

## Occupational Therapy

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The Profession of Occupational Therapy (OT) is a health profession which prepares practitioners to develop and restore the functional performance abilities needed for individuals experiencing disease and disability to lead satisfying and productive lives. Occupational therapy may be indicated for persons whose life has been interrupted by disease or injury, or those who suffer from developmental delays or problems associated with aging.

The occupational therapist assesses the individual's abilities to carry out tasks and activities necessary for productive living. Working collaboratively with the client and considering his/her personal goals, lifestyle and environment, the therapist develops an intervention program designed to help restore the greatest possible functional capacity. During the treatment or rehabilitation process, the client actively engages in a directed program of purposeful, meaningful activities designed to increase his or her level of functioning. The occupational therapist works collaboratively with the client, other health professionals on the health care team, and community agency personnel. Occupational therapists serve a wide variety of individuals in all age ranges and work in settings such as community agencies, sheltered workshops, hospitals, schools, extended care facilities, and rehabilitation centers. There is an increasing demand for occupational therapists and excellent opportunities exist for career advancement.

Qualities that are necessary to be a successful therapist include the ability to work with others, look at the totality of human performance, think creatively, problem solve, and direct the actions of others.

### Bachelor of Health Sciences Occupational Therapy Track

In 1999 the American Occupational Therapy Association passed a resolution mandating post baccalaureate entry level education for occupational therapy. As of January 2007 successful completion of a post baccalaureate degree program (MS) will be required in order to qualify an individual to sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) certification examination. FIU has a Bachelor of Health Sciences Occupational Therapy Track which enables students to complete a five semester BS in Health Sciences degree with qualified students who complete the program with a 3.0 able to apply for a four (4) semester MS degree program.

#### Degree Program Hours: 120

In order to apply to the Bachelor of Health Sciences-Occupational Therapy students must; a.) meet the requirements for admission to the University; b.) have a cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher and c.) have completed the required prerequisites, and d.) have completed an AA from a Florida state institution or students have completed

at least 60 transferable credits AND meet the University Core Curriculum (UCC) requirements. Applicants must apply to both the Office of Admissions and the Department of Occupational Therapy. Applicants who are already registered at FIU as degree students must mail an application to the Occupational Therapy Department during the first week in January. Applications will be accepted until all 42 vacant positions are filled. Enrollment is limited and one class is selected each academic year to begin Fall semester. The average admitting grade point for admission is over 3.0. Students are selected based on GPA and the strength of their academic record, including a strong liberal arts preparation and the required prerequisites.

Students who already hold a bachelor's degree in a field other than occupational therapy may be eligible for the master's degree program (see graduate catalog).

For updated information regarding application, students can visit our web page at <http://ot.fiu.edu>. Students can download the OT application but cannot apply electronically.

#### Advising

Group advising sessions are held on a regular basis during the semester. Call (305) 348-6583 to find out the dates, and to reserve a space. If you have specific questions related to your application, the OT advisor will answer them during the session. All applicants who live in Miami-Fort Lauderdale area are expected to attend an advising session. Students who live outside the area can call the OT department (305) 348-6068 and ask to speak with an advisor.

#### Accreditation Status

The Occupational Therapy Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, Md 20824-1220. AOTA's phone number is (301) 652-AOTA or (800) 377-8555 (TDD). Graduates of the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program will be able to sit for the national 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). Most states require licensure in order to practice. Your eligibility for state licensure or certification may be at risk if you have been convicted or found guilty, regardless of adjudication, of a crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the practice of occupational therapy or to the ability to practice occupational therapy. A plea of nolo contendere shall be considered a conviction for the purposes of this part. Applicants to the Occupational Therapy Program are required to submit to state and federal background checks at the time of admission. Findings in background checks may affect a student's ability to participate in clinical experiences needed to complete the program, and to obtain licensure. Admission may therefore be denied. If you have questions about background checks, contact Dr. Patricia Scott, Chair of OT program, at (305) 348-2264.

#### Lower Division Preparation

##### Required Courses

Biology and Lab

Physics and Lab <b>or</b> Chemistry and Lab (only one required)	4
General Psychology	3
Human Growth and Development	3
One additional Psychology course (not personal adjustment)	3
Statistics	3
Sociology <b>or</b> Anthropology	3
Physiology (3 credits) <sup>1</sup> <b>or</b> Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II	6

<sup>1</sup>Students who have completed Anatomy/Physiology I and II with a lab have met the prerequisites for Biology with lab and Physiology.

To be admitted into the program, FIU undergraduates must have met all the lower division requirements including CLAST, and completed 60 semester hours.

