REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEGREE

The Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science offers an entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) degree. The entry-level Occupational Therapy Doctorate Degree is designed to prepare students to become Occupational Therapy practitioners. Graduates will learn how to help people attain their desired level of participation in life regardless of age, race, ethnicity, culture, or socioeconomic background. They will learn Occupational Therapy practice across the lifespan and across practice settings. They will become scholarly and innovative thinkers, and will articulate clearly through written and verbal communication the value of the profession. Following successful completion of all didactic coursework, fieldwork, and the capstone project and experience, students will be eligible to sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). A felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Students enter the entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy program with a bachelor’s degree. The program is an 8-semester, 98-credit program that consists of traditional, didactic teaching, experiential learning, fieldwork, and a scholarship capstone project and experience. Students must satisfactorily complete every aspect of the program. Students must also complete and maintain College of Nursing and Health Sciences mandatories including but not limited to: Immunizations, CPR, HIPPA/OSHA training, criminal background checks, etc.

FIELDWORK

Fieldwork in the OTD program is where students are given the opportunity to practice learned skills in real-world settings. In the OTD program, students participate in 2 Level II fieldwork experiences, 12-weeks each for a total of 24 weeks. During these Level II fieldwork experiences, students work under the supervision of a licensed occupational therapist. Students must successfully pass the 2 12-week Level II fieldwork experiences as part of the entry-level OTD program.

CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE AND PROJECT

Students are expected to complete a capstone project. The capstone project is an individual, scholarly project that enhances the student’s knowledge in an interest area. As part of the capstone project, the student designs and executes a 14-week capstone experience and identifies a capstone mentor to work with during this process. Students must successfully complete and disseminate the entire capstone experience and project as part of the entry-level OTD program.