

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (ADVANCED STANDING) (M.S.)

Description

Occupational Therapy Program Requirements for Advanced-Standing MS Students

UNH students who are in the BS program in occupational therapy enter into the Advanced-Standing MS Program to complete a MS Degree in Occupational Therapy to be eligible to enter the profession of occupational therapy. Because they have completed some of the professional courses, they earn their MS Degree in Occupational Therapy in three semesters, including fieldwork. The Occupational Therapy Master's Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. Their phone number is (301) 652-AOTA; and website: www.acoteonline.org.

Academic Standards and Policies

In order to be awarded a MS degree in Occupational Therapy from UNH, students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0, earn a minimum of B- in all required occupational therapy courses, with no more than 8 credits of B- or lower in OT courses (700 level or above). Students must also pass all level I fieldwork requirements and receive a passing criterion score on the American Occupational Therapy Association Fieldwork Performance Evaluation for the Occupational Therapist for both 12-week Level II fieldwork experiences. Students must meet professional behavioral standards, which are explained in detail in the *OT Department Policy and Procedure Manual*, provided to all occupational therapy students during their first semester.

Because curriculum review and revision is undertaken annually, occupational therapy faculty work closely with students during academic advising sessions and share information about any policy and requirement changes during registration periods as well as throughout the academic year. Students are expected to take an active role in verifying expectations and requirements and should check with their departmental advisers each September for updated policies and requirements. Program requirements and policies for retention in the major are posted annually in the *OT Department Policy and Procedure Manual*, which is available on the OT department's organization site on MyCourses.

Students will participate in a variety of off-campus and fieldwork experiences throughout the course of study and are covered with basic personal liability insurance through UNH for all practical components of the curriculum. Students are responsible for transportation to fieldwork sites and other off-campus learning experiences. Students are responsible for meeting the health and criminal record clearances established by their fieldwork sites and off-campus learning sites. Proof of immunization such as poliomyelitis, rubella, H1N1, and hepatitis B may also be required. For Level II fieldwork, health insurance and a physical examination, including a tuberculin test, are required. All fieldwork experiences are scheduled in centers approved by the

Department of Occupational Therapy and with whom active Memoranda of Understanding with UNH exist.

After successfully completing all Level II fieldwork requirements and academic work, students are awarded a Master of Science Degree in Occupational Therapy. They are then eligible to sit for the National Board Certification Examination in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). Consistent with NBCOT expectations, students must sit for the certification examination within two years of completion of coursework and fieldwork. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination and/or obtain state licensure.

Curriculum and schedule: Most classes will be scheduled during weekdays during the day and into early evening. Some courses require experiential, off-campus learning in addition to required off-campus level II fieldwork experiences. The level II fieldwork experiences are full time for a total of 24 weeks and are planned collaboratively with the Academic Fieldwork Coordinator.

Requirements

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY: Advanced standing MS PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Code	Title	Credits
Undergraduate Courses		
OT 710	OT Practice and Professional Roles	4
OT 730 & 730L	Assistive Technology for Enhancing Occupational Performance and Assistive Technology for Enhancing Occupational Performance Lab	4
OT 741	Human Occupation ¹	4
OT 744	Fieldwork and Professionalism - Level 1	1
OT 745	Administration and Management for Occupational Therapy Practice	4
OT 746	Fieldwork & Prof Level II	1
OT 752 & 752L	Human Movement and Environmental Effects on Everyday Occupations and Human Movement Lab	4
OT 753	Mind Body Systems: Neurologically-based Function and Dysfunction--Pediatric Conditions	4
OT 757	Mind Body Systems: Neurologically-based Function and Dysfunction--Adult Conditions	4
OT 760 & 760L & 760R	Psychosocial Evaluation and Intervention and Psychosocial Evaluation and Intervention Lab and Psychosocial Evaluation & Intervention Recitation	4
OT 762 & 762L & 762R	Occupational Therapy Evaluation and Intervention for Children and Occupational Therapy Evaluation and Intervention for Children Lab and Occupational Therapy Evaluation and Intervention for Children Recitation	4
OT 763 & 763L & 763R	Occupational Therapy Evaluation and Intervention for Adults and Occupational Therapy Evaluation and Intervention for Adults Lab and Occupational Therapy Evaluation and Intervention for Adults Recitation	4
OT 771 & 771L	Enabling Participation in Community Groups and Enabling Participation in Community Groups Lab	5
OT 785	Research Methods and Application to Practice	4
Graduate Courses		
Advanced-standing students are required to earn 30 graduate credits, which includes 16 credits of fieldwork, in addition to 50 undergraduate credits that includes 2 credits of fieldwork, taken as part of the occupational science degree.		
OT 854 & OT 855	Level II Fieldwork, I and Level II Fieldwork Discussion	9
OT 856 & OT 855	Level II Fieldwork, II and Level II Fieldwork Discussion	9
OT 865	Occupational Therapy Practice and Professional Reasoning ¹	3
OT 875	Leadership in Occupational Therapy Systems of Practice	3
OT 886	Engagement in Research	3
Select at least 3 credits of graduate-level elective course(s)		3
Total Credits		30

