



PRE-OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Work Description:

Occupational therapy is a science-driven, evidence-based profession that enables people of all ages to live life to its fullest by helping them stay healthy and prevent -- or live better with -- illness, injury or disability. Occupational therapists treat injured, ill, or disabled patients through the therapeutic use of everyday activities. They help these patients develop, recover, and improve the skills needed for daily living and working.

For much more information on Occupational Therapy including a more advanced description, salary, and job outlook visit: [The Bureau of Labor and Statistics](http://www.bureauoflaborandstatistics.gov)

Pre-Occupational Therapy is not a degree granting/certificate program at University of Maryland. University of Maryland does offer the pre-requisite coursework needed for admission into an Occupational Therapy program. Students are required to have a Bachelor's degree in order to apply to OT programs. Most students apply to Master's programs, as that is the prevailing degree necessary for clinical practice.

Clinical Experience:

Most Occupational Therapy graduate programs require the applicant have clinical exposure to populations who utilize Occupational Therapy. While requirements on number of hours vary, we recommend applicants earn 100 hours of clinical experience under a licensed OT and/or working directly with patient populations.

Entrance Exam: Most Master's level OT programs require the GRE (Graduate Record Exam). More information can be found on www.ets.org.

Pre-Requisites: Pre-Requisites will vary by school so it is important that applicants stay well informed of coursework that needs to be completed. Typical pre-requisite courses include, but are not limited to:

Anatomy & Physiology I	Physics I
Anatomy & Physiology II	Medical Terminology
Life Span Development/Developmental Psychology	Sociology
Statistics	General Chemistry I
Abnormal Psychology	English
Additional Social Sciences	

Important Resources:

OTCAS: Occupational Therapy
Centralized Application Service
www.otcas.org

AOTA: American Occupational
Therapists Association
www.aota.org

Search for accredited programs using the resources above!

Occupational Therapy Program for Towson University

Phone: 410-704-2653

Email: otadmissions@towson.edu

Website: <http://grad.towson.edu/program/master/octh-pr-ms/index.asp>

Course Prerequisite Name/Subject	SEM Hours	Lab required (Y/N)	Additional Information
Anatomy and Physiology I	4	yes	Must be completed within past 5 years, B- or higher, no on-line courses accepted
Anatomy & Physiology II	4	yes	Must be completed within past 5 years, no on-line courses accepted
Physics	4	yes	Must cover mechanics and include a lab
Human Development	3	no	Must cover entire lifespan conception to death.
Medical terminology	1-3	no	Must be completed at a 2 year or 4 year institution, 1-3 credits
English composition	3	no	B- or higher
Abnormal Psychology	3	no	
Introduction to Psychology	3	no	No substitutions
Introduction to Sociology	3	no	No substitutions
Statistics	3	no	Must include use of computer software

Occupational Therapy Program for Virginia Commonwealth University

Phone: 804-828-2219

Email: dfsimons@vcu.edu

Website: <http://www.sahp.vcu.edu/occu/programs/entry/prerequisites.html>

Course Prerequisite Name/Subject	SEM Hours	Lab required (Y/N)	Additional Information
English Composition or 1 English Composition and 1 Writing Intensive course	6	N	Notify the Graduate Admissions Committee Chair at dfsimons@vcu.edu to identify a writing intensive course that you want to fulfill this requirement
Lifespan Development or Developmental Psychology	3 or 6	N	1 course of lifespan development or 2 courses of child and adult development
Abnormal Psychology	3	N	
Anatomy and Physiology I & II	6-8	Y	2 semesters with lab
Statistics	3	N	Be sure that course includes inferential statistics – t-tests, chi square, ANOVA, linear regression, and correlation
Social Sciences (Psychology, Sociology, or Anthropology only)	6-9	N	A total of 15 credit hours of social sciences (6-9 credits in addition to the 3-6 credits of Lifespan Development and 3 credits of Abnormal Psychology)