

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND SCIENCE

[www.sru.edu/ot](http://www.sru.edu/ot)



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The entry-level doctoral degree in Occupational Therapy curriculum at Slippery Rock University is designed to be a challenging 36-month program for students that will receive training in advanced clinical, professional and leadership skills.

SRU's Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program offers an on-campus, face-to-face learning format with scheduled off campus fieldwork placements. The curriculum focuses on contemporary practice using evidence-based strategies to provide students with generalist and advanced training learning experiences. Classroom and laboratory learning opportunities are influenced by accreditation standards established by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE).

The first academic year of the program is comprised of clinical and applied sciences along with foundational occupational therapy offerings.

In the second academic year, students are involved in classroom learning experiences that include assessment and intervention with children, youth, and adults and related technology that can be utilized with these populations.

The third year in the program is based primarily off-site in two Level II (full-time) fieldwork settings and at a doctoral practicum site.

## ACCREDITATION/CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE

The entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy program at Slippery Rock University is in the process of attaining full-accreditation status with the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association. Information regarding the program accreditation process and Slippery Rock University's current status can be obtained by contacting ACOTE c/o AOTA at (301) 652-AOTA or online at [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org). ACOTE is located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20812-3449.

Slippery Rock University anticipates a successful accreditation review prior to the first OT class graduating in May 2021. Graduation from an ACOTE accredited educational program makes one eligible to sit for the certification exam administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) to become an Occupational Therapist Registered (OTR) and to apply for state licensure in the state(s) one wishes to practice.

**Professional Licensure Certification:** "All candidates completing the OT program are eligible to be nationally registered after achieving a passing score on a national examination. Satisfactory completion of the national certification exam is one-step towards state licensure, which is a different process in each state."

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SRU's Doctoral of Occupational Therapy Program will demonstrate several special characteristics:

- **Affordability** - The program is the first doctorate in this field in the State System, and will attract highly prepared students throughout Pennsylvania and surrounding areas at a cost less than other programs in the region.
- **Unique Curriculum** - The curriculum features evidence-based information in didactic and clinical training experiences integrated with real-life applied clinical case studies.
- **Doctoral Capstone Experience** - A doctoral capstone is the final learning experience providing students with advanced professional development in clinical practice, administration, leadership, research, program or policy development, advocacy, education or theory development.
- **Faculty/Student Research** - Students engage in research with faculty members and have an opportunity to participate in established inter-professional learning opportunities to develop heightened clinical understanding and collaboration.
- **Leadership & Advocacy** - Professional opportunities are offered for students and faculty members aimed at communicating with elected officials and improving client access to occupational therapy services.

## TUITION & ASSISTANTSHIPS

Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at [www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate). Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office [www.sru.edu/FinAid](http://www.sru.edu/FinAid) or the Office of Graduate Admissions.

Full Graduate Assistantships are not recommended for first year OT students due to a very challenging academic load.

# ACOTE

## SlipperyRock University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System  
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

[www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate)

## CURRICULUM

### Summer Academic - Year I Requirements

OCTH 605	Foundations of OT Practice	3
OCTH 610	Body Structures for Occupation	4
OCTH 630	Theories & Tenets in OT	3

### Fall Academic - Year I Requirements

OCTH 615	Neurological Applications in OT	4
OCTH 620	Development and Occupation	3
OCTH 640	OT Process I: Domain & Process	3
OCTH 660	Current Issues in OT	2
OCTH 680	Scholarship in OT I	3
OCTH 681	Scholarship in OT Seminar I	1

### Spring Academic - Year I Requirements

OCTH 625	Factors that Impact Occupation	3
OCTH 650	OT Process II: Psychosocial Applications	3
OCTH 655	Applied Clinical Case Studies A	2
OCTH 665	Therapeutic Media in OT	3
OCTH 715	Applied Movement & Occupation	3
OCTH 730	Scholarship in OT II	3
OCTH 731	Scholarship in OT Seminar II	1

