



Department of Occupational Therapy

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For more information, please visit the Department's website or check your course syllabi, which are available through the course instructor or at the High Library.

Definition of Occupational Therapy Practice for the AOTA Model Practice Act

The practice of occupational therapy means the therapeutic use of occupations, including everyday life activities with individuals, groups, populations, or organizations to support participation, performance, and function in roles and situations in home, school, workplace, community, and other settings. Occupational therapy services are provided for habilitation, rehabilitation, and the promotion of health and wellness to those who have or are at risk for developing an illness, injury, disease, disorder, condition, impairment, disability, activity limitation, or participation restriction. Occupational therapy addresses the physical, cognitive, psychosocial, sensory-perceptual, and other aspects of performance in a variety of contexts and environments to support engagement in occupations that affect physical and mental health, well-being, and quality of life.

The rapidly changing and dynamic nature of contemporary health and human services delivery systems requires the occupational therapist to possess basic skills as a direct care provider, consultant, educator, manager, researcher, and advocate for the profession and the consumer (ACOTE, 2011). The student in occupational therapy undertakes a program that integrates the humanities and the behavioral and physical sciences with professional study. The primary objective is to prepare the student as a generalist practitioner who is qualified for employment in hospitals, community agencies, schools, rehabilitation centers, extended-care facilities, and related human services agencies.

Degree Program

Elizabethtown College offers a combined BS/MS Occupational Therapy program that requires five years of academic study, including one summer, and six months of clinical fieldwork. The program awards both a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences and a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy.

Mission

To equip students to become clinical scholars in occupational therapy to make a difference in the lives of people locally and globally.

Curriculum Threads

Professional development. Educating students to become highly qualified practitioners who active actively contribute to the profession through service and leadership and who value the ethos of professionalism and the ethics of lifelong learning.

Critical, innovative, and reflective thinking. Emphasizing the understanding of human occupations across cultural and social groups and as they relate to the therapeutic process and healthy well-being. Occupational Therapy courses bridge the understanding gap between occupational performance and liberal arts learning through case studies, discussion, and active learning.



Service and justice. Emphasizing the right that all individuals have to maintain a healthy balance of meaningful occupations. This involves helping others to participate in meaningful and balanced occupations and includes recognizing the need for multicultural awareness and international understanding as a prerequisite for occupational therapy practice. International and service experiences enable our students to interact effectively in culturally diverse practice settings. Service-learning and civic engagement are valued components of our program.

Integration of scholarship and practice. Educating practitioners who are able to engage in reflective practice based on clinical reasoning; who have a solid foundation of skills and knowledge; who demonstrate a thorough understanding of research and its relation to evidenced-based practice,.

Liberal education in relation to health and occupation. Emphasizing the role of the liberal arts education in developing personal character, critical thinking, ethical problem solving, communication, and the ability to think broadly and holistic about the profession of occupational therapy in the 21st century . Occupational therapy at Elizabethtown College has a proud tradition of educating students for a professional discipline in a liberal arts environment.

Honors in the Discipline

The Department of Occupational Therapy supports many opportunities for students and academic recognition. The Department participates in the College Honors in the Discipline Program. Bachelor of Science students are notified of Honors eligibility during the junior year. Students with an Occupational Therapy grade point average of 3.50 or higher also are considered candidates for the national occupational therapy honor society, Pi Theta Epsilon.

Level II Fieldwork

Fieldwork provides the student with the opportunity to apply clinical skills in occupational therapy practice settings. Fieldwork experiences occur after the completion of all didactic coursework and usually occurs in the spring and summer semesters. Elizabethtown College has established relations with more than 300 clinical sites locally and throughout the United States. The Academic Fieldwork Coordinator matches students with appropriate settings based primarily on student career goals, student learning needs, and geographical considerations. Additional expenses for living and housing often are incurred as student's complete Level II Fieldwork assignments. Individual fieldwork sites also may require students to meet health requirements (e.g., TB test, current immunizations, etc.), participate in training for Universal Precautions, and pass criminal and child safety background checks. Students must achieve a score of "Pass" from clinical supervisors in order to be eligible to attain the Master of Science degree. Students are required to complete 24 weeks of full-time fieldwork or its equivalent of Level II fieldwork within 12 months of completing graduate coursework.

