance**  
**Credits: 3**

This course provides instruction on how occupational therapy practitioners use and apply assistive technology in the context of client evaluation and intervention, to improve quality of life and functional capacities. Students learn and apply clinical reasoning skills related to the selection, procurement, modification and training in the use of assistive technology solutions.

**Co-requisite:** OT 830L

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 830L - Assistive Technology for Enhancing Occupational Performance Lab**

**Credits: 1**

Co-Requisite Laboratory for OT 730/830 Assistive Technology for Enhancing Occupational Performance. Students are provided hands-on learning experiences regarding the fabrication, identification, adaptation and training in the use of assistive technology for individuals with functional problems associated with disability or impairment. OT evaluation and interventions related to the application of assistive technology are addressed.

**Co-requisite:** OT 830

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**OT 831 - Introduction to Assistive Technology Principles**

**Credits: 2**

This course presents an overview of the various assistive technology service delivery models, assessments tools, legislation, funding, and assistive technology across the lifespan.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 832 - Introduction to AT Design and Fabrication**

**Credits: 2**

This course provides an overview of assistive technology (AT) service delivery models and begins to teach students how to design and fabricate AT solutions. Students will develop skills in fabrication tool use inclusive of 3-D printing. Interactive learning will occur throughout the semester and students will be provided a materials and tools kit to ensure access and skill development. Students will demonstrate skill acquisition for AT design, fabrication and consumer training through video and photo submission and within interprofessional discussions with peers.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**OT 833 - Assistive Technology for Physical Access I: Electronic Technologies**

**Credits: 2**

This course focuses on switch and computer access solutions; programming switch interfaces for computers and iPads; alternative mice and keyboards; switch access recipes; iPad mounting solutions; electronic aids for daily living, voice controlled solutions for the phone, computer, and activation of household appliances. Students will learn how to make, modify, and mount various switches and electronic devices. Intensive hands-on AT exploration will be completed on campus or virtual evidence provided will be accepted.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 834 - Assistive Technology for Physical Access II: Mobility, Seating, and Transportation**

**Credits: 2**

This course focuses on assistive technology solutions to maximize independence at home, in the community, and on the job for individuals who experience physical disabilities. Students will acquire skills in conducting accessibility assessments. Topics explored include wheelchair seating and mobility; ergonomic hand tools; independent living aids; ramps and lifts; vehicle modifications; and modifications for canes, crutches, walkers, and wheelchairs. Intensive hands-on AT exploration will be completed on campus or virtual evidence provided will be accepted.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 835 - Assistive Technology for Communication and Cognition**

**Credits: 2**

This course focuses on alternative and augmentative communication devices and devices that benefit individuals who experience cognitive impairments. This course explores assistive technology solutions for note taking, devices and apps for self-regulation, organization, and reminders. Students will learn how to conduct cognitive demand analysis for devices and apps to help users select appropriate accommodations and assistive technology solutions. Intensive hands-on AT exploration will be completed on campus or virtual evidence provided will be accepted.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 836 - Assistive Technology for Vision and Hearing**

**Credits: 2**

This course focuses on assistive technology for blind and low vision; deaf and hard of hearing; and deaf/blindness. Students will use an assortment of magnification devices; amplification systems; and assistive listening devices as well as learn how to create a variety of approaches to accommodate for vision and hearing impairments. Intensive hands-on AT exploration will be completed on campus or virtual evidence provided will be accepted.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 841 - Human Occupation**

**Credits: 3**

This course introduces students to the broad concept of occupation by exploring ways people acquire skills for occupational performance. Students develop an understanding of the relations between health and occupation, disability and occupation, and explore how humans find meaning in their lives, through occupational engagement. This course is writing intensive.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 844 - Fieldwork and Professionalism - Level 1**

**Credits: 1**

This course prepares students to enter level 1 fieldwork with confidence and working knowledge of expectations for a full-time two-week level 1 fieldwork experience.

