New York University Bulletin

Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development

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Education

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For over 65 years, New York University’s Department of Occupational Therapy has continued to be preeminent in the extent of its contribution to occupational therapy education, as well as the number and quality of its outstanding graduates. The goal of occupational therapy is to help individuals achieve independence, meaning, and satisfaction in all aspects of their lives. Occupational therapists develop, improve, sustain, or restore independence to any person who has an injury, illness, disability, or psychological dysfunction. The occupational therapist consults with the individual and family or caregivers and, through evaluation and treatment, promotes the client’s capacity to participate in satisfying daily activities. Intervention may address the person’s capacity to perform, the activity being performed, or the environment in which it is performed. The occupational therapist’s goal is to provide the client with skills for the job of living—those necessary to function in the community or in the client’s chosen environment.

The Department of Occupational Therapy is a leading academic center committed to the development of ethical therapists and scholars who are prepared to respond to the challenges of society’s ever-changing needs. The department offers professional-level graduate education for entry into occupational therapy practice and post-professional master’s and doctoral degrees for graduates of approved occupational therapy programs.

The professional education of occupational therapists involves the study of the biological and social sciences that are fundamental to practice and the role of activities and human occupation in improving, restoring, and sustaining function. Post-professional education emphasizes scientific inquiry and advanced clinical skills to prepare master clinicians, administrators, educators, scientists, and professional leaders. The Department of Occupational Therapy’s educational efforts are enhanced by its location among top health and educational facilities in the country. The program also has a highly qualified faculty. The relationships thus developed provide unparalleled learning experiences for students—a source of diverse practicum sites that is virtually matchless.
### Faculty

- **Offong Aqua**, Clinical Associate Professor. M.D. 1986, Moscow.
- **Jane Bear-Lehman**, Chair and Associate Professor. B.S., Wisconsin (Madison); M.S., Illinois (Chicago); Ph.D., New York; OTR/L. Fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Association (FAOTA).
- **Karen A. Buckley**, Clinical Assistant Professor. B.S. 1973, SUNY (Buffalo); M.A. 1977, New York; OT/L. Neuro Development Treatment (NDT) Certified.
- **Tsu-Hsin Howe**, Assistant Professor. B.Sc. 1982, National Taiwan; M.A. 1987, Ph.D. 2004, New York; OTR.
- **Sally Poole**, Clinical Assistant Professor. B.A. 1968, M.A. 1975, New York; OT. Certified Hand Therapist (CHT).

### Professional Program

**DEGREE**

- **M.S.**

**FACULTY**

- Aqua, Bear-Lehman, Buckley, Goverover, Howe, Koenig, Perr, Poole, Voelbel

**MASTER OF SCIENCE**

The Master of Science Program in Occupational Therapy provides the professional education necessary for initial certification as an occupational therapist. Affiliated with 450 sites, the program provides student intervention experiences in challenging settings, which are integrated into the curriculum through connection with courses or as full-time fieldwork.

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

Occupational therapy is a fast-growing profession, and graduates are sought by employers nationwide.

**DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

Academic Prerequisites: Undergraduate coursework in abnormal psychology; developmental psychology; behavioral sciences; one additional course in either psychology, anthropology, or sociology; human anatomy and physiology I and II; and basic statistics.

The program’s full-time course of study is 27 months. Students are required to participate in two full-time, three-month fieldwork experiences, which usually take place during the summer and fall. The program requires successful completion of 69 units in anatomy; kinesiology; human growth and development; activity group process; psychiatric, medical, surgical, orthopedic, and neuromuscular conditions; theoretical foundations of occupational therapy; and research, analysis, and synthesis of activities as they relate to human occupation through emphasizing evaluation and intervention in the occupational therapy process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall, First Year</td>
<td>OT-GE.2000, Human Anatomy (Lecture) (3 units)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>OT-GE.2002, Foundations of Occupational Therapy (2 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2701, Activity Group Process (3 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2707, Performance and Development Across the Lifespan (3 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2709, Neuroscience (3 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2710, Occupational Performance in Context (2 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2020, New Student Seminar (0 units)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>OT-GE.2035, Professional Issues i (1 unit)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2036, Professional Issues ii (2 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2039, Theoretical Bases for the Scope of Practice (3 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2040, Analysis of Human Activity and Occupational Performance i (2 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2041, Summer, First Year (5 units): Research Design in Occupational Therapy (2 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2724, Analysis of Human Activity and Occupational Performance ii (2 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2736, Fieldwork i (1 unit)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2720, Fall, Second Year (13 units): Fieldwork I (1 unit)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2721, Research Interpretation of Occupational Therapy (3 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2725, Orthopedic Evaluation and Intervention (3 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2741, Neurological Evaluation and Intervention (3 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2743, Mental Health Evaluation and Intervention (3 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2745, Spring, Second Year (15 units): Fieldwork I (1 unit)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2722, Rehabilitation Evaluation and Intervention (3 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2744, Cognitive Evaluation and Intervention (3 units)</td>
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<td>OT-GE.2746, Pediatric Evaluation and Intervention (3 units)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>OT-GE.2748, Health Advocacy and Administration (3 units)</td>
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<td>Number of Adjunct Faculty: 20</td>
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Please be advised that licensing agencies and placement facilities in your field of study may require that you undergo a criminal background check, the results of which the agency or facility must find acceptable prior to placement or licensure.
Summer, Second Year (3 units): Fieldwork II in Occupational Therapy OT-GE.2703 (12 weeks).