Professional Accreditation

The Occupational Therapy program has maintained a fully-accredited status since 1976 by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). The organization can be contacted at ACOTE, c/o Accreditation Department, American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), Box 31220, 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449; (phone) 301-652-2682; (fax) 301-652-1417; www.acoteonline.org.

Occupational Therapy (M.S.)

Student Learning Outcomes for Occupational Therapy:



Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to effectively collaborate with others (colleagues, professional contacts, clients, faculty, etc.).
- Engage with clients in a manner that demonstrates skillful application of concepts related to client-centered care, culturally responsive care, and therapeutic use of self.
- Recognize opportunities and construct plans to influence change and enhance occupational performance for individuals, populations, and organizations.
- Engage in occupational therapy practice that integrates critical thinking, reflective practice, creativity, and ethical reasoning in the occupational therapy process.
- Design and implement evaluations and interventions that are occupation-centered and theory-based, with entry-level competence.
- Contribute to the body of evidence that supports traditional and emerging occupational therapy practice and/or the understanding of human occupation.

The **Master of Science in Occupational Therapy** requires two years or four semesters (this includes one summer semester/ session) of graduate academic study and six months of clinical Level II Fieldwork with the requirements listed below. **To begin the master's program in occupational therapy, students must have successfully completed prerequisites including earning a GPA of 2.9 by the end of their junior year and earning a minimum of a C- in all required courses.** Successful completion of the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy affords the student the opportunity to take the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) Exam and to become licensed to practice occupational therapy as an individual jurisdiction requires. **Please note: a felony conviction may affect an individual's qualification to take the NBCOT certification exam and/or obtain professional credentials.**

The Master of Science in Occupational Therapy requires:

- OT 505 Occupational Therapy Evaluation: Adult Populations
- OT 515 Occupational Therapy Evaluation: Pediatric Populations
- OT 525 Occupational Therapy History and Theory
- OT 532/F/S Occupational Therapy Intervention: Adult Populations
- OT533/F/S Occupational Therapy Intervention: Pediatric Populations
- OT 534 Scholarship I: Analysis of the Literature
- OT 550 Advanced Occupational Therapy Theory and Application
- OT 554 Scholarship II: Methods and Analysis
- OT 556 Analysis and Application: Therapeutic Relationships
- OT 558/F/S Occupational Therapy Practice in Context
- OT 560 Analysis and Application: Functional Movement
- OT 562 Management of Occupational Therapy Services
- OT 564 Scholarship III: Analysis, Application, and Discussion



Additional requirements to attain the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy degree:

Maintain a minimum OT grade point average of 3.00.

Achieve a minimum grade of C- in all graduate courses. College policies on repeating courses apply to graduate study.

Students must pass both Level II Fieldwork experiences. Only one Level II failure may be repeated. Students are required to complete 24 weeks of full-time fieldwork or its equivalent of Level II fieldwork within 12 months of completing graduate coursework.

Health Sciences (B.S.)

Student Learning Outcomes for Health Sciences:

Students will be able to:

- Analyze the factors that enable and/or hinder participation in meaningful occupations across the lifespan in multiple contexts.
- Articulate the importance of occupation and its influence on health and wellness.
- Analyze the body of evidence that relates to the understanding of health and human occupation.
- Apply knowledge of culture and global health care patterns and systems to analyze complex cases.
- Demonstrate professionalism through effective oral and written communication.
- Demonstrate professionalism through interpersonal relationships.
- Demonstrate critical self-reflection, promoting independent learning.

This degree serves as a prerequisite to the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy. Students completing only this course of study are not eligible to become registered occupational therapists, but have academic credentials that qualify them to be employed in health care and community settings.

The Health Sciences major requires:

Off-campus experiential learning includes service-learning.

- OT 105 Introduction to Health and Wellness
- OT 110 Occupations across the Lifespan
- OT 205 Evidence-based Practice Foundations
- OT 210 Global Health Care Systems
- OT 305 Conditions and the Implications for Occupational Performance
- OT 310 Occupations and Activity Analysis
- BIO 111 - Molecules, Cells, and Animal Systems
- BIO 201 - Human Anatomy and Physiology I



- BIO 202 - Human Anatomy and Physiology II
- MA 251 - MA Probability and Statistics
- PSY 105 - SSC General Psychology
- PSY 111 - NPS Introduction to Neuroscience

Additional requirements for the Bachelor of Health Sciences:

All OT students must take Anatomy and Physiology (BIO 201 and BIO 202) at Elizabethtown College.