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**OT 845 - Administration and Management for Occupational Therapy Practice****Credits:** 3

This course aims to increase the student's understanding of systems of practice, and to business fundamentals associated with occupational therapy service delivery. Specific topics covered include and analysis of practice settings, reimbursement, supervision of professional and non-professional staff, program evaluation methods, ethics, OT management practices, marketing, health policy including medicare, Human Rights and Education Legislation, and the impact of policy decisions for the delivery of OT services. OT and OT Asst Tech Certificate majors only.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 846 - Fieldwork and Professionalism-Level II****Credits:** 1

This course is designed to deepen understanding of professionalism needed for success on Level II fieldwork. We will explore role changes that accompany leaving the academic world and entering the larger realm of professional practice. Students analyze factors that contribute to successful professional development and ethical practice. Students use the results of their analyses to plan their individual transition to fieldwork and entry-level practice.

**Prerequisite(s):** (OT 744 with a minimum grade of D- or OT 844 with a minimum grade of B-) and (OT 792 with a minimum grade of D- or OT 892 with a minimum grade of B-).

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 850 - Neuro-Occupation: The Relationship Between Occupation and the Brain****Credits:** 3

The course explores brain development, neuroplasticity and occupation across the lifespan. Following a contextual review of the neuroanatomy and physiology, the students will explore the mind-body relationship across multiple domains of occupational therapy practice. There are four primary content areas: Applied neurology, nature with nurture: occupational engagement and the development of the brain, the brain, occupation and behavior, and neuroplasticity as the basis for improving motor behavior.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 851 - Mind Body Systems/Neurologically-based Function and Dysfunction****Credits:** 3

Students study most significant occupational-related disorders commonly seen by occupational therapists. A self-directed method is used to examine the perceptual, cognitive, biopsychosocial basis of these disorders. A basic overview of human body-mind systems is provided with an emphasis on pathology, the recognition of symptoms, their causes and the occupational implications of the disorders. The course is a prerequisites for courses in specific occupational therapy assessment and intervention. Neurology is required prior to taking this course.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 852 - Human Movement and Environmental Effects on Everyday Occupations****Credits:** 3

Students will integrate their prerequisite knowledge of occupation. The course will develop skills required for interpretation of biomechanical analysis for creating successful occupational performance for individuals with varied musculoskeletal, cardiac, and respiratory dysfunction. Integration of the occupational therapy clinical reasoning process and the use of occupations as a therapeutic mechanism for change will be emphasized. The analysis of environment as it relates to human movement and participation in desired occupations will be explored.

**Co-requisite:** OT 852L**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**OT 852L - Human Movement and Environmental Effects on Everyday Occupations Lab****Credits:** 1

Lab.

**Co-requisite:** OT 852**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading**Special Fee:** Yes**OT 853 - Mind Body Systems: Neurologically-based Function and Dysfunction--Pediatric Conditions****Credits:** 4

This course is the first course in a two-part sequence that uses a life span approach, drawing on occupational science perspectives to study conditions diagnosed during childhood (birth through age 20). The emphasis is on the interaction of the individual (the mind), the body and the psychosocial environment as related to occupational performance. Students will work in pairs to examine selected disorders, and will further develop their presentation skills. This course is a prerequisite for courses in occupational therapy assessment and intervention in pediatric practice.

**Prerequisite(s):** KIN 706 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 854 - Level II Fieldwork, I****Credits:** 8

This course is a 12-week, full-time internship that takes place after completion of the first graduate year, either in the summer or the fall. Level II fieldwork provides students with opportunities to: experience in-depth delivery of occupational therapy services to clients; focus on the application of purposeful and meaningful occupation and/or research, administration and management of occupational therapy services. Level II fieldwork is designed to promote clinical reasoning and reflective practice, to transmit values and beliefs that promote ethical practice and to develop professionalism and competence as career responsibilities.