Fall, Third Year (3 units): Fieldwork II in Occupational Therapy OT-GE.2703 (12 weeks).

Spring, Third Year, Elective (2-3 units): Fieldwork II in Occupational Therapy (Specialty) OT-GE.2704 (10-12 weeks).

**TIME LIMIT**

Students must complete 6 units of required fieldwork (OT-GE.2703) within a 20-month period following the completion of academic course work.

**CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE**

The Program in Occupational Therapy is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE)® of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). 4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220; telephone: 301-652-AOTA. For ACOTE, the telephone number is 301-652-2682, ext. 2914. Graduates of the program will be able to sit for the national certification examination for occupational therapists administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the graduate will be a certified occupational therapist. Most states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licensure is usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation and a statement of purpose/personal statement addressing how work/volunteer/life experiences have led to the choice of occupational therapy. In addition, a personal interview and writing sample may be requested.

See general admission section, page 156.

**FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES**

Students may apply for tuition assistance from local, state, and federal government agencies. Sometimes clinical facilities offer financial assistance in exchange for a work commitment after graduation.

See general financial aid section, page 167.

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**Post-professional Programs**

**DEGREES**

M.A., D.P.S., Ph.D.

**FACULTY**

Aqua, Bear-Lehman, Goverover, Hinojosa, Howe, Koenig, Perr, Poole, Voelbel

The Department of Occupational Therapy offers three post-professional programs in occupational therapy leading to the M.A., D.P.S., or Ph.D. degree for occupational therapists. These programs integrate the theoretical foundation of occupational therapy and the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for engaging in scholarly activity. Students develop the analytical skills necessary for assuming leadership roles while cultivating a network of professional contacts through their studies, clinical experiences, and collaborative research. One of the most outstanding features is the strong peer support network provided by an active cadre of post-professional students.

Applicants are encouraged to visit NYU’s Office of Financial Aid website, www.nyu.edu/financial.aid, and the Steinhardt School’s Office of Graduate Admissions website, www.steinhardt.nyu.edu/graduate.admissions, for more information.

**Master of Arts: Post-professional Advanced Occupational Therapy (OTH)**

INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED SEQUENCE OF COURSES

The post-professional master’s degree program is designed for occupational therapists who want master’s-level study regarding current theories, research, frames of reference, and issues related to practice. Each student takes a core of graduate-level courses in occupational therapy theory, research, and professional skills. Domestic students may begin their studies in the fall, spring, or summer term. International students may begin their studies in the fall. This 30-unit program may be completed as full-time or part-time study.

Students select an area of specialization such as pediatrics, mental health, assistive technology, physical disabilities, upper quadrant, or school-based practice. Selection of courses is made by advisement. Electives may be taken in other New York University schools, divisions, and programs, including psychology, education, special education, ergonomics and biomechanics, public administration, and others.

Department Core Courses (12 units):

Research Methods for Occupational Therapy OT-GE.2025, Theoretical Foundations for Intervention OT-GE.2762.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

In addition to the admission criteria of the school, the following specific requirements apply: (1) certification as an occupational therapist or eligibility for certification; (2) baccalaureate degree in occupational therapy; (3) a strong grade-unit average; (4) a personal statement; and (5) interview(s) as requested by the department.

