

**Slippery Rock University**

**Entry-Level Doctoral  
Program**

**In**

**Occupational Therapy**

**Handbook**

# **Entry-Level Doctorate in Occupational Therapy**

**Effective for Students Entering Program as of the summer 2020 Semester/Year**

## **I. MAJOR DEPARTMENT (115 semester hours)**

### **Summer Academic-Year I Requirements (10)**

- OCTH 605: Fundamentals of OT Practice (3 credit hours)
- OCTH 610: Body Structures for Occupation (4)
- OCTH 630: Theories & Tenets in OT (3)

### **Fall Academic-Year I Requirements (16)**

- OCTH 615: Neurological Applications in OT (4)
- OCTH 620: Development of 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 I Seminar (1)

### **Spring Academic-Year I Requirements (18)**

- 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 II Seminar (1)

### **Summer Academic-Year II Requirements (14)**

- OCTH 645: Level I Fieldwork A (1) – *pre-session*
- 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-Year Requirements (13)**

- 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 (14)**

- 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 Ext. Funding (3)

OCTH 791: Scholarship in OT Seminar IV (1)

**Summer Academic Year III- Requirements (12)**

OCTH 792: Professional Practice Seminar (3) - *pre-session*

OCTH 810: Level II Fieldwork A (9)

**Fall Academic Year III- Requirements (9)**

OCTH 810: Level II Fieldwork B (9)

**Spring Academic Year III- Requirements (9)**

OCTH 820: Doctoral Practicum (8)

OCTH 753: Post-Capstone Seminar (1)

**II. 3+3 PRE-OT TRACKS (open to incoming freshman students as of fall 2018)**

Exercise Science, Psychology, Public Health, Health Care Administration & Management, and Recreational Therapy

**III. ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Applicants must hold a minimum of a baccalaureate degree preferably in the natural or behavioral sciences, including the following prerequisites:
  - Anatomy & Physiology: 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 introductory or 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.

2. Completion of 20 hours or more of clinical shadowing/volunteering and supervised by an occupational therapy practitioner (OT or OTA) and verified by OTCAS. These hours must be verified by an occupational therapy practitioner who the applicant volunteered with, if offered admission.
3. 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.

4. No advanced standing. Credits earned in previously attended graduate occupational therapy programs will not be eligible for transfer credit into the SRU OTD program. No credit given for experiential learning.
5. Additional Admissions 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

### **OT PROGRAM 3+3 & 4+3 FINAL ADMISSION PROCESS**

- Apply through OTCAS
- In-house application fees through Graduate Admissions
- Submit SRU OT Program application between **July 18, 2019-January 15, 2020 (to be considered, applications must be completed in OTCAS by January 15, 2020).**
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to visit the SRU OTD Program during the summer before applying to program.
- We admit students on a rolling admission basis. Once all of the seats in the cohort are filled, successful applicants will only have the waitlist option.
- Deposit to hold seat (\$500)
- Anticipated OT Program start date: June 1, 2020

### **PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS once accepted into the OT Program:**

Students will need to maintain a 3.00 GPA or higher in the OT Program with a grade of “C” or better in all courses required in order to matriculate each semester. Those falling below 3.0 GPA will be placed on Academic Probation and have the opportunity to appear before the OT Academic Review Committee. Students can be granted a one-time re-admission back into the OT Program, as determined by the Occupational Therapy Program Academic Review Board.

Student Progression through Program:

- Student performance will be assessed at the conclusion of each semester based on academic performance in all courses along with assessment of professional behavior.
- Students will be permitted to obtain two grades of “C” while in the program.
- Final course grades of less than “C” will result in a one-year suspension from the OTD program. The student will be notified of the suspension by the OT Academic Review Committee.
- A student will be placed on academic probation by the OTD Academic Review Committee and from the academic dean whenever the cumulative grade point average for all OT graduate courses attempted at Slippery Rock University is less than 3.0. Once the student achieves a 3.0 GPA or higher, their academic probation will be removed.

- A student whose academic standing remains below a 3.0 GPA for two successive terms of registration (summers and winters are included as terms), shall be suspended by their academic dean.
- A suspended student may petition their academic dean for readmission with an initial suspension period typically being one year due to progression of the program.
- Student professional behavior will be assessed in an ongoing manner and formally discussed with each student after the second semester of year one. Students that are identified as to having professional behavioral concerns will meet with all core OTD Program faculty member. The student will face corrective action and will be placed on a remediation plan. Further lapse in professionalism or failure to abide by the remediation plan will result in probation. Continued lapse in professionalism following probation will result in suspension.
- A second suspension for either academics or professionalism will result in permanent dismissal for any student enrolled in the SRU OTD Program. The student will be notified of dismissal by the OT Academic Review Committee.

#### Fieldwork Performance Evaluation:

- Each Level I and Level II fieldwork student in the program receives a midterm and final evaluation from their supervisor at the clinical site. This information is reviewed and disseminated by the Academic Fieldwork Coordinator and Program Director and reported to all faculty members. After Level II fieldwork is completed, all 42 items for rating student performance are analyzed both in a formative and summative manner. Means for each item are created by assessing cohort performance and are analyzed by fieldwork site and population where fieldwork was performed.
- Prior to beginning Level II fieldwork, students will undergo formal assessment of mastery that will include a comprehensive written exam and several practical examinations. This will occur in OETH 792- Professional Practice Seminar prior to the beginning of full-time fieldwork. Students will be notified in writing of success or areas that will require remediation at the conclusion of the testing process. In the event that any part of a comprehensive exam is not satisfactorily completed, the student will either be scheduled for a reexamination that will need to be completed before full-time fieldwork begins. The student must satisfactorily pass the exam within two attempts otherwise they will be dismissed from the program.
- Doctoral Capstone students will receive a midterm (formative) and final (summative) evaluation at their assigned sites.
- Academic performance and professionalism expectations as described above apply to Level I and Level II fieldwork and to the Doctoral Capstone.

#### Graduation Requirements:

- Successfully complete all Occupational Therapy Program didactic courses, level I and level II fieldwork experiences and the doctoral capstone (a total of 115 credits)
- Earn a cumulative Occupational Therapy Program GPA of 3.000 or better. Courses that are repeated by a student will have the most recent grade used to calculate cumulative OT Program GPA.

- Be in good professional standing
- Successfully pass all scheduled program written and practical competencies
- Meet all financial obligations to the university prior to graduation

#### Program Outcomes

- The first SRU OTD class is set to graduate in Spring 2021. At this time, the total number of program graduates, graduation rates, and the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) program data results will be published.