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading

**OT 855 - Level II Fieldwork Discussion****Credits:** 1

OT 855 Level II Fieldwork, I, online discussion is a co-requisite course that accompanies OT 854 and OT 856: Level II Fieldwork. Students respond to instructor-led discussion prompts as well as to postings of their classmates. The online discussion provides the opportunity for students to relate fieldwork experiential learning to all areas of UNH coursework including: mind-body systems, health-and-human systems of care; assessment; intervention; documentation; evidence-based practice; client-centered and occupation-centered practice; and application of research to practice. Students engage in on-going discussion about professional identity and the transition from student to professional as they describe and discuss fieldwork challenges and successes across a variety of practice settings.

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading

**OT 856 - Level II Fieldwork, II****Credits:** 8

This course is the second 12-week, full-time internship. It takes place after two semesters in the second graduate year. OT 856 provides students with opportunities to evaluate, develop and implement in-depth delivery of occupational therapy services in population-based practice and to focus on research and/or administration and management of occupational therapy services.

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading

**OT 857 - Mind Body Systems: Neurologically-based Function and Dysfunction--Adult Conditions****Credits:** 4

This course is the second course in a two-part course sequence that uses a life span approach, drawing on occupational science perspectives to study conditions typically diagnosed during adulthood (ages 21 and up). The emphasis is on the interaction of the individual (the mind), the body and the psychosocial environment as related to occupational performance. Students will work in pairs to examine selected disorders, and will further develop their presentation skills. This course is a prerequisite for courses in occupational therapy assessment and intervention for adults.

**Prerequisite(s):** KIN 706 with a minimum grade of D- and (OT 753 with a minimum grade of D- or OT 853 with a minimum grade of B-).

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 860 - Psychosocial Evaluation and Intervention****Credits:** 3

Examines the evaluation of psychosocial and psycho-emotional areas of occupational performance and the planning and implementation of occupation-based interventions across domains of practice and client populations. Course addresses developing a client's occupational profile, narrative reasoning and therapeutic use of self, behavioral change, illness representation, and adjustment to chronic disorders. A specific focus of the course is evaluation of and intervention for clients' presenting with mental health disorders. Open to OT majors only.

**Co-requisite:** OT 860L, OT 860R

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 860L - Psychosocial Evaluation and Intervention Lab****Credits:** 1

This is the co-requisite lab for OT 860. Lab provides hands-on experiences regarding the evaluation and intervention of psychological and psycho-emotional areas of occupational performance. Course focuses on the evaluation and intervention for clients presenting with mental health disorders and also addresses narrative reasoning, therapeutic use of self, behavioral change, illness representation and adjustment to chronic disorders.

**Co-requisite:** OT 860

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**OT 860R - Psychosocial Evaluation & Intervention Recitation****Credits:** 0

Psychosocial Evaluation and Intervention Recitation provides additional hands-on and experiential learning opportunities in an established community program for all students enrolled in OT 860. This recitation allows students the opportunity to develop the skills needed to work in mental/behavioral health settings.

**Co-requisite:** OT 860

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading

**OT 862 - OT Evaluation and Intervention for Children****Credits:** 3

Students will gain foundation knowledge of OT evaluation intervention process. Students apply the clinical reasoning process for the evaluation and treatment of children with various conditions, and across age groups. Students learn common assessment tools used by occupational therapists, and how to select and critique evaluation methods. Select cases will be used for the application of knowledge, interventions, and frames of reference used with children.

**Co-requisite:** OT 862L, OT 862R

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**OT 862L - OT Evaluation and Intervention for Children - Lab****Credits:** 1

This is the corequisite lab for OT 862, Evaluation and Intervention for Children. Students develop technical skills in administering evaluation tools, methods and procedures, in making clinical decisions about intervention planning and implementation. Students learn, practice and demonstrate many intervention techniques used with children, and complete a number of clinical case studies.

**Co-requisite:** OT 862, OT 862R

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading

**Special Fee:** Yes

**OT 862R - OT Evaluation and Intervention for Children Recitation****Credits:** 0

Students hone their professional reasoning abilities and sharpen their observation skills as they provide developmentally appropriate activities with children.

