

M.S. in Occupational Therapy

Do you...

Like working with people... want to make a meaningful contribution....appreciate a creative challenge....value flexibility....enjoy tapping into your imagination ...want to work as a member of a health care team...seek a career with a future...prefer job variety and stability...like the sciences and the arts...seek graduate education that leads to a professional career in a health field? Then a career in Occupational Therapy is for you, and Sage Graduate School has the program to ensure your success.

Did you know that *U.S. News and World Report* rated occupational therapy as one of the top 25 careers in 2006, 2007 and 2008..... that employment in occupational therapy is expected to increase by more than 27 percent by 2014 (U.S. Department of Labor)... and that Sage Graduate School has the only accredited master's-level Occupational Therapy program in New York's Capital Region?

Occupational therapists (OTs) work in health care settings with people whose abilities to manage everyday tasks of living are affected by developmental deficits, the aging process, environmental barriers, physical injury or illness, or psychosocial problems. OTs help individuals of all ages identify and return to the occupations and activities that are important to them. They assist people to adapt old methods or learn new strategies so they can participate in valued life activities and roles. OTs are employed in a variety of settings including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, home care, schools, private practice, and community agencies.

The demand for occupational therapists continues to grow due to the increasing number of children and adults who need occupational therapy services. The minimum education requirement to work as an OT is the master's degree and Sage has been offering the M.S. in Occupational Therapy since 1995. Invest in your future career now by finding out more about this Sage program.

Faculty

You'll benefit from a low student-to-faculty ratio of 10:1 that facilitates personal attention. Class size is purposefully kept small to encourage faculty-student dialogue and close working relationships. Faculty are specialists in the fields of pediatrics, psychosocial practice, rehabilitation, gerontology and research. To ensure fresh content delivery, Sage OT

faculty are engaged in scholarly work and clinical practice in addition to their teaching responsibilities. As a result, they are able to bring new ideas and technologies into the classroom, and expose students to contemporary practice in their respective therapy specialties. You'll also benefit from faculty expertise through collaboration in ongoing research projects. Sage OT faculty hold advanced certification in pediatrics, neurorehabilitation, sensory integration, neurodevelopmental treatment, and hand therapy. Faculty doctoral degrees and advanced study include occupational therapy, expressive arts, education, and psychology.

Admission

There are two points of entry into the M.S. in Occupational Therapy Program: direct entry through Sage Graduate School for individuals who already possess a bachelor's degree, or through Russell Sage College for students just beginning their college education via the 3+2 accelerated program (or more typical 4+2 program). Please see the Sage Graduate School Catalog, online at <http://catalog.sage.edu/sgs.php> for more information on these options.

Full-time students complete the 82-credit master's program in 27 months of study that includes six months of full-time field experiences. Students can also complete the program on a part-time basis by enrolling in classes 2-3 days per week and completing one year of coursework over a two-year time period. Upon successful completion of academic, research and fieldwork courses, students are awarded an M.S. degree in Occupational Therapy and are eligible to sit for the certification exam that leads to national certification and eligibility for state licensure.

All applicants are strongly urged to visit the college and meet with a representative of the Occupational Therapy program. Successful OT Program applicants will have completed OT Program prerequisite courses and earned a minimum 3.0 grade point average (GPA) in undergraduate study.

Curriculum Model

The occupational therapy curriculum is developed around humanistic values and incorporates an experiential approach that focuses on active student learning. Foundation and upper level clinical courses promote an understanding of the dynamic relationship among health, well-being and occupational engagement, or a person's ability to participate in valued life activities and roles. Students are immersed in learning opportunities to both promote clinical reasoning skills and develop a systemic view of health and the health care system. The



curricular model is organized around three elements: *Foundations and Professional Responsibilities, Evaluation and Intervention in Practice Settings, and OT Service Delivery and Research*. It is further supported by three major themes that are infused throughout coursework: *Person-Environment-Occupation Relationship, Therapeutic Style and Interactions, and Competent Practice*.

Program Prerequisites

The following prerequisite courses must be completed prior to entry to the graduate OT Program:

- Anatomy & Physiology I and II (with labs);
- Physics I (with lab)
- 9 credits in psychology including Lifespan Human Development and Abnormal Psychology
- 3 credits in Sociology or Anthropology
- Statistics

OT Program Summary

	Credits
OTH 504 Foundations of Occupational Therapy/Lab	3
OTH 503 Models & Theories in OT Practice	1
OTH 507 Functional Anatomy & Applied Kinesiology/Labs	6
OTH 514 Occupational Performance in Children & Youth/Lab	4
OTH 515 Occupational Performance in Adulthood/Lab	4
OTH 512 Technology & Adaptations	1
OTH 501 Neuroscience/Lab	4
OTH 606 Eval & Intervention: Hand & Upper Extremity Rehabilitation/Lab	4
OTH 608 Foundations of Physical Rehabilitation/Lab	3
OTH 609 Eval & Intervention: Psychosocial Settings/Lab	4
OTH 623 Fieldwork I: Psychosocial Settings	1
OTH 567 Research Methods for the Health Professions	3
OTH 622 Fieldwork Seminar	2
OTH 624 Fieldwork I: Physical Rehabilitation	1
OTH 611 Eval & Intervention: Adult Phys Rehab I/Lab	4
OTH 616 Eval & Intervention: School-based Practice/Lab	3
OTH 626 Fieldwork I: Pediatric Settings	1
OTH 620 Community OT Practice	3
OTH 669 Research Seminar I	3
OTH 617 Eval & Intervention: Early Intervention Settings/Lab	4
OTH 612 Management of Occupational Therapy Services	3
OTH 618 Eval & Intervention: Adult Phys Rehab II/Lab	4
OTH 636 Clinical & Professional Reasoning Seminar	2
OTH 670 Research Seminar II	3

OTH 627 Fieldwork IIa	5
OTH 640 Professional Issues	1
OTH 628 Fieldwork IIb	5

Total Credits **82**

Fieldwork

Students complete five part- and full-time fieldwork experiences to refine clinical reasoning and therapeutic skills while working with clients. Level I fieldwork involves three multi-week experiences in clinical settings integrated within first and second-year coursework. Level II fieldwork involves two full-time, 12-week internships during the summer and fall following the second year of study. These affiliations give students the opportunity to practice the clinical skills learned in the classroom in occupational therapy settings under appropriate supervision. The expected outcome of Level II fieldwork is entry-level therapist performance and independent practice. Sage has formal agreements with more than 150 clinical sites located throughout the country.

Accreditation, National Certification & State Licensure

Sage's Occupational Therapy program is registered with the New York State Education Department and accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association, 4720 Montgomery Lane, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220, (301) 652-2682. The most recent reaccreditation was granted in April 2007 for ten years. Upon graduation, students are eligible to sit for the national certification exam administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). In addition, most states require licensure in order to practice occupational therapy; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the national certification exam. A felony conviction may affect a student's placement in fieldwork settings or a graduate's ability to sit for the certification exam or to attain state licensure.

The Professional Connection

Sage Graduate School offers distinctive advanced degree programs that address a spectrum of human concerns and reflect a sensitivity and responsiveness to the local community and the broader society. At Sage Graduate School, the emphasis is on applying research and theory to practical, professional situations. Sage's diverse and talented faculty are practitioners themselves, and are committed to helping students acquire the professional skills and the connections to manage and change the workplaces of tomorrow.

For more information please contact:

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