### Upper Division Program

All courses in the upper division are required.

#### Required Courses

##### Junior Year

##### Fall Semester: (16 credits)

OTH 3000	Foundations of Occupational Therapy	3
OTH 3210	Occupational Development Throughout the Lifespan	2
OTH 3122	Therapeutic Skills in OT I	1
OTH 3122L	Therapeutic Skills in OT Lab I	2
OTH 3160	Adaptive Living Skills	2
ZOO 3731	Human Anatomy	3
ZOO 3731L	Human Anatomy Lab	1

##### Spring Semester: (13 credits)

OTH 3216C	Occupational Development Throughout the Lifespan II	3
HSC 4553	Fundamentals of Pathology	3
OTH 3413	Applied Kinesiology	3
OTH 3413L	Applied Kinesiology Lab	1
OTH XXXX	Neuroscience for Occupational Therapy	3

##### Summer Semester: (2 credits)

OTH 3815	Fieldwork Experience Level I (4 weeks)	3
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##### Senior Year

##### Fall Semester: (12 credits)

OTH 4504	Neuromotor Approaches in OT I	3
OTH 4504L	Neuromotor Approaches in OT I Lab	1
OTH 4421	Biomechanical & Rehabilitative Approaches in OT I	2
OTH 4421L	Biomechanical & Rehab Approaches in OT Lab	1
OTH 4322	Neuropsychiatric & Cognitive Approaches in OT I	2
OTH 4322L	Neuropsychiatric & Cognitive Approaches in OT Lab	1
HSC 4910	Intro to Research Methods	3

##### Spring Semester: (15 credits)

OTH 4423	Neuromotor Approaches in OT II	3
OTH 4423L	Neuromotor Approaches in OT II Lab	1
OTH 4422	Biomechanical & Rehabilitative Approaches in OT II	2
OTH 4422L	Biomechanical & Rehabilitative Approaches in OT II Lab	1
OTH 4323	Neuropsychiatric Cognitive Approaches in OT II	3
OTH 4323L	Neuropsychiatric Cognitive Approaches in OT II Lab	1

OTH 4701	Professional Issues in OT	2
OTH XXXX	Graduate Elective	3

Bachelor in Health Sciences – OT Track degree awarded. Students who complete the BHS-OT track degree with a minimum 3.0 GPA (in upper division courses) are guaranteed admission to the Master of Science in OT. This program is 4 semesters including summers.

### Course Descriptions

#### Definition of Prefixes

OTH-Occupational Therapy, Majors Only  
F-Fall semester offering; S-Spring semester offering; SS-Summer semester offering.

**OTH 3000 Foundations of Occupational Therapy (3).** History and theory of occupational therapy, including scope of practice and introduction to clinical reasoning. (F)

**OTH 3122 Therapeutic Skills in Occupational Therapy I (1).** Presents the use of self and the use of occupation as therapeutic mediums. Communication skills and skills in analyzing, adapting, and grading activities are emphasized. (F)

**OTH 3122L Therapeutic Skills in Occupational Therapy I Lab (2).** Lab experiences enable practice of skills in therapeutic communication, activity analysis and adaptation, and beginning group process. (F)

**OTH 3160 Adaptive Living Skills (2).** Examination of factors that interfere with an individual's performance of daily activities and occupations. Students will develop problem-solving to evaluate, select, and adapt activities that will assist clients in occupational performance. Corequisite: OTH 3160L.

**OTH 3160L Adaptive Living Skills Lab (1).** Lab class to accompany Adaptive Living Skills lecture.

**OTH 3210 Occupational Development Throughout the Lifespan I (2).** Investigates how humans shape and are shaped by their activities and environment. Examines normal occupational development in infants, children and adolescents. Prerequisites: DEP 2000 or equivalent. (F)

**OTH 3210L Occupational Development Throughout the Lifespan I Lab (1).** Laboratory class to accompany OTH 3210.

**OTH 3216C Occupational Development Throughout the Lifespan II (3).** Examines normal occupational development I young, middle-aged and older adults. Analysis of occupations and personal and environmental factors that influences occupational competence. Prerequisites: DEP 2000 or equivalent. (S)

**OTH 3413 Applied Kinesiology (3).** A study of the anatomical, physiological and biomechanical principles of human motion with an emphasis on clinical application. (S)

**OTH 3413L Applied Kinesiology Lab (2).** Laboratory to accompany OTH 3413 (S)

**OTH 3416 Mechanisms of Disease and Dysfunction (3).** A study of mechanisms of disease and pathophysiological processes that occur in the human body. State of the art diagnostic techniques, medical advances, and methods of disease prevention are discussed. Prerequisites: ZOO 3731 and laboratory, PCB 3702, or equivalent. (S)

**OTH 3760 Evaluation and Research in Occupational Therapy I (2).** Introduces concepts of evaluation and testing in occupational testing in occupational therapy and develops skills necessary to be a research consumer. (F)

**OTH 3815 Field Work Experience Level I (3).** Pre-clinical experience in an approved training center. (SS)

**OTH 4109 Technological Applications in Occupational Therapy (1).** Overview of technological applications in clinical practice with emphasis on adaptations for the physically disabled client.

