



NOTRE DAME
OF MARYLAND
UNIVERSITY

1895

The World Needs **THE BEST YOU**

NDMU healthcare programs share a common focus on compassionate care of patients and consideration for the whole person. We believe these are essential to becoming an effective leader in health care.

- ▶ Faculty are OT Practitioners
- ▶ Small Class Sizes & Personal Attention
- ▶ Fieldwork Experiences
- ▶ Research, Leadership & Networking Opportunities
- ▶ Emphasis on Social Justice

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Credits: 99

Commitment: Full Time

Format: On Campus

Length: 3 years

Tuition & Fees: \$35,000

(Academic Year 2021–22)

CONTACT INFORMATION

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

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 **ndm.edu**

Entry-Level Doctorate ▶ **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**



PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) program is an entry-level pathway for those with a non-occupational therapy bachelor's degree to pursue a career in this in-demand field. Through rigorous coursework developing the knowledge base in the science of occupation and hands-on learning experiences in the field, you will be prepared to meet the knowledge and clinical skill requirements to become an occupational therapist.

In our OTD program, your instructors will take you beyond the textbook. We emphasize client based therapeutic interventions, professional and clinical reasoning, and therapeutic use of self to meet clients where they are and empower them to meet their goals through evidence influenced practice.

Accreditation

The entry-level occupational therapy doctoral degree program has applied for accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its web address is acoteonline.org.

The program must be granted Candidacy Status, have a preaccreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible 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). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

Students must complete 24 weeks of Level II fieldwork as well as an individual 14-week capstone experience within 12 months following the completion of the didactic portion of the program. The doctoral capstone experience must be started after completion of all coursework and Level II fieldwork as well as completion of preparatory activities defined in 2018 ACOTE OTD Standard D.1.3.



REQUIRED COURSES

- OTD-500 Foundations & Theories of Occupational Therapy (3)
- OTD-500L Foundations Lab (1)
- OTD-501 Anatomy and Biomechanics (3)
- OTD-502 Development Across the Lifespan (3)
- OTD-503 Research Methods and Application I (3)
- OTD-504 Social Responsibility & Occupational Justice (3)
- OTD-505 Neuroanatomy (3)
- OTD-506 Pathophysiology in Occupational Therapy I (3)
- OTD-506L Pathophysiology Lab I Assessments and Treatment Planning (2)
- OTD-507 Activity Analysis and Clinical Reasoning (3)
- OTD-508 Level IA Fieldwork: Physical Dysfunction (1)
- OTD-509 Mental Health (3)
- OTD-509L Mental Health Assessments and Treatment Planning (2)
- OTD-512 Level IB Fieldwork: Mental Health (1)
- OTD-513 Pediatrics (3)
- OTD-513L Pediatrics Lab Assessments & Treatment (2)
- OTD-510 Research Methods and Application II (3)
- OTD-511 Pathophysiology in Occupational Therapy II (3)
- OTD-511L Pathophysiology Lab II (2)
- OTD-514 Level IC Fieldwork: Pediatrics (1)
- OTD-525 Leadership and Management (3)
- OTD-521 Policy and Ethics (3)
- OTD-522 Research Methods and Application III (3)
- OTD-523 Aging (3)
- OTD-524 Education, Wellness, Community and Emerging Trends (3)
- OTD-527 Level 1D Fieldwork Education, Wellness, Community and Emerging Trends (1)

- OTD-520 Modalities, Ortho & Splinting (3)
- OTD-526 Assistive Technology (3)
- OTD-528 Professional Seminar 1 (3)
- OTD-529 Professional Seminar 2 (1)
- OTD-540 Level II Fieldwork (6)
- OTD-600 Capstone Planning (2)
- OTD-530 Professional Seminar 3 (1)
- OTD-550 Level II Fieldwork (6)
- OTD-531 Professional Seminar 4 (1)
- OTD-610 Capstone Project (3)
- OTD-620 Capstone Experience (6)

FIELDWORK

Opportunities for clinical experiences are built into the curriculum to provide gradually increased levels of responsibility and experience in occupational therapy settings under the guidance and supervision of a qualified occupational therapist.

CAPSTONE

The capstone is the culmination of your OTD studies and is comprised of three courses:

- Capstone Planning
- Capstone Project
- Capstone Experience

Planning for the doctoral capstone requires collaboration with faculty and a mentor to prepare for the experience. You will develop in-depth skills in areas such as practice, research, administration, leadership, program and policy development, advocacy, education, and theory development.



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Entry-Level Doctorate **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission into the OTD program at NDMU is competitive. Requirements for consideration include:

- ▶ Bachelor's degree with minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA (4.0 scale)
- ▶ Completion of prerequisite courses
- ▶ 3 letters of recommendation
- ▶ 35 Human service observation hours
- ▶ Personal statement
- ▶ Resume
- ▶ Interview

Letters of Recommendations

Provide three letters of recommendation, from individuals who have taught the applicant in an academic setting. Letters of recommendation should address academic, professional and personal attributes, and potential for successful graduate education.

Human Service Observation

Applicants are required to complete thirty-five (35) hours of observation in a practice area and settings as listed on the AOTA Website. Three practice area and settings are required, one with 15 hours and two with 10 hours each.

Fifteen (15) hours are required in the practice area that you intend to pursue after graduation and must be done under the direction of an Occupational therapist.

One additional observation must be done with an OTR.

The third observation may come from work experience where you worked with populations with a disability, including geriatrics, pediatrics, day camps, mental/behavioral health, etc., for example.

NOTE: All hours must be completed prior to admission into the program.

Prerequisites

Completion of the following prerequisite courses within the past 5 years with a minimum grade of B (3.0 based on 4.0) is required for admission into the OTD program. Transcripts of bachelor's degree and completed prerequisite courses must be submitted. Courses may be taken online or in person from an accredited institution.

Required Courses & Credits

- ▶ Human Anatomy & Physiology I Course and Lab (4)
- ▶ Human Anatomy & Physiology II Course and Lab (4)
- ▶ College Writing (3)
- ▶ Basic Statistics (3)
- ▶ Introductory Psychology (4)
- ▶ Psychopathology OR Abnormal Psychology (3)
- ▶ Human Growth & Development or Developmental Psychology Across Life Span (3)
- ▶ Introductory Sociology (3)
- ▶ Medical Terminology (3)
- ▶ Introductory Physics and Lab (4)

Total Credits: 34

NOTE: Advanced Placement (AP) credits are not accepted as fulfillment of prerequisite courses. Course credits from other occupational therapy programs are not accepted.

Personal Statement

A personal statement should cover your interest in occupational therapy with emphasis on the practice area that you intend to pursue after graduation, insights gained from the observations, your strengths, professional skills, personal attributes, and how these experiences have helped to shape your desire to become an occupational therapist. Required length is a minimum of 500 words to a maximum of 750 words.