**Doctor of Professional Studies (OTHS)**

Through the Doctor of Professional Studies (D.P.S.) Program, students have the opportunity to advance their knowledge and critical thinking via coursework that builds a foundation of critical analysis, evidence-based practice, ethics, and theory. The D.P.S. prepares advanced, skilled occupational therapists to deliver, present, and collaborate with interdisciplinary professionals to provide high-quality care. Full-time or part-time study is available. Students are offered two areas of advanced clinical specialization: pediatrics and upper quadrant.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
Occupational therapists who hold a master’s degree complete (1) 36 units of approved course work with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0, (2) presentation and successful defense of evidence-based professional portfolio, and (3) completion of all requirements for the D.P.S. within seven years. Full-time or part-time study is available.

Department Core Courses (6 units):
- Theoretical Foundations for Intervention OT-GE.2762
- Ethics and Analytical Reasoning OT-GE.2764

Program Requirements (6 units):
- Evidence-Based Practice OT-GE.3301
- Advanced Assessments for the Practicing Therapist OT-GE.3306

Clinical Specialization (12 units):
- Electives (9 units): Students are required to complete 9 units of electives from University-wide offerings.
- Terminal Project (3 units): Professional Portfolio: Advanced Practice OT-GE.3310

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
In addition to the admission criteria of the school, the following specific requirements apply: (1) GRE score; (2) graduation from an approved professional occupational therapy program; (3) master’s degree or equivalent; (4) a personal statement; (5) three letters of recommendation; and (6) interviews as requested by the department. The application deadlines are November 15 and March 15 for the D.P.S.

*There is a special single decision option that allows occupational therapists with a bachelor’s degree in occupational therapy to apply directly to the clinical doctoral degree program and to earn a master’s degree during the educational process. Applicants for the single-option select the M.A. degree, program code OTTH, and document a desire to progress to the D.P.S. program in the personal statement. The application deadline is February 1 for the single-option M.A./D.P.S.

Doctor of Philosophy (OTHX)
The Ph.D. program Research in Occupational Therapy was established in 1973 and was the first such doctoral program in the world. The program provides students with the knowledge and skills to work in the profession as researchers, scholars, and educators. Doctoral students take post-professional coursework in occupational therapy and courses in other disciplines both in the school and throughout the University.

All full-time Ph.D. students receive a multi-year fellowship, which provides full tuition and an annual stipend.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
Occupational therapists who hold a master’s degree (1) complete a total of 52 units, including coursework with a strong grade unit average, and (2) complete a dissertation. Students who hold a master’s degree in post-professional occupational therapy from NYU enter with advanced standing and must take a minimum of 42 units and complete a dissertation. Full-time or part-time study is available.

Occupational Therapy Specialization (15 units):
- Theoretical Foundations for Intervention OT-GE.2762
- Developing a Guideline for Intervention OT-GE.2763
- Ethics and Analytical Reasoning OT-GE.2764

Cognate Courses (6 units):
- Foundations (6 units): Philosophy of Scientific Inquiry PHED-GE50.2089
- Science and the Professions: Philosophies of Applied Science PHED-GE.2090

Doctoral students take post-professional coursework in occupational therapy and courses in other disciplines both in the school and throughout the University.

Dissertation-Related Courses (15 units):
- Occupational Therapy Doctoral Colloquium (1 unit): OT-GE.3408

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
In addition to the admission criteria of the school, the following specific requirements apply: (1) GRE score; (2) graduation from an approved professional occupational therapy program; (3) a strong grade unit average; (4) master’s degree or equivalent; (5) a personal statement; (6) three letters of recommendation; and (7) interviews as requested by the department.
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY/OT-GE

New Student Seminar in Occupational Therapy
OT-GE.2000 Buckley, Poole. 20 hours: 0 units. Fall.

Principles of Human Anatomy
OT-GE.2001 Aqua. 30 hours: 3 units. Spring.

Human Anatomy Lecture
OT-GE.2002 Aqua. 53 hours: 3 units. Fall. Prerequisites: Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II

Human Anatomy Laboratory
OT-GE.2003 Aqua. 49 lab hours: 1 unit. Spring. Prerequisite: OT-GE.2002

Neuroscience
OT-GE.2010 Voelbel. 45 hours: 3 units. Fall. Prerequisites: Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II

Occupational Performance in Context
OT-GE.2020 Buckley, Poole. 20 hours: 2 units. Fall.

Research Methods for Occupational Therapy
OT-GE.2025 Bear-Lehman. 20 hours: 2 units. Spring. Prerequisite: Statistics.

Research Methods for Occupational Therapy
OT-GE.2025 Howe. 30 hours: 3 units. Fall. Prerequisite: