

## **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

*Professor Jacqueline Hurt, Program Director*

### **Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Mission Statement**

In concert with the mission of University of the Charleston, the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program seeks to prepare its graduates to enter the global workforce as highly educated, productive individuals who have the knowledge and ability to embrace enlightened living through therapeutic use of self, and the technical skills and professional behaviors to be an involved member of the occupational therapy community. The OTA program seeks to maintain the highest ethical standards and to ensure dynamic curriculum development by thorough and ongoing assessment programs.

### **Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Goals**

Our goal is to prepare entry-level Occupational Therapy Assistants:

- Who are competent, compassionate, and ethical.
- Who demonstrates a knowledge level and skill set indicative of securing national certification in Occupational Therapy Assisting.
- Who understands and communicates effectively across disciplines.
- Those who value lifelong learning are dedicated professionals and socially responsible citizens.

#### **Faculty are committed to:**

- Providing a strong foundation in the skills and knowledge needed for entry-level OTA practice competencies.
- Providing an environment to assist in understanding occupational therapy and practice.
- Providing instruction in basic skills and a supportive learning environment that will encourage and motivate the student to complete the prescribed course of study and remain lifelong learners.
- Providing an atmosphere that teaches respect for human life and demonstrates how that respect can be translated into client/patient care.
- Provide an atmosphere that provides students with an environment to learn new and marketable skills.
- Focusing on continuous improvement in the Occupational Therapy Assistant curriculum, allowing students access to the best evidence in the field of Occupational Therapy

### **Program Learning Outcomes**

The graduate will:

1. Practice effective and professional communication skills with clients, families, and health care professionals to communicate the distinct value of occupation.

2. Demonstrate effective critical thinking skills to assist in developing innovative treatment ideas that are culturally sensitive, evidence-based, client-centered, and target meaningful occupations.
3. Demonstrate entry level competence by obtaining the knowledge and skills needed to be a generalist practitioner who provides services that are ethically sound, within the scope of practice of the profession, and in accordance with the accompanying state practice act.
4. Translate didactic work into application by applying previously learned materials into effective and safe treatment activities that promote client centered, occupation-based interventions.

### **Admission Requirements**

Admission to the OTA program is selective, and acceptance to the University of Charleston does not guarantee admission into the OTA program. Application is limited to those who have successfully completed the prerequisites listed below and meet specific GPA requirements of at least a 2.5.

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Beginning algebra
- English I and II
- Social Science
- Developmental Psychology

### **Additional Requirements for the OTA program Application Process**

- 2 Letters of recommendation from someone other than family members
- GPA of 2.5 or higher
- Must complete all General Education with a C or better before starting the OTA program.
- All prerequisite (general education) courses may be taken only twice. After 2 failures of the same course the student cannot be admitted to the OTA program. The student must have all prerequisite courses successfully completed and an official transcript placed in the students OTA program file before full acceptance to the OTA program.
- Students must demonstrate basic computer proficiency or will have to participate in a UC computer seminar.
- Transfer credits are subject to change with the registrar's office evaluation of your official transcripts.
- Total Program Credit Hours 63

### **Felony Conviction Information**

A student may be admitted to the OTA program at University of Charleston-Beckley even if a felony has been committed. However, there may be instances where a student will not be permitted to test for licensure or admitted to a clinical setting depending on the guidelines of the outside Accrediting /Certifying Agency or the clinical affiliate. Each

student is instructed to contact the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) for pre-verification of testing and/or questions concerning felony convictions. Telephone: (301-990-7979) [www.nbcot.org](http://www.nbcot.org)

### **Drug Testing Policy**

- Mandatory drug screenings will be performed. Students will not be notified in advance of a mandatory drug screening. The costs associated with the screening are the responsibility of the student.
- A reasonable suspicion screening will be required based on personal, physical, or performance changes. The cost of the drug screening is the responsibility of the student.
- In addition to “Mandatory Drug Testing” and “Reasonable Suspicion Drug Testing”, students are subject to the drug testing policies at any clinical site they may be assigned to and are responsible for all costs related to a clinical site’s drug testing.
- Any Occupational Therapy Assistant student who has a positive drug screen will be subject to disciplinary action and immediate dismissal from the program.
- Re-entry into the Occupational Therapy Assistant program will not be considered following a positive drug test.
- Any Occupational Therapy Assistant student who refuses to perform or to pay for a mandatory drug screen, a drug screen requested due to reasonable suspicion, or a clinical site’s drug screen will be considered in direct violation of the Occupational Therapy Assistant program drug testing policy and will be subject to disciplinary action and immediate dismissal from the program.

### **Policies for Progression and Graduation**

Eligibility for a degree in Occupational Therapy Assisting requires successful completion of didactic courses, level I, level II fieldwork rotations and Clinical Competence for the OTA.

To be eligible for graduation a student must:

- Achieve a minimum “C” in all prerequisite and OTA didactic courses
- Complete a minimum of 63 combined academic and fieldwork credits
- Complete level I and level II fieldwork rotations as assigned, with a passing grade
- Complete Clinical Competence for the OTA which includes a practice NBCOT exam.

## Occupational Therapy Assistant Curriculum

### First Year Fall

BIOL 212	Introduction to Human Anatomy & Physiology*	3
BIOL 212L	Introduction to Human Anatomy & Physiology Lab*	1
ENGL 101	Freshman Writing, I	3
PSYC 212	Lifespan Development	3
OTA 201	Introduction to Occupational Therapy**	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>

### First Year Spring

ENGL 102	Freshman Writing II	3
SSCI 105	Issues in Social Science	3
MATH 120	Intermediate Algebra	3
OTA 203	Clinical Kinesiology**	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>12</b>

### Second Year Fall

OTA 202	Principles of Performance in OT	3
OTA 204	OT in Adult Physical Performance I	4
OTA 205	Level 1 Fieldwork I	1
OTA 208	OT in Psychosocial & Lab	3
OTA 209	Modalities and Methods for Occupational Therapy & Lab	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>

### Second Year Spring

OTA 206	Level I Fieldwork II	1
OTA 207	OT in Adult Physical Performance II	4
OTA 210	Occupational Performance in Children	3
OTA 215	Occupational Performance in the Elderly	3
OTA 216	Professional Development and Ethics	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>12</b>

Second Year Summer		
OTA 211	Level II Fieldwork I	5
OTA 212	Level II Fieldwork II***	5
OTA 217	Clinical Competence for the OTA	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>

Total Program  
Credit Hours: 63

\*or 8 Credit hours of Anatomy and Physiology I and II with lab

\*\*OTA 201 and OTA 203 can be taken within the program requirement year.

\*\*\*An additional semester may be added to the program year depending on fieldwork rotation

**\*\*Course Fees are included in your tuition for OTA 209, OTA 210, OTA 211/212, and OTA 215 to offset the cost associated with AOTA Digital Badging Program, fieldwork cost, and additional materials needed for class projects.**

**\*\*\*Semester Fees are included in your tuition to offset the cost of the NBCOT exam.**

### Accreditation

Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education  
(ACOTE)

6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200

North Bethesda, MD 20852- 4929

<http://www.acoteonline.org>

[ine.org](http://www.acoteonline.org)

1-301-652-AOTA