**OTH 4109L Technological Applications in Occupational Therapy Lab (1).** Laboratory experience with various technological applications used in occupational therapy practice.

**OTH 4123 Therapeutic Skills in Occupational Therapy II (1).** Studies the use of self and group activities to evaluate and treat individuals with psychiatric disorder or other functional limitations. (F)

**OTH 4123L Therapeutic Skills in Occupational Therapy II Lab (2).** Application and practice of therapeutic communication, activity analysis and adaptation, and group process skills through role-playing and simulated treatment situations. (F)

**OTH 4322 Neuropsychiatric and Cognitive Approaches in Occupational Therapy I (2).** Students development proficiency in OT evaluation and treatment techniques for individuals with cognitive and neuropsychiatric disorder. Selected disorders are studied. (F)

**OTH 4322L Neuropsychiatric and Cognitive Approaches in OT Lab (1).** Laboratory course and utilizing films that depict individuals with cognitive and neuropsychiatric disabilities as these disabilities impact functional performance. Prerequisite: General Psychology.

**OTH 4323 Neuropsychiatric and Cognitive Approaches in Occupational Therapy II (3).** Students develop proficiency in OT evaluation and treatment techniques for individuals with cognitive and neuropsychiatric disorder. Selected disorders are studied. (S)

**OTH 4323L Neuropsychiatric and Cognitive Approaches in Occupational Therapy II Lab (1).** Taken concurrently with OTH 4323, students will develop proficiency in administration of assessments and translation of findings in treatment. Prerequisite: OTH 4322.

**OTH 4421 Biomechanical and Rehabilitative Approaches in Occupational therapy I (2).** Studies the application of Biomechanical and rehabilitative approaches to selected physical disabilities. Case studies present specific evaluation and treatment techniques. Prerequisite: OTH 3413. (F)

**OTH 4421L Biomechanical and Rehabilitative Approaches in Occupational Therapy I Lab (1).** Lab experiences allow students to practice Biomechanical and rehabilitative evaluation and treatment strategies in simulated treatment situations. Prerequisite: OTH 3413L. (F)

**OTH 4422 Biomechanical and Rehabilitative Approaches in Occupation Therapy II (2).** Continued study of the application of biomechanical and rehabilitative approaches to selected physical disabilities. Case studies present specific evaluation and treatment techniques. (S)

**OTH 4422L Biomechanical and Rehabilitative Approaches in Occupational Therapy II Lab (1).** Provides students with practical experiences in evaluation and treatment techniques for selected physical disabilities. (S)

**OTH 4423 Neuromotor Approaches in Occupational Therapy II (3).** Foundational knowledge of OT evaluation and treatment of neurologically impaired adults. (S)

**OTH 4423L Neuromotor Approaches in Occupational Therapy II Lab (1).** Applications of theoretical knowledge to clinical problems in the occupational therapy evaluation and treatment of neurologically impaired adults. (S)

**OTH 4504 Neuromotor Approaches in Occupational Therapy (3).** Provides theoretical basis for treatment of children with neuromotor disorders. Develops evaluation and treatment planning skill through extensive pediatric casework.

**OTH 4504L Neuromotor Approaches in Occupational Therapy I Lab (1).** Application of theoretical knowledge to clinical problems in the occupational therapy evaluation and treatment of children with neuromotor disorders. Prerequisites: Neuroscience (ZOO 4743 or equivalent), Occupational Development Across the Lifespan I (OTH 3210). Corequisite: Neuromotor Approaches to Occupational Therapy I.

**OTH 4701 Professional Issues in Occupational Therapy (2).** Study of professional issues in OT in relation to administration such as roles, functions, licensing, certification, documentation, ADA. (S)

**OTH 4775 Evaluation and Research in Occupational Therapy II (2).** Presents research concepts and strategies. Emphasis on evaluation and research activities that can be conducted in clinical settings and are relevant to clinical practice. Prerequisites: STA 2122 and evaluation and research in OT I. (S)

**OTH 4904 Independent Study (VAR).** To be arranged with instructor according to the student's specialty. (F,S,SS)