OT students must achieve a grade of C- or higher in all required courses, including all courses with an OT prefix; MA 251; PSY 105 and PSY 111; and BIO 111, BIO 201 and BIO 202. Students not progressing to the Master's program need to complete 20 credits of elective coursework approved by the department. Students may repeat courses in accordance with College policies. Students choosing to repeat a course required for the major are strongly encouraged to discuss repeat options with their academic advisors.

Students must achieve an overall cumulative grade point average of 2.00 to earn a Bachelor of Health Science.

Requirements for admission into the Graduate Program:

OT students must achieve a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.9 by the end of the junior year.

Students also must complete an essay to capstone their professional development in conjunction with their academic advisor. The purpose of this essay is to identify professional growth goals for entry-level practice as described by May, et al. (1995). No student will be excluded from the graduate program based on the essay. If the composition does not meet the required expectations, repeated drafts guided by the academic advisor may be necessary. Essays are due to the Department Chair by May 1.

American Sign Language Courses

ASL 105 - PLO American Sign Language

4.00 credits. (**Power of Language Core Course**) An introduction to American Sign Language (ASL). The course will examine the fundamentals of the sign lexicon emphasizing grammatical features of comprehension and expression. Students will build conversational skills through dialogues about the everyday life experiences that make up meaningful participation human occupations. Through the Community-Based Learning experience, students will engage in contextual learning through interactive social participation with individuals in the Deaf Community.

Signature Learning Experience: Community-Based Learning.

Occupational Therapy Courses

OT 105- Introduction to Health and Wellness

(4 credits). The course introduces students to foundational concepts of health and wellness from a broad variety of perspectives. Students will learn how factors such as culture, environments, and social relations influence health at personal and societal levels. The relationship between health and ability to participate in daily life will be explored.

OT 110 Occupations across the Lifespan

(4 Credits). This course will examine occupational performance from birth through adult aging. An emphasis will be placed on the interaction of the person factors within different environments and context to support both meaningful occupation and role competence. Active learning labs and community based learning will support student learning outcomes.

Signature Learning Experience: Community-Based Learning.



OT 205 Evidence-based Practice Foundations

(4 Credits). This is the first in a series of courses designed to promote the active use and application of scholarship in health care practice. Three modules include: evidence and the health care, tests & measurements, and evidence in health care practice. Skills, knowledge and critical thinking introduced in this course will be integrated with later occupational therapy practice courses.

OT 210 Global Health Care Systems

(4 credits). In this course students will describe, analyze, and critique health care systems globally. The impact of culture and policy on the delivery of health services will be explored. Students will also analyze the ethical and justice issues related to global health care delivery and utilization.

OT 305 Conditions and the Implications for Occupational Performance

(4 credits). Within this course, students will become familiar with common diagnoses and conditions that impact occupations. An emphasis will be placed on understanding the incidence, epidemiology, etiology, diagnosis, symptomatology, prognosis, and functional implications of conditions.

OT 310 Occupations and Activity Analysis

(4 Credits). This course addresses the analysis of how individuals and groups engage in meaningful occupations and activities in various contexts to support their health and well-being. Students consider how client factors, performance skills, performance patterns, activity demands, and context(s) and environments interact to support successful engagement in occupation. Students develop skills in analysis, and in grading and adapting the environment, tools, materials, occupations, and interventions to address client needs, the sociocultural context, and technological advances.

OT 370-378 - Special Topics in Health and Occupation

2.00 credits. A series of courses with topics not otherwise covered in the curriculum. Offered when student interest and faculty availability justify. **Prerequisite(s):* Permission of the instructor. This course is repeatable for credit.

OT415 Health, Wellness, and Healing: Application to Well-being

(4 credits). This course is designed to increase student knowledge of health, wellness, and healing as it applies to well-being. The course will broaden the range of student knowledge of traditional, non-traditional, complimentary, alternative, integrative, and functional medicine, and emerging trends in individual and community-based practice areas.