**Co-requisite:** OT 862, OT 862L

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading



**OT 863 - Occupational Therapy Intervention for Adults****Credits:** 3

Students gain foundation knowledge of the OT evaluation and intervention process with adults with neurological and orthopedic conditions. Students apply the clinical reasoning process to clinical practice with adults with various types of medical conditions. Students learn about common assessment tools available to occupational therapists for adults, where, when, and how to apply them. Students develop technical skills in administering selected evaluation tools, in integrating assessment data, and demonstrate clinical decisions about intervention planning and implementation. Selected cases are used for application of knowledge, and the course covers the application of common intervention strategies used by occupational therapists with adults.

**Co-requisite:** OT 863L**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**OT 863L - Occupational Therapy Evaluation and Intervention for Adults - Lab****Credits:** 1

Students develop technical skills in administering selected evaluation tools, in integrating assessment data, and demonstrate clinical decisions about intervention planning and implementation.

**Co-requisite:** OT 863**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading**OT 863R - Adult Evaluation and Intervention Recitation****Credits:** 0

Adult Evaluation and Intervention Recitation provides additional hands-on and reflective discussion for acquiring skills needed for acute care/hospital in-patient settings.

**Co-requisite:** OT 863**Grade Mode:** Not graded**OT 865 - Occupational Therapy Practice and Professional Reasoning****Credits:** 3

Develops professional reasoning by building upon level II fieldwork experiences. Students develop a population-based intervention plan, explore occupational therapy in an emerging or specialized practice setting, and implement a plan for continuing professional development. Students prepare for their OT board certification examination, and complete a culminating capstone experience.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 871 - Enabling Participation in Community Groups****Credits:** 2

Students will learn about a community organization partnership, the people served by the organization, and principles of conducting therapeutic groups within the organization. Emphasis of content includes group process, clinical documentation, intervention planning and OT services with adults with cognitive impairments.

**Co-requisite:** OT 871L**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**OT 871L - Enabling Participation in Community Groups Lab****Credits:** 2

Students will work in an organization, learn about the people served by this organization and conduct therapeutic groups. This lab serves as a Level I Fieldwork placement.

**Co-requisite:** OT 871**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading**Special Fee:** Yes**OT 875 - Leadership in Occupational Therapy Systems of Practice****Credits:** 3

Students will integrate concepts, principles, and strategies that are fundamental to the provision of occupational therapy services in the changing U.S. health care system. This course links system management, reimbursement mechanisms, and public policy found in occupational therapy practice settings to the populations served. Knowledge of leadership, management, ethics and marketing principles that are necessary for success in today's health care industry are emphasized.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 881 - Introduction to Research and Evidence-Based Practice****Credits:** 3

This course introduces students to basic principles of scientific inquiry that contribute to OT evaluation and intervention evidence base. Students will explore quantitative, qualitative and mixed research methods and will learn the fundamental steps in conducting research such as formulating research questions and identifying appropriate research designs, instruments for measurement and outcomes. Students will have hands-on experience in identifying a research topic, reviewing the literature, retrieving, reading and synthesizing research articles.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 882 - Research Methods and Application****Credits:** 3

The course provides students an in depth understanding of quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods designs. The students will learn the necessary knowledge and skills required to critically appraise research evidence. Emphasis will be given to various analytical approaches used to examine qualitative/quantitative evidence, such as understanding differences between experimental and quasi-experimental study designs. Students will work in teams to identify a research topic, review and appraise pertinent evidence, identify and describe gaps in existing knowledge. Students will further use this information to develop a research proposal that addresses the identified gaps.

**Prerequisite(s):** OT 781 with a minimum grade of D- or OT 881 with a minimum grade of B-.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 883 - Engagement in Research****Credits:** 3

Students engage in activities of systematic inquiry and research under the mentorship of a research-active faculty mentor. Students gain experience with aspects of the research process, which may include conducting a literature review, developing a research proposal, data collection, data analysis, writing a research paper, and the presentation of research findings. Students also apply ethics for the use of human participation in research, and learn about funding avenues for different areas of research.