¹ Course requirements for OT 865 Occupational Therapy Practice and Professional Reasoning, include a capstone experience in which students synthesize knowledge from academic coursework and fieldwork experiences to develop an innovative occupational therapy program that addresses the needs of a specific population or program.

Elective Courses

Code	Title	Credits
OT 887	Upper Extremity Rehabilitation and Splinting	4
OT 888	Application of Physical Agent Modalities in Occupational Therapy Practice	3
OT 890	Occupational Therapy and Sensory Integration	4
OT 831	Introduction to Assistive Technology Principles	2
OT 832	Introduction to Assistive Technology Practices	2
OT 833	Assistive Technology for Physical Access I: Electronic Technologies	2
OT 834	Assistive Technology for Physical Access II: Mobility, Seating, and Transportation	2
OT 835	Assistive Technology for Communication and Cognition	2
OT 836	Assistive Technology for Vision and Hearing	2
OT 889	Using iPads to Support Children with Disabilities	3
OT 866	AMPS Training	4
OT 895	Readings and Research in Occupational Therapy	1-6

Degree Plan

Plan of Study for Advanced-Standing M.S.

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
OT 854	Level II Fieldwork, I	8
OT 855	Level II Fieldwork Discussion	1
Credits		9
Spring		
OT 865	Occupational Therapy Practice and Professional Reasoning	3
OT 875	Leadership in Occupational Therapy Systems of Practice	3
OT 886	Engagement in Research	3
Graduate elective 3 credits		3
Credits		12
Second Year		
Fall		
OT 856	Level II Fieldwork, II	8
OT 855	Level II Fieldwork Discussion	1
Credits		9
Total Credits		30

Student Learning Outcomes

The OT Department has identified five student outcomes for our Professional OT Program, MSOT graduates as follows:

Our graduates will:

Demonstrate professional attitudes and behaviors in their work and interactions with clients, and others with whom they work.

- Our graduates will be dedicated to ethical, client-driven, OT practice, demonstrating integrity, honesty, compassion, and fairness. They will demonstrate respect for all clients with whom they work, which is grounded in an appreciation and consideration of individual priorities and life experience. Our graduates will be life-long learners, and innovative thinkers committed to ongoing professional development, and state-of-the-art, evidence-based practices. They will be able to collaborate well with other professionals as committed team players and have a solid understanding of the many roles and expertise of other professionals with whom they commonly work, along with clarity of their roles as occupational therapists. They will aspire to and be prepared to assume leadership roles in their professional lives as practitioners, researchers, advocates, and educators.

Understand that engagement in meaningful occupations is essential to one's health and well-being, and be prepared and committed to promote occupation-based occupational therapy practice.

- Our curriculum emphasizes the idea that engagement in everyday activities to fulfill social roles and give meaning to life is essential to the development, adaptation, and well being of individuals, societies and populations. Our graduates are ready and committed to apply occupation-based evaluation and intervention techniques, and to share and expand authentic occupational therapy practices.

Be competent entry-level OT practitioners across diverse practice settings, skilled in the delivery occupation-based evaluation and intervention techniques.

- Our graduates will have developed critical thinking skills, and the capacity for high-level clinical reasoning preparing them to deliver client-centered, occupation-based, services in traditional and emerging practice areas. Graduates will know a variety of evaluation methods for understanding a person's occupational history, abilities, challenges and goals. They will apply occupation-based intervention approaches, and assistive technologies to address the needs of individuals, and populations in traditional and emerging medical, education, and other community-based practice arenas.

Apply evidence-based practices in their work.

- Our graduates will be skilled in identifying and interpreting relevant research and other data sources for delivering evidence-based, clinical services for promoting occupational participation and life satisfaction. Furthermore, they will have research skills for contributing to the body of knowledge that supports and advances occupational science, and occupational therapy.

Demonstrate skills necessary to advance occupational justice so that all persons can fully participate in desired occupations.

- Our graduates will apply critical thinking skills, ethics, policy, and awareness of the context in which occupational therapy may be of benefit, to help advance the OT profession's goal of meeting the occupational needs of individuals, populations and societies. Our graduates will also be able to generate new ideas to support and promote occupational justice for individuals, populations, and societies.