Elective Course approved by the department

OT 475 - Health Internship

0.00 credit. Alternative internship experience in a health setting that is approved by the Department of Occupational Therapy. This experience allows students to apply skills and knowledge gained through academic work in a related service agency, health care facility, or community setting. **Prerequisite(s): Senior Status.*

Signature Learning Experience: Internship. Graded Pass/No Pass. Register by Instructor. This course is repeatable for credit.

OT 480-489 - Independent Study in Health and Wellness

Variable credit. The purpose of this course is to offer advanced students opportunity to study specialized areas not otherwise included in the curriculum. **Prerequisite(s):* Approval of the Department Chair and Independent Study Committee. Register by Instructor. This course is repeatable for credit.

OT 492 - Undergraduate Scholarship Practicum I

Variable (2.00 or 4.00) credits. An original scholarship project planned, implemented and written by students with substantive supervision and consultation with faculty. Any occupational therapy student may petition to take this course. All students who qualify for the Honors in the Discipline will be extended an invitation to use this course for scholarship endeavors. Students must obtain permission of the professor who they wish to serve as their scholarship mentor prior to enrollment and must submit for IRB approval. Scholarship used as Honors in the Discipline must have a minimum of four credits, maximum of four credits for any student across OT 492 and/or OT 494. This is not an occupational therapy curricular required course. Graded Pass/No Pass. Register by Instructor. Fall semester.



Signature Learning Experience: Supervised Research

OT 494 - Undergraduate Scholarship Practicum II

Variable (2.00 or 4.00) credits. An original scholarship project planned, implemented and written by students with substantive supervision and consultation with faculty. Any Occupational Therapy student may petition to take this course. All students who qualify for the Honors in the Discipline will be extended an invitation to use this course for scholarship endeavors. Students must obtain permission of the professor whom they wish to serve as their scholarship mentor prior to enrollment and must submit for IRB approval. Scholarship used as Honors in the discipline must have a minimum of four credits, maximum of four credits for any student across OT 492 and/or 494. This is not an Occupational Therapy curricular required course. Graded Pass/No Pass. Register by Instructor. Spring semester.

Signature Learning Experience: Supervised Research.

OT 505 Occupational Therapy Evaluation: Adult Populations

(4 credits). Through this course, students will gain knowledge, and develop clinical reasoning skills and professional attributes to complete occupational therapy assessment with adult populations.

OT 515 Occupational Therapy Evaluation: Pediatric Populations

(4 Credits). Through this course, students will gain knowledge, and develop clinical reasoning skills and professional attributes to complete occupational therapy assessment with pediatric populations.

OT 525 Occupational Therapy History and Theory

4 credits). Students learn about the historical, philosophical and ethical development of occupational therapy. Students will perform a complex analysis of major occupation based theories and models. Application of models and theories across populations and settings will be explored.

OT 532 Occupational Therapy Intervention: Adult Populations

(4 Credits). Through this course, students will gain knowledge and develop clinical reasoning skills and professional attributes to complete occupational therapy intervention with adult populations. * Co-requisite(s): OT 532F and OT 532S

Signature Learning Experience: Fieldwork Education

OT533 Occupational Therapy Intervention: Pediatric Populations

(4 Credits). Through this course, students will gain knowledge and develop clinical reasoning skills and professional attributes to complete occupational therapy intervention with pediatric populations. *Co-requisite(s): OT 533F and OT 533 S.

Signature Learning Experience: Fieldwork Education

OT 534 Scholarship I: Analysis of the Literature

(4 Credits). This is the second in a series of courses designed to promote the active use and application of scholarship in occupational therapy practice. The primary focus of this course is to analyze the literature related to a particular topic and formulate scholarship questions.

OT 550 Advanced Occupational Therapy Theory and Application

(4 Credits). Students will learn how to apply theory to practice in this seminar course. A key element of this course will be combining theories to maximize therapeutic outcomes. Students will have the opportunity to explore and build upon existing theories, as well as create their own.

OT 554 Scholarship II: Methods and Analysis

(4 Credits). This is the third in a series of courses designed to promote the active use and application of scholarship in occupational therapy practice. The course is designed to provide students with knowledge of research methods and program analysis.

