

MAJOR

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

NICOLE SCHEIMAN, DrOT, MHS, OTR/L

PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Program is to prepare future occupational therapy professionals with a commitment to moral purpose and personal character, who embody and enable purposeful occupational engagement for all people who experience limitations in participation, promote health and well-being across the lifespan, and within diverse contexts. Students develop the knowledge, abilities and character to be life-long learners, use critical thinking and clinical reasoning to create innovative, evidence-based solutions to society's increasingly complex and ever-changing needs, and lead a life rich in productive work and community involvement.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Occupational Therapy program is a twenty four (24) month program designed to prepare qualified entry level occupational therapists. Freshman and transfer students enter an accelerated occupational therapy program completing an undergraduate degree and the Master of Science Degree in 5 years. Students must meet the outlined criteria in order to advance to the professional phase of the program. The program is structured as a hybrid curriculum combining online class instruction with hands on learning laboratories on campus. The curriculum interweaves 4 threads throughout the courses: Occupation, Clinical Reasoning, Evidence Based Practice, and Professional Identity. The Occupational Therapy Program has been granted candidacy status for the entry-level Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Program by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). The program is in the process of completing the self-study process and anticipates a pre accreditation review, an onsite visit in the fall of 2025, and accreditation being granted the spring of 2026. For information regarding accreditation, contact ACOTE at (301) 652-2682, or ACOTE, 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E Bethesda, MD 20814. The web address is www.acoteonline.org.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduates from the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program at the University of Charleston will:

1. Promote the distinct value of occupation and the importance of meaningful occupation to enhance the overall health and well-being of persons, groups, communities, and populations.
2. Analyze the constructs and contexts from the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework (OTPF) that promote and enhance engagement in meaningful occupations to identify and meet the needs of persons, groups, communities, and populations.
3. Demonstrate effective critical thinking skills to evaluate evidence, develop innovative practice ideas, use a variety of knowledge sources, and be intellectually flexible to meet the occupational demands of an ever-changing world.
4. Use clinical reasoning skills to develop and provide occupational therapy services that are appropriate, effective, culturally sensitive, theory-driven, evidence-based, client-centered, and target meaningful occupations.
5. Reflect on the outcomes of interventions and the therapy process to facilitate professional development and a zest for life-long learning.
6. Assess through standardized and non-standardized means the well-being and occupational engagement of oneself and those who may need occupational therapy services to determine unmet needs and develop a plan

for intervention or programming that addresses these needs to promote health and well-being, remediation or restoration, health maintenance, disease and injury prevention, and compensation and adaptation for individuals, families, communities, and populations.

7. Communicate effectively in both intraprofessional and interprofessional contexts to promote the profession and the distinct value of occupation in meeting the needs of those we serve.
8. Develop a strong professional identity and deep understanding of the various roles of the occupational therapy practitioner (mentor, educator, practitioner, and researcher), increased self-awareness, and increased self-efficacy through consistent self-reflection.
9. Obtain the knowledge and skills needed to be a generalist practitioner with a commitment to moral purpose and personal character who provides services and supervision that are ethically sound, within the scope of practice of the profession, and in accordance with the accompanying state practice act.
10. Demonstrate cultural humility and ethical decision making necessary to provide compassionate care to all clients, members of the care team, stakeholders, and community partners to support human occupation regardless of the beliefs, practices, backgrounds, income, identity, of those we serve.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

The Master of Occupational Therapy program awards the MSOT degree at the successful completion of the twenty four (24) months of study.

PLAN OF STUDY

Summer I

Prefix	Course Title	Credit Hour
MSOT 510	Occupational Therapy Process and Evaluation	4
MSOT 511	Foundations of Occupational Therapy	3
MSOT 512	Ethics in Occupational Therapy Practice	1
MSOT 514	Introduction to Practice Settings	1
MSOT 515	Occupation Based Kinesiology	3
MSOT 516	Introduction to Evidence-Based Practice and Research	3
		15

Fall I

Prefix	Course Title	Credit Hour
MSOT 520	Occupational Therapy Process and Evaluation – Pediatrics	5
MSOT 521	Occupational Therapy Intervention – Pediatrics	4
MSOT 522	Level I Fieldwork A – Pediatrics	1
MSOT 525	Assistive Technology in Occupational Therapy	2
MSOT 524	Activity and Occupational Analysis	2
MSOT 526	Research – Data Analysis and Dissemination	3
		17

Spring I

Prefix	Course Title	Credit Hour
MSOT 530	Occupational Therapy Process and Evaluation – Physical Disabilities	5
MSOT 531	Occupational Therapy Intervention – Physical Disabilities	5

MSOT 532	Level I Fieldwork B – Physical Disabilities	1
MSOT 535	Administration, Management, and Leadership	2
MSOT 536	Capstone	2
		15

Summer II

Prefix	Course Title	Credit Hour
MSOT 540	Occupational Therapy Process and Evaluation – Mental Health	4
MSOT 541	Occupational Therapy Intervention – Mental Health	5
MSOT 542	Level I Fieldwork C – Mental Health	1
MSOT 545	The Occupational Therapist as an Innovator	2
MSOT 544	Communities and Populations	3
		15

Fall II

Prefix	Course Title	Credit Hour
MSOT 552	Culminating Competency and Fieldwork Preparation	1
MSOT 550	Level II Fieldwork A	12
MSOT 553	Clinical Reasoning and Application in Practice Seminar I	1
		15

Spring II

Prefix	Course Title	Credit Hour
MSOT 562	Leadership and Transition to Professional Practice	1
MSOT 560	Level II Fieldwork B	12
MSOT 563	Clinical Reasoning and Application in Practice Seminar II	1
		15