Human Occupation/Occupational Therapy B.S./M.S.

Overview
The educational experience is a five-year entry-level master’s program with direct admission at the freshman level. Both the bachelor of science and master of science degrees are conferred at the end of the fifth year. In addition, each student is required to fulfill the requirements for a structured minor offered in the college.

Throughout the curriculum, studies of the arts and sciences are combined with professional studies of occupational therapy. This combination is essential to promote the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for occupational therapy practice.

Courses numbered at the 400-level and higher represent a combination of professional (undergraduate) and advanced (graduate) course material. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking and theoretical analysis of various assessments and intervention techniques throughout these courses.

Clinical and community visits are arranged in several courses. Three Level I Fieldwork courses expose students to the diverse needs and/or diagnoses of people and populations. These experiences prepare students for Level II Fieldwork internships in the graduate year.

The Level II Fieldwork experience includes two three-month placements in clinics/sites. Students are assigned to sites located throughout the United States and are responsible for all travel and living arrangements while on clinical placements. Placements are based on availability, student preference, interests and formal agreement with the site.

The occupational therapy (OT) program has been fully approved and registered by the New York State Education Department. It is designed to meet or exceed the 2011 standards for an Accredited Educational Program for Occupational Therapists and to prepare graduates to succeed in diverse and emerging areas of practice. The program has been accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is 301-652-AOTA and its web address is www.acoteonline.org.

Once all requirements are completed, graduates are eligible to sit for the National Certification Examination for Occupational Therapists, administered by the National Board for the Certification of Occupational Therapists (NBCOT). A felony conviction may affect a student’s ability to sit for the NBCOT certification exam. After successful completion of this exam, the individual is an occupational therapist, registered (OTR). Most states, including New York, require licensure in order to practice. State licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT certification exam, as well as the completion of at least six months of supervised fieldwork and graduation from an accredited occupational therapy program. The student is required to apply for licensure in the state(s) in which s/he will practice.

Course Requirements

Occupational Therapy
Degree: B.S./M.S.

Course Requirements for the Major.

OT Content:

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<th>Course Title</th>
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<td>OT 109</td>
<td>Medical &amp; Social Conditions I.</td>
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<td>OT 217</td>
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<td>OT 313</td>
<td>Psychosocial Level I Fieldwork.</td>
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<td>OT 319</td>
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<td>Neuroscience for Rehabilitation.</td>
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<td>OT 321</td>
<td>Fieldwork Seminar I.</td>
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<td>OT 323</td>
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<td>Adult &amp; Geriatric Level I Fieldwork</td>
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<td>OT 425</td>
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<td>OT 427</td>
<td>OT Methods of Evaluation &amp; Documentation I.</td>
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OT 429  Child & Adolescent Intervention.................................4
OT 432  Fieldwork Seminar II................................................0
OT 433  OT Methods of Evaluation & Documentation II........2
OT 434  Adult and Geriatric Intervention...............................4
OT 635  OT Process & Theoretical Foundation III.................2
OT 640  OT Clinical Fieldwork I...........................................4
OT 641  OT Clinical Fieldwork II.........................................4
OT 644  Management of OT Services I.................................1
OT 645  Management of OT Services II...............................2
OT 689  Professional Issues.............................................2
OT 690  Community Practice.............................................2-3

Total Credits: 64-65

Research Components:

OT 524  Research Seminar..................................................3
OT 602  Research Methods in Occupational Therapy...............3
*OT 630  Continued Research Advisement.............................1
OT 693  Research Advisement-Project.................................3

*As needed

Total Credits: 9-10

In other academic areas required for the major:

PSY 101  General Psychology...............................................3
BIO 107  Human Anatomy & Physiology I..............................3
BIO 107L Human Anatomy & Physiology Laboratory...............1
BIO 108  Human Anatomy & Physiology II............................3
BIO 108L Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab.....................1
MAT 123  Introduction to Applied Statistics........................4
PSY 206  Abnormal Psychology..........................................3
MINOR  Four - five Electives determined by host department.....12-15
CORE   Remaining core curriculum courses............................45

Total Credits: 75-78

Optional

OT 605  Clinical Fieldwork III............................................0

Total Credits: 0

Total: 148-150

Subject to changes based on regulations by New York State of Education Departments and/or American Occupational Therapy Association requirements.

Academic Regulations

Academic regulations for occupational therapy are in addition to general college policies for all part-time and full-time students. Full-time and part-time students must meet all academic regulations listed below.

1. Occupational Therapy Department Good Academic Standing
   a. To be in good standing while enrolled in graduate courses (100-400 level) a student must:
      1. Maintain a minimum semester and cumulative average of at least 2.5.
      2. Obtain a minimum grade of “C” in all 100- to 300- level OT courses required in the major and for all other undergraduate course requirements for the major.
      3. Obtain a minimum grade of “B” in all credit-bearing 400-level OT courses. Students receiving a “B-”, “C +” or a “C” in these courses will be placed on academic probation.
      4. A grade of “C-” or lower in any course required for the major is not applicable to the occupational therapy degree.
   b. To be in good standing while enrolled in graduate courses (500- & 600-level), a student must:
      1. Maintain semester and cumulative averages of at least 3.0
      2. Obtain a minimum grade of “B” in all graduate-level work.
c. To be in good standing in OT courses that are graded as Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (OT 313, OT 321, OT 323, OT 330, OT 432, OT 640, OT 641, OT 693), students must achieve a grade of Satisfactory. An Unsatisfactory grade in any of these courses constitutes a failure to meet academic regulations and will require the student to repeat the course.

2. Occupational Therapy Department Academic Probation
   a. Students, whether full time or part time, who are not in good standing in the department are placed on OT department academic probation where they will remain until they meet the conditions of academic good standing for two full-time semesters. The conditions of OT department academic probation must be met in each successive (full- or part-time) semester, but probationary status is not removed until conditions are fulfilled during two full-time semesters.
   b. Conditions of Occupational Therapy Department Academic Probation
      1. While on probation, failure to meet the following conditions will result in dismissal from the program. A student on probation must:
         a. For all 100- and 300-level courses over the next two full-time semesters:
            1. Receive no less than a "C" in all courses;
            2. Achieve a semester and cumulative average of at least 2.5
         b. For all 400- to 600-level courses over the next two full-time semesters:
            1. Receive no less than a "B" in all courses;
            2. Achieve semester and cumulative averages of at least 3.0
         c. For the S/U graded OT courses listed in 1.c of the occupational therapy department academic regulations section, over the next two full-time semesters, receive grades of S.

3. Grades Below B Policy Pertaining to Degree Conferral
   a. This policy applies to all 500- and 600-level OT courses. No more than a total of six credits or two courses (whichever better advances academic progress) with grades lower than B (B-, C+, C) are applicable to the OT degree. A grade of C- or lower is not applicable to the OT degree.

4. Dismissal From the Occupational Therapy Program
   a. A student that is on OT department academic probation and does not meet the conditions of OT department academic probation will be dismissed from the OT department but not necessarily dismissed from the college. The dismissed student is encouraged to contact the director of retention services and the OT academic advisor.
   b. A student dismissed from the OT department has the option to appeal the dismissal. In order to appeal, the student must follow the School of Health Professions' appeals process as indicated below under "Appeals."

5. Requirements for Level II Fieldwork
   a. Students must have the permission of the instructor before registering for Level II fieldwork courses (OT 640, OT 641). In order to obtain permission, students must demonstrate the ability to meet academic and professional standards of the program and participate in faculty-led professional development interviews in the first and second years of study.
   b. Receipt of a U grade in either OT 313, OT 321, OT 323, OT 330, OT 432 may alter the student's choices or plans for Level II Fieldwork.
   c. Students who receive a U in a Level II fieldwork course or who voluntarily withdraw from the course must receive approval from the faculty in the OT major before repeating the course. Students will not be allowed to repeat more than one Level II fieldwork course.

Policy for Completion of Occupational Therapy Program in Timely Manner

Full-time and part-time students in the OT programs must complete all academic requirements within three (3) semesters or one 12-month calendar-year following successful completion of both Clinical Fieldwork I and II (OT 640 and OT 641). This includes the semester following clinical fieldwork Level II when students return to campus to complete Professional Issues, Community Practice and the research project course, and two (2) additional semesters. In addition to other academic requirements, Clinical Level II Fieldwork must be successfully completed within a 12-month period of completion of all other coursework or repetition of academic courses may be required.

A student who does not complete Clinical Fieldwork Level II within the required 12-month period may need to repeat one or more of the following courses:

- OT 429 Child and Adolescent Intervention
- OT 434 Adult and Geriatric Intervention
- OT 427 OT Methods of Evaluation and Documentation I
- OT 433 OT Methods of Evaluation and Documentation II

Students who do not complete their program within the time frame specified in this policy must petition for an extension of the time limit by submitting a completed "Request for Extension of Time to Complete the Master of Science Program" form, available in the graduate
studies office. The form will be completed by the student and forwarded to the chair of occupational therapy, who will sign and forward this to the graduate studies office on the student’s behalf. [Refer to “Extension to Complete Graduate Degree” in the academic policies and procedures section of the catalog for the remaining steps in the procedure.]

Appeals

To appeal a decision rendered by the School of Health Professions faculty/administration that has academic consequences, you must follow the appeal procedures which are available at www.dyc.edu/appeals.

Admission Requirements

The program accepts applicants for full-time study from the freshman year. Students are admitted directly into the program and do not have to reapply for admission to the upper division. Admission requirements reflect the structure of the program as a five-year bachelor of science and master of science degree program.

In order to be eligible for direct acceptance into this program, students must submit proof of the following minimum criteria:

1. Combined SAT scores of at least 1,080 (or ACT score of 21).
2. A high school average of at least 85 percent.
3. High school rank in the upper half of the class.

Students who do not meet these criteria are encouraged to apply to the Career Discovery Program and apply to O.T. after successfully completing two full-time semesters.

Although D’Youville does not mandate that letters of recommendation or a letter of intent to study a specific discipline be included with the application, students applying to O.T. are strongly advised to include these documents with their application.

Students must also demonstrate successful completion of the following high school courses: two years of math, one year of biology, and one year of chemistry. Physics is strongly recommended. Students who have not taken high school chemistry will be considered for admission with the understanding that a college preparatory chemistry course must be taken before beginning the curriculum. Students are strongly encouraged to gain competence in word processing before entering the program.

Thirty-six students are admitted to the program in the freshman year. These students are selected from the pool of applicants on the basis of the above criteria. Late applications are processed on a space-available basis. Students who have been out of high school for more than five years need not submit SAT scores. Selection is based on high school average and class rank.

Transfer students are accepted on a competitive, space-available basis. A minimum G.P.A. of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) is required to apply. Point of entry depends on the number of transfer credits accepted by the registrar, including major course requirements.

In order to register for any O.T. courses, students must have been formally accepted into the program.

Occupational Therapy Department

There are two occupational therapy entry-level programs. One is a five-year combined BS/MS program and the other is a three-year MS program. The BS/MS curriculum begins with a strong liberal arts core. The core curriculum provides students with a general knowledge base and the opportunity to develop analytical abilities that are the foundation for excellence in the professional competencies. Students in the BS/MS program also declare and complete a structured minor. The MS degree in occupational therapy (OT) is an entry-level degree specifically created for people who have a B.A. or B.S. degree in another area of study and who meet the admission criteria. Both the BS/MS and the MS program offer professional development with faculty guidance and support. This guidance is a consistent process for students prior to, during, and after clinical placements.

Students complete six months of full-time fieldwork experience provided at a variety of settings across the country. In addition to a strong academic and clinical preparation, students are expected to complete a master's project involving research of a Critically Appraised Topic. The student-centered approach, in combination with the curriculum's academic, clinical and research components, provides thorough preparation for graduates to develop leadership and service in a variety of health care, educational and community settings, and to be successful in practice.