**Prerequisite(s):** (OT 781 with a minimum grade of D- and OT 782 with a minimum grade of D-) or (OT 881 with a minimum grade of B- and OT 882 with a minimum grade of B-).

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 886 - Engagement in Research****Credits:** 3

Students engage in activities of systematic inquiry and research under the mentorship of a research-active faculty mentor. Students gain experience with aspects of the research process, which may include conducting a literature review, developing a research proposal, data collection, data analysis, writing a research paper, and the presentation of research findings. Students also apply ethics for the use of human participation in research, and learn about funding avenues for different areas of research. OT and OT Asst Tech Certificate majors only.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 887 - Upper Extremity Rehabilitation and Orthotic Fabrication****Credits:** 4

This graduate course is designated to expose students to the specialized area of upper extremity rehabilitation including a detailed, working knowledge of hand anatomy, biomechanics, kinesiology, surgical techniques, and orthotic fabrication in order to effectively treat upper extremity clinical problems. Students also learn about the common diagnoses seen in upper extremity rehabilitation, critically analyze treatment protocols, and precautions for these common diagnoses, and develop orthotic fabrication and other evaluation and intervention techniques for this population.

**Prerequisite(s):** (OT 752 with a minimum grade of B or OT 852 with a minimum grade of B) and (OT 763 with a minimum grade of B or OT 863 with a minimum grade of B).

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**OT 889 - Using iPads to Support Children with Disabilities****Credits:** 2

The iPad is changing the way we teach and learn. This technology embraces Universal design principles (UDL) and enables children with significant disabilities to learn in ways never thought possible five years ago. It is a tool for delivering multimedia content and embraces the use of Multi modal learning. This technology finally levels the playing field to support all students including students with disabilities.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 890 - Occupational Therapy and Sensory Integration****Credits:** 4

This course presents, integrates and applies Ayres sensory integration (SI) theory in the context of occupational therapy for children. Content related to the theoretical constructs upon which sensory integration functions is emphasized. Current views related to sensory processing dysfunction, and SI deficits commonly associated with disorders such as autism and attention disorders are covered. Intervention planning and implementation are covered through video case studies, and observation and analysis of occupational therapy sessions using SI strategies. Students apply their understanding of normal and abnormal child development, and clinical reasoning skills for providing OT services for children with sensory integration problems in clinical, early intervention and school-based settings.

**Prerequisite(s):** OT 862 with a minimum grade of B- and OT 862L with a minimum grade of B-.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 892 - Level I Fieldwork****Credits:** 1

During a two-week fieldwork, students observe an occupational therapist and participate in the planning and implementation of the occupational therapy evaluation and intervention process for a client. The Level I Fieldwork placement is scheduled between fall and spring of their first graduate year.

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading**OT 893 - Special Topics****Credits:** 2-4

Formal courses given on selected topics or special interest subjects.

Work may be directed in one of the following areas: A) Administration; B) Clinical Education; C) Pediatrics; D) Physical Disabilities; E) Mental Health; F) Gerontology/Geriatrics; G) School-based Practice, and others. Special fee on some topics.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**Special Fee:** Yes**OT 895 - Readings and Research in Occupational Therapy****Credits:** 1-6

Independent work under the guidance of an instructor. Work may be directed in one of the following areas: A) Administration; B) Clinical Education; C) Pediatrics; D) Physical Disabilities; E) Mental Health; F) Gerontology/Geriatrics; G) School-based Practice, and others.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 901 - Introduction to Capstone****Credits:** 2

This is the first course in a three-part doctoral capstone course series (OT 901, OT 902, OT 903) that introduces students to the doctoral capstone experience and project. Students will gain an understanding of the overall purpose and expectations of the doctoral capstone, identify an area of focus for their individual capstone, and begin planning for their doctoral capstone. Students will develop initial ideas for capstone experiences including potential sites or partners for their experience.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**OT 902 - Capstone Preparation****Credits:** 3

The purpose of this course is to operationalize capstone ideas and timelines through program planning. Students will utilize various methods to create and complete a needs assessment that supports the implementation of their doctoral capstone experience. Students will build on the knowledge gleaned throughout the OTD curriculum to plan for their culminating capstone experience in one of eight areas: clinical skills, research skills, administration, leadership, program development and evaluation, advocacy, education, and policy development.

