



DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CURRICULUM

The Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) at St. Ambrose University is 36 months in length. Graduates will complete a total of 97-102 credits, including 24 weeks of full-time fieldwork, and a 14 week Doctoral Capstone Experience.

Please [consult the online course catalog](#) for detailed course descriptions.

OVERVIEW

Students begin their coursework learning the Professional Foundation. This includes the domain and process of occupational therapy and the science of the human body that support occupational performance. Students advance to applying their knowledge during classroom and laboratory experiences.

The following semesters emphasize Occupational Engagement: A Fit between Person and Environment. These include courses that examine the client and environmental factors that impact occupational participation, including evidence that guides assessment and intervention strategies that promote occupational engagement considering typical development, as well as the impact of disease, injury, or illness.

Students engage in Fieldwork that allows application and practice of principles from the classroom followed by guided reflection activities.

The final year culminates in a transition from student to practitioner with a doctoral capstone project, comprehensive exam, and capstone experience. This supports the Bridge to Professional Practice.

FORMAT

The OTD Program is delivered in a hybrid model with classes online and on-campus. Students are required to have access to technology/device with Microsoft Office software and access to internet connection. A device is a computer or tablet with a full operating system. The computer or tablet uses a Mac, Windows, or iPad operating system. Any current iPad must be compatible with Microsoft Surface Pro 4 or newer Surface Pro devices running Windows 10 and 11 will be compatible.

University owned laptops may be available for testing in emergency situations. However, it is the responsibility of the student to have a device that will allow for class and testing activities. Please contact your faculty advisor for any needs, concerns or assistance.

COURSE SEQUENCE

The following courses have been approved as the curriculum for the Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program.

Year One

Fall	Credit	Spring	Credit
OTD 515 Occupational Justice and Foundations of OT	3	OTD 550 Interventions IA	5
OTD 520 OT Process: Analyzing Occupations for Individuals and Groups	3	OTD 551 Interventions IB	5
OTD 525 Assessment	3	OTD 555 Critical Inquiry I	3
OTD 530 Applied Neuroscience in OT	4	OTD 560 Fieldwork Level IA	3
OTD 540 Analyzing Movement in Occupational Performance	4		
Total Credits	17	Total Credits	16

Summer	Credit
OTD 575 Research Methods	3
OTD 580 Leadership and Management in OT Practice	3
Total Credits	6

Year Two

Fall	Credit	Spring	Credit
OTD 600 Interventions IIA	5	OTD 650 Interventions IIIA	4
OTD 601 Interventions IIB	5	OTD 651 Interventions IIIB	4
OTD 605 Critical Inquiry II	3	OTD 655 Critical Inquiry III	3
OTD 625 Scholarship I	2	OTD 660 Fieldwork Level IC	3
OTD 626 Capstone Project I	1	OTD 675 Scholarship II	2
OTD 630 Fieldwork Level IB	3	OTD 676 Capstone Project II	1
Total Credits	19	Total Credits	17

Summer	Credit
OTD 705 Doctoral Capstone Proposal I	1
OTD 710 Doctoral Capstone Proposal II	2
OTD 725 Scholarship III (optional)	2
OTD 726 Special Topics (optional)	1-3
Total Credits	3-8

Year Three

Fall	Credit	Spring	Credit
OTD 730 Fieldwork Level II	6	OTD 750 Capstone Project III	2
OTD 735 Fieldwork Level II	6	OTD 800 Capstone Experience	8
Total Credits	12	Total Credits	10