

NYUSteinhardt

Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development



**Department of
Occupational Therapy**



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

The Department of Occupational Therapy, located within NYU's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, is one of the most highly rated occupational therapy programs in the United States. With our location in New York City, our faculty and academic programs provide specialized clinical practice and collaborative research opportunities at both the professional and post-professional levels. The Department focuses on educating graduate-level students who want to become occupational therapists and credentialed occupational therapists who want to earn post-professional master of arts and doctoral degrees.



PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

NYU Steinhardt's entry-level program is rated #8 nationally.

The Master of Science Professional Program (M.S.) prepares graduates to become registered occupational therapists through a dynamic curriculum taught by leading occupational therapy educators. Steinhardt graduates go on to careers as practitioners and administrators in health facilities, as health planners and policymakers in public service agencies, as educators in colleges and universities, and as private practitioners or independent contractors in schools and home health agencies.

Learn more by attending one of our frequently held information sessions. Schedules are posted at www.steinhardt.nyu.edu/ot.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AND YOU

As an occupational therapist, you will:

- develop, improve, sustain, and/or restore independence to a person who has an injury, illness, disability, or psychological dysfunction
- consult with a client and the family or caregivers and promote the client's capacity to participate in satisfying daily activities
- address a client's capacity to perform an activity or adapt the environment to enable participation
- provide a client with skills for the job of living that are necessary to function in the home, the worksite, and the community
- enable people to engage in activities of daily living that have personal significance and value ("occupations")

PROGRAM OF STUDY

The Professional Program (M.S.) offers a broadly-based foundation in occupational therapy. Students take courses in anatomy, physiology, and kinesiology; human growth and development; activity group process; psychiatric, medical, surgical, orthopedic, and neuromuscular conditions; basic and advanced theoretical foundations of occupational therapy; research methodology; and purposeful



activities and occupations as they are used in assessment and intervention in the occupational therapy process.

The course of study combines academic and fieldwork study. Fieldwork in a variety of settings begins during the first semester in the program, gradually intensifying as students progress through the curriculum. The educational experience culminates in two or more full-time, three-month fieldwork experiences. Fieldwork assignments are drawn from a pool of 450 sites with which the program is affiliated.

Enrollment in the Professional Program requires completion of 74 credits over a 28-30 month period. Our graduates have a very high passing rate on the national certification examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). Alumni of the program are practicing throughout the United States and in a number of other countries.

ACCREDITATION

The program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220; 301.652.2682; accred@aota.org; www.aota.org). Graduates of the program will be able to sit for the national examination for certification of occupational therapists administered by the NBCOT (800 S. Frederick Ave., Suite 200, Gaithersburg, MD 20877-4150; 301.990.7979; www.nbcot.org).

PREREQUISITES

Prerequisites for the Professional Program include courses in psychology, other social sciences, and basic sciences. A detailed description is available at www.steinhardt.nyu.edu/ot. Admitted students must complete an undergraduate degree and all prerequisite coursework before enrollment.

POST-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

The Department of Occupational Therapy offers post-professional programs in occupational therapy leading to the M.A., D.P.S., and Ph.D. degrees for occupational therapists. Some courses are open to non-matriculated students.