### Summer Academic - Year II Requirements

OCTH 645	Level I Fieldwork A (May pre-session)	1
OCTH 710	Management Applications in OT	3
OCTH 724	Community Health & Wellness	3
OCTH 744	Spirituality in Health Care	1
OCTH 765	Leadership, Advocacy & Policy	3
OCTH TBD*	Capstone Preparation Seminar I	3

### Fall Academic - Year II Requirements

OCTH 720	Capstone Preparation Seminar II	2
OCTH 735	Applied Clinical Case Studies II	2
OCTH 740	OT Process III: Children & Youth	4
OCTH 745	Level I Fieldwork B	1
OCTH 760	Clinical Education Strategies	2
OCTH 780	Scholarship in OT III	1
OCTH 781	Scholarship in OT Seminar III	1

### Spring Academic - Year II Requirements

OCTH 750	OT Process IV: Adult Applications	4
OCTH 753	Applied Clinical Case Studies III	2
OCTH 755	Level I Fieldwork C	1
OCTH 775	Technology for Adults	3
OCTH 785	Securing External Funding	3
OCTH 791	Scholarship in OT Seminar IV	1

### Summer Academic - Year III Requirements:

OCTH 792	Professional Practice Seminar(May pre-session)	3
OCTH 810	Level II Fieldwork A	9

### Fall Academic - Year III Requirements

OCTH 815	Level II Fieldwork B	9
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### Spring - Year III

OCTH 820	Doctoral Practicum	8
OCTH 753	Post-Capstone Seminar	1

## TOTAL CREDITS: 115

\*FACULTY ARE CURRENTLY DEVELOPING THIS COURSE.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Beginning July 18, 2019, all applicants should complete the OTCAS (Occupational Therapy Centralized Application Services) application found at <https://otcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>. OTCAS instructions can be found at <http://www.aota.org/Education-Careers/Find-School/OTCAS.aspx>.

Admissions requirements include the following:

Applicants must hold a baccalaureate degree preferably in the natural or behavioral sciences, including the following prerequisites:

- Anatomy & Physiology I & II: two semesters of lecture and laboratory (in-class only)
- Biomechanics/ Kinesiology or Physics: lecture with laboratory (in-class only)
- Statistics: one course
- Intro to Psychology
- Life Span Human Development or Developmental Psychology
- Abnormal Psychology
- Sociology or Anthropology: one course in either area
- Research Methods: an undergraduate intermediate research course
- Medical Terminology: either in class or online format

*All prerequisite courses must have been taken within the last 10 years, and completed with a grade of C (2.0) or better.*

MINIMUM GPA REQUIREMENTS: 3.0 for cumulative; GPA/3.0 for prerequisite; GPA/3.0 for natural & behavioral science coursework. If a course is taken more than once, all of the grades for that course will be averaged together.

Clinical Shadowing/Volunteering - Minimum 20 hours clinical exposure supervised by an occupational therapy practitioner (OT or OTA) verified through OTCAS. These hours must be verified by an occupational therapy practitioner who the applicant volunteered with, if offered admission.

Three letters of reference: Letters should be from a current or former instructor, current or former employer, and a third professional reference. References from neighbors and family members are discouraged. Professional references may include professors, employers and volunteer supervisors.

## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Must be able to meet occupational therapy student technical standards
- Conviction of misdemeanor, felony or felonious or illegal act may prevent the student from becoming credentialed and/or licensed to practice in field of occupational therapy
- Students are required to carry and pay for their own health insurance and liability insurance with proof required
- Must have method of transportation for both academic and fieldwork experiences

## FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Dr. Nicole Dafoe  
Chair of the Biology Department and Associate Professor  
300H Vincent Science Center  
724-738-4955  
[nicole.dafoe@sru.edu](mailto:nicole.dafoe@sru.edu)

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.

## FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions  
104 North Hall, Welcome Center  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057  
[www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate)  
724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD  
[graduate.admissions@sru.edu](mailto:graduate.admissions@sru.edu)