OT 556 Analysis and Application: Therapeutic Relationships

(4 Credits). The course provides opportunities for students to further investigate and practice skills related to the therapeutic relationship and process including providing training and education to clients and families, applying



therapeutic use of self in individual and group intervention, directing and modifying intervention, and providing supervision to occupational therapy assistants.

OT 558 Occupational Therapy Practice in Context

(4 Credits). Through this course, students will develop and integrate clinical reasoning skills and professional attributes when engaging in and completing the occupational therapy process throughout diverse contexts (person, place, time) and within applicable theories and frames of reference. The emphasis of the course will be on completing the entire process, including assessment, goal planning, intervention, adaptation and revision of goals, discharge planning, referral recommendations and terminating care while attending to multiple contexts of practice.

*Co-requisite(s) OT 558F and OT558S

OT 560 Analysis and Application: Functional Movement

(4 Credits). The course provides opportunities for students to further investigate and practice skills related to the understanding, analysis, and application of functional movement within the therapeutic process including safe patient handling and transfer training, fabrication of orthotics and assistive technologies, the use of physical agent modalities, and the application of environmental adaptations.

OT 562 Management of Occupational Therapy Services

(4 credits). This course provides an introduction to various principles of management for occupational therapists. The course presents opportunities to learn about strategic planning, management of therapeutic programs, budgeting, and program evaluation. Students will also learn and apply management theories and leadership principles to employee development and supervision within occupational therapy and/or interdisciplinary teams. Additional topics to be covered include performance improvement, consultation, entrepreneurship, marketing, and organizational change.

OT 564 Scholarship III: Analysis, Application, and Discussion

(4 Credits). This is the fourth in a series of courses designed to promote the active use and application of scholarship in occupational therapy practice. The course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to analyze data and provide a synopsis and critique of the data.

OT 580 - Master's Level Independent Study

Variable credit. Independent Study option for students in the Occupational Therapy Master's program. Register by Instructor. This course is repeatable for credit.

OT 590 - Graduate Project Practicum

00 credit. This is a non-credit bearing course designed to support the graduate student projects mentored by OT faculty and companion the graduate research sequence courses. The course provides a structure for a faculty-mentored graduate project that is inspired, planned, implemented, and then prepared for publication/ presentation. Specific projects will include: general overview of the problem, review of the literature, problem statement, methodological design that supports research questions, aggregation and summary of data, comparison of research with other studies, and a critical analysis of the research conducted. Students will have a variety of research topics from which to choose based on faculty area of clinical expertise and scholarly endeavors. *Prerequisite(s): B.S. in Health and Occupation * Co-requisite(s): OT 534 Scholarship I: Analysis of the Literature; and either OT 554 Scholarship 2: Methods and Analysis or OT 564 Scholarship 3: Analysis, Application, and Discussion. Graded Pass / No Pass. Register by Instructor. This course is repeatable for credit.

OT 593 Fieldwork II

Twelve weeks of Level II Fieldwork experience. 6.0 credits for full-time (i.e., 12 weeks) fieldwork (part-time fieldwork approved by the Department may be registered for 2.0 or 4.0 credits). Further information on Level II Fieldwork can be found in the Department Student Manual and the Level II Fieldwork Student Manual.

*Prerequisite(s): B.S. in Health and Occupation and completed coursework in occupational therapy. Graded Pass/No Pass. Register by Instructor. Spring, Summer, or Fall semester. 6.00 credits

This course is repeatable for credit.

OT 594 - Graduate Internship



Variable (2.00 to 4.00) credits. A supplemental fieldwork experience that is intended to provide opportunities for clinical development to cover the breadth of field experiences that the student should have for entry-level positions. This fieldwork is intended to be more intensive than a Level I fieldwork but not as comprehensive as Level II. A minimum time would be two weeks, but it is likely that the sites serving more involved clients will require a minimum of three weeks of full-time fieldwork to reach the target competency level. **Prerequisite(s)*: B.S. in Health Sciences. Register by Instructor. Offered as needed. This course is repeatable for credit provided it occurs in a different setting.

OT 595 - Level II Fieldwork: Specialty

Variable (2.00 to 6.00) credits. Variable length of Level II Fieldwork experience in area of student's interest. Arranged on an availability basis. **Prerequisite(s)*: B.S. in Health Science and completion of all graduate didactic coursework. Graded Pass/No Pass. Register by Instructor.