ABOUT THE PROFESSION

Occupational therapy is a health care profession that focuses on helping people of all ages regain, develop, or master everyday skills in order to live independent, productive, and satisfying lives.

Occupational therapists work in a variety of practice areas including: physical disabilities, mental health, pediatrics, academics and research. Within these practice areas occupational therapist have the opportunity to work in a multitude of settings including:

- Hospitals
- Acute care
- Inpatient rehab
- Outpatient rehab
- Specialty units (e.g. spinal cord injury)
- Psychiatric Units
- Pediatrics
- Nursing homes
- Home Health
- Work Rehabilitation
- Community Health
- Schools
- Private Clinics
- Private Practice
- Universities

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The professional Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) at FIU prepares entry-level occupational therapists. This intensive hands-on program equips students with the tools, knowledge, and skills to promote health, wellness, and functional independence throughout the life span. Graduates of the MSOT are eligible for certification by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).

Why FIU?

- More than 90% of our graduates are employed within 6 months after graduation.
- Our faculty are doctorally prepared and are known nationally and internationally for their education scholarship and research.
- We offer low, affordable tuition compared to private universities.
- Students receive individualized faculty advisement.
- Since 2007, $800,000 has been disbursed in scholarships by the OT Department.
- Diversity in our student body uniquely positions our graduates to better serve multi-cultural communities both locally and globally.
- We offer a wide availability of clinical sites for fieldwork including emerging practice areas such as low vision and community mental health.
- There are opportunities to become involved in research with nationally renowned faculty members.
- Opportunity to study in Miami’s first and only four-year public research university that is worlds ahead in its service to the community.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Employment of occupational therapists is expected to increase 33 percent between 2010 and 2020 according to the U.S. Department of Labor.
- The median annual salary of occupational therapists was $75,400 in 2012; 10% of OTs earned more than $108,200.
- FIU graduates are employed across Miami and the nation in the areas of mental health, productive aging, children and youth, health and wellness, work and industry, rehabilitation, disability and participation.

Florida International University is an Equal Opportunity/Access Employer and Institution. The NWCNHS is proud to support diversity among students, faculty and staff.
**DEPARTMENT INFORMATION:**
Occupational Therapy (OT) is one of eight disciplines of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS) at Florida International University. The mission of the FIU OT Department is to establish excellence in occupational therapy education, research and scholarly activities, to actively engage in community partnerships, and to prepare culturally competent entry-level practitioners who provide evidence-based OT services to the community.

**ACREDITATION:**
The Occupational Therapy Professional Master’s Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) at www.acoteonline.org; located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE’s telephone number is 301-652-AOTA.

**PROGRAM INFORMATION:**
The MSOT program is a 2.5 year, (7 semesters/80 credits) program for students with a bachelor degree who are returning to school to complete OT prerequisites. The 29 credits of undergraduate coursework are offered as part of the Occupational Therapy Prerequisite Certificate Program. For applications, please visit [https://portal.otcas.org](https://portal.otcas.org) to create your OTCAS account.

**APPLICATION PROCESS:**
Florida International University uses the Occupational Therapy Centralized Application Service (OTCAS). Please visit [https://portal.otcas.org](https://portal.otcas.org) or to receive your OTCAS account.

**Where to send your application:** OTCAS must receive the application, references, and transcripts by 1st Friday in February each year for admission in the fall. Once your application is complete, OTCAS will verify your documents before releasing them to Florida International University.

**Please note:**
- Florida International University cannot access unverified applications. Applicants should confirm their status as verified with OTCAS.
- For any questions about the receipt, processing, and verification of your application, please contact OTCAS Customer Service at 617-612-2860. OTCASinfo@otcas.org.
- GRE scores must be sent to Florida International University Graduate School- school code: 5206.
- All official transcripts should be sent directly to OTCAS and if admitted to the University Graduate School.
- Letters of recommendation are submitted electronically through the OTCAS system.

**ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS:**
- **BS or BA degree in ANY FIELD** from a regionally accredited college or university.
- A GPA of 3.0 in the last 60 hours of upper division undergraduate coursework.
- Required cumulative 3.0 GPA for all prerequisite courses.
- **Prerequisite courses must be taken within 5 years of application.**
- Complete the following prerequisite courses prior to the start of the fall admission term with a minimum grade of "C":
  - Biology with Lab
  - Statistics
  - Human Growth & Development
  - Abnormal Psychology
  - Medical Terminology
- A grade of "B" or above must be earned in the following 4 courses: **3 of these 4 courses must be completed prior to the OT Department Application submission deadline.**
  - Anatomy and Anatomy Lab (3000 level or higher)
  - Pathology
  - Neuroscience (3000 level or higher)
  - Medical Terminology

**All applicants must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). GRE scores must be received by the FIU graduate school by application deadline.**

**Prerequisite Certificate for Occupational Therapy:**
For students with a bachelor degree who are returning to school to complete OT prerequisites, the 29 credits of undergraduate coursework is offered as part of the Occupational Therapy Prerequisite Certificate Program. To apply for the Occupational Therapy Prerequisite Certificate program please go to: [http://onestop.fiu.edu/additional-information/certificate-applicants/index.html](http://onestop.fiu.edu/additional-information/certificate-applicants/index.html).

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<tr>
<th>Florida International University</th>
<th>Miami Dade College</th>
<th>Broward College</th>
<th>Palm Beach State College</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BSC 2010/L OR BSC 2023/L</strong></td>
<td><strong>BSC 2085/L AND 2086/L</strong></td>
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<td>General Biology I OR Human Biology, with lab AND 3 credits (HSC 3545) OR Clinical Physiology for Health Professionals (recommended) OR PCB 2099 Foundations of Human Physiology</td>
<td><strong>GRADE OF B OR BETTER IS REQUIRED</strong></td>
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<td><strong>STA2122 OR STA 3145</strong></td>
<td><strong>STA 2023 Statistical Methods</strong></td>
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<td>Introduction to Statistics OR Statistics for Health Professions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CLP 4146 Abnormal Psychology</strong></td>
<td><strong>CLP 2140 Abnormal Psychology</strong></td>
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<td><strong>HSC 1531 Medical Terminology</strong></td>
<td><strong>HSC 2531 Medical Terminology</strong></td>
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<td><strong>OTH 4418 Neuroscience</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ZOO 3731/3731L</strong></td>
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<td>Anatomy for the Exercise &amp; Sports Sciences</td>
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<td><strong>HSC 4553 Fundamentals of Pathology</strong></td>
<td>Offered at FIU $</td>
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1. Anatomy & Physiology I & II with lab will meet biology and physiology requirements
2. HSC3545 course prerequisites: (BSC2010 or BSC203)
3. ZOO3731 course prerequisites: (BSC2010 or PCB2099 or BSC2023 or PCB2000 or HSC3549) Corequisite: ZOO3731L
4. HSC4553 course Prerequisites: (PCB2099 or HSC3549 or PCB3702)
5. Courses taken at other institutions need to be approved by OT department

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  - AND
  - 3 credits (HSC 3545) OR Clinical Physiology for Health Professionals (recommended)
  - OR
  - PCB 2099 Foundations of Human Physiology

- **GRADE OF B OR BETTER IS REQUIRED**

**STA2122 OR STA 3145**
- Introduction to Statistics OR Statistics for Health Professions

**DEP 2000 Human Growth & Development**

**CLP 4146 Abnormal Psychology**

**HSC 3537 Medical Terminology**

**OTH 4418 Neuroscience**
- **GRADE OF B OR BETTER IS REQUIRED**

**ZOO 3731/3731L**
- Human Anatomy with lab OR JET 3225C/L

**GRADE OF B OR BETTER IS REQUIRED**

**HSC 4553 Fundamentals of Pathology**
- **GRADE OF B OR BETTER IS REQUIRED**