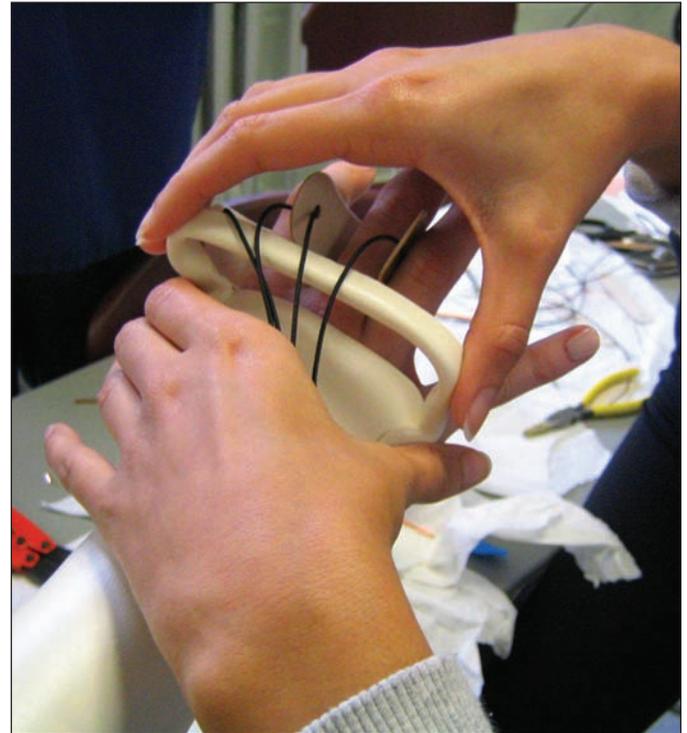
The Post-Professional Programs integrate the theoretical foundation of occupational therapy and the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for engaging in scholarly activity. Students develop analytical skills necessary for assuming leadership roles while cultivating a network of professional contacts through their studies, clinical experiences, and collaborative research. One of our most outstanding features is the large peer support network provided by our dedicated cadre of students.

POST-PROFESSIONAL MASTER OF ARTS

Individually-Designed Sequence of Courses

M.A. students take a core of graduate-level courses in occupational therapy theory, research, and professional skills and select an area of specialization or clinical focus such as pediatrics, mental health, upper quadrant care, assistive technology, physical disabilities, or school-based practice. This 30-credit program

may be completed in one year of full-time study. Course selection is made by advisement on an individual basis to design a course sequence that meets a student's unique needs and interests. Courses may be taken in other NYU schools and programs, including health education, nursing, special education, psychology, physical therapy, and curriculum and instruction.



DOCTOR OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Clinical Evidence-Based Practice and Critical Analysis

The Doctor of Professional Studies (D.P.S.) degree, the only post-professional clinical doctorate in the northeastern U.S., prepares advanced, skilled occupational therapists to deliver, present, and collaborate with interdisciplinary professionals to provide high quality care. Students have the opportunity to advance their knowledge and critical thinking through coursework that builds a foundation of critical analysis, evidence-based practice, ethics, and theory.

Students select an area of advanced clinical specialization in pediatrics or upper quadrant. A unique feature of the 36-point program is the

development of a professional portfolio, documenting evidence-based knowledge and skills within a particular specialty practice area. Development of the portfolio starts when students enter the program. The e-portfolio guides their progress, and eventually becomes the final project.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Research in Occupational Therapy

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree program was established in 1973 and was the first such doctoral program in the world. The program provides occupational therapists with the knowledge and skills necessary to work in the profession as researchers, scholars, and educators. Doctoral students take courses in occupational therapy and other disciplines throughout the University.

To earn the Ph.D. degree, occupational therapists with a master's degree take a total of 52 points, including coursework, and complete a dissertation. NYU graduates with master's degrees in post-professional occupational therapy must complete a minimum of 42 points and write a dissertation.

FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH

The research activities of faculty and students serve to support the Department's mission and thereby improve the quality of occupational therapy practice and research. Areas of recent inquiry include:

- evaluating sensory regulatory behavior and social skills dysfunction in boys
- understanding cognitive functioning of individuals with brain injuries
- examining use of a tool in measuring scar tissue density in individuals with post-carpal tunnel release
- assessing the effectiveness of sensory stimulation in individuals with dementia
- developing a disablement model for cognitive and physical impairment in the elderly



APPLICATION INFORMATION

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Professional Program (M.S.) – **February 1**

Post-Professional Programs

M.A. – **February 1**

D.P.S. – **March 15**

Ph.D. – **December 15**

HOW TO APPLY

Candidates apply through the Steinhardt School's Office of Graduate Admissions. The specific steps to be taken to apply to any of the Department's programs are detailed on our website. Selection is the joint responsibility of the Office of Graduate Admissions and the Department of Occupational Therapy.

FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is available to students in a variety of forms. Information on scholarships, grants, loans, and loanships is available at www.steinhardt.nyu.edu/graduate.admissions. Professional Program students will receive additional information specific to their program. A limited number of competitive teaching assistantships are available for students in the Post-Professional Programs, providing a stipend and a minimum of 24 points of tuition remission per year. The Department's website contains additional resources.



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