**Prerequisite(s):** OT 901 with a minimum grade of B-.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 903 - Capstone: Project Implementation, Evaluation and Dissemination****Credits:** 12

The purpose of this course is to demonstrate leadership and scholarship by implementing and evaluating a capstone project that reflects an identified area of need related to occupational therapy practice. Students further synthesize outcomes of their project by demonstrating their understanding of advanced occupational therapy concepts and by disseminating the findings/outcomes from the capstone project as occupational therapy scholars. The experience is guided by learning contract that includes individualized specific objectives, plans for supervision or mentoring, and responsibilities of the student, mentor at the project site, and faculty supervisor (course instructor). The Capstone experience must be a minimum of 14 weeks and a minimum of 32 hours per week completed on a full time or part-time basis, and it must be consistent with the individualized specific objectives and capstone project proposed in OT 902.

**Prerequisite(s):** OT 901 with a minimum grade of B- and OT 902 with a minimum grade of B-.

**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading

**OT 964 - Age Well: Occupational Therapy with Older Adults****Credits:** 3

This course is designed to extend the students' knowledge of aging and application of theoretical and practice skills in occupational therapy settings. Lectures on established theories, policies and best practices will be complimented by hands-on learning and focused discussions. Students will plan and implement client centered programming using various approaches, types, and service delivery methods in case-based and simulated scenarios for older adults with various abilities in medical and community-based settings.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 965 - Occupational Therapy Practice and Professional Reasoning****Credits:** 3

This course enables students to reflect, analyze, critique, and build upon their knowledge and experience from level II fieldwork to expand their capacity to provide occupational therapy services to meet individual and population needs in diverse practice settings. Students will consider the profession's history and future to become reflective practitioner to best meet the needs of populations in various settings. A final population-based educational plan will be completed with a designated community partner of need.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 975 - Leadership in OT Systems of Practice****Credits:** 3

Students will integrate concepts, principles, and strategies fundamental to providing OT services in the U.S. health care system and other systems of practice. This course links system management, reimbursement mechanisms, public policy, and population health in OT settings. It focuses on building student knowledge of leadership, management, and ethics that are necessary for success in various OT systems. Students will develop concepts of professional leadership and develop leadership skills that will support them in practice.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 983 - Engagement in Research****Credits:** 3

In this course, students will engage in activities of systematic inquiry and research, under the mentorship of the course instructor. Students will undertake research projects to better understand the process and apply the knowledge gained from their previous research methods courses to complete a research project involving some or all the aspects of research process: a) data collection; b) data analysis; c) writing up the research findings; and d) presentation of research findings.

**Prerequisite(s):** (OT 781 with a minimum grade of B- and OT 782 with a minimum grade of B-) or (OT 881 with a minimum grade of B- and OT 882 with a minimum grade of B-).

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**OT 998 - Recent Advances in Neurological Evaluation and Intervention****Credits:** 3

This course combines didactic in class experiences paired with collaborative opportunities with community partners to explore how current and emerging neurological clinical practice improves occupational performance. Students will synthesize past theoretical and clinical knowledge with current evidence based literature to prepare them for doctoral level clinical practice.

**Prerequisite(s):** (OT 752 with a minimum grade of D- or OT 852 with a minimum grade of B-) and (OT 763 with a minimum grade of D- or OT 863 with a minimum grade of B-).

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

## Faculty

[Occupational Therapy Department Faculty](#)