

# Master of Science in Occupational Therapy

## *Entry Level MSOT*

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS IN BRIEF

The entry-level MSOT degree is designed to enable students who possess a baccalaureate degree to learn the knowledge, skills and values to become a successful entry-level professional occupational therapists. The design of the curriculum is firmly embedded in the mission of Alvernia University and the values of American Occupational Therapy Association. These create a foundation for values-centered education that enables graduates to serve others and adopt positions of ethical leadership.

### ACADEMIC QUALITY

The entry-level Master of Science in Occupational Therapy degree program is 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; phone number 301-652-2682 and its web address is [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org). Graduates are 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 the NBCOT exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). Most states require licensure in order to practice; state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT certification examination. All course work must be completed within 24 months of the start of the first level II fieldwork placement. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification exam or attain state licensure.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Evidence of completion of the following course work with a grade of "C" or higher
  - A minimum of six (6) semester credit hours (or the equivalent) of human anatomy and physiology with a lab component.
  - A minimum of three (3) semester credit hours (or the equivalent) of introduction to sociology or anthropology.
  - A minimum of three (3) semester credit hours (or the equivalent) of introduction to psychology.
  - A minimum of three (3) semester credit hours (or the equivalent) of lifespan development or developmental psychology.
  - A minimum of three (3) semester credit hours (or the equivalent) of abnormal psychology.
  - A minimum of three (3) semester credit hours (or the equivalent) of statistics.

These credit hours must be completed prior to full matriculation into the program.
- Official transcript(s) indicating the applicant has earned a baccalaureate degree from an accredited 4-year college or university.
- A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the baccalaureate degree is required.
- Transcripts from all institutions of 2- or 4-year colleges or universities the applicant has attended.
- Three letters of recommendation from former professors, employers or supervisors familiar with the applicant's professional or service experiences. These may be from religious or community leaders but not relatives or personal associates.
- A two-page personal statement that summarizes the value of the program of graduate study for the applicant's personal and professional development.
- Scores submitted from a graduate entrance exam such as the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT). This requirement will be waived for Alvernia alumni, and other students who have earned a bachelor's degree within 5 years prior to submitting an application.
- Additional evidence for success as a graduate student such as academic or professional awards, special certificates, continuing education, or completion of specialized examinations (not required but encouraged).
- Evidence of an observation of occupational therapy practitioners working in a clinical setting is recommended but not mandated.

## DELIVERY FORMAT

The entry-level MSOT is available on main campus in a traditional classroom, lab and fieldwork format. Semesters 1-4 are as a cohort with course offerings scheduled 2 days a week. During semesters 2-4, a third day commitment is required for level I fieldwork. Semester 5 is 24 weeks of full time level II fieldwork and an online core course. Semesters 6-7 are integrated with the 5 year combined BSBS & MSOT degree program, courses will be offered weekday evenings.

## PROGRAM LENGTH

For most students the length of study to earn the entry-level MSOT degree will be three and a half years. The length of study may be less for students who enter the program with all the leveling courses or longer if students are unable to maintain a full academic schedule.

## CLEARANCES

Progression in the program requires students to successfully complete fieldwork. Fieldwork sites require students to show evidence that they meet health, legal and training standards. Students who are unable to meet these requirements cannot progress in the program.

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE SEQUENCE

<i><b>Fall Semester 1</b></i>	<i><b>Spring Semester 2</b></i>
*OT 507 Fundamentals of OT (3cr) *OT 562 Neuroscience for the OT (3cr) *OT 564 Kinesiology for the OT (3cr) *Leveling courses	OT 525 Pathology for OT Practitioners (3cr) OT 527 OT Process (3cr) OT 532 Activity Analysis (3cr) OT 581 Fieldwork I Seminar I (1cr) <b>Total credits = 10</b>
<i><b>Fall Semester 3</b></i>	<i><b>Spring Semester 4</b></i>
OT 534 Occupational Performance I: Pediatric (4cr) OT 536 Occupational Performance II: Adult (4cr) OT 538 Adapting & Grading with Technology (3cr) OT 582 Fieldwork I Seminar II (1cr) <b>Total credits = 12</b>	OT 521 Occupational Performance III: BehHlth (4cr) OT 523 Occupational Performance IV: Geriatric (4cr) OT 583 Fieldwork I Seminar III (1cr) OT 607 Data Analysis for the OT (3cr) <b>Total credits = 12</b>
<i><b>Fall Semester 5</b></i>	<i><b>Spring Semester 6</b></i>
OT 587 OT Fieldwork: Practicum I (4cr) (12 weeks) OT 589 OT Fieldwork: Practicum II (4cr) (12 weeks) COR 520 Ethics and Moral Leadership (3cr) <b>Total credits = 11</b>	OT 522 Leadership & Management (3cr) OT 624 Best Ethical Practice in OT (3cr) OT 605 Research Design (3cr) <b>Total credits = 9</b>
<i><b>Fall Semester 7</b></i>	
OT 513 Advocacy & Public Policy (3cr) OT 611 Inter-professional Collaboration (3cr) OT 526 Current Trends in OT (3cr) OT 620 Research Report (3cr) OT 622 Research Seminar (1cr) <b>Total credits = 13</b>	
<b>Total Program Credits = 67 (70-76 if leveling courses are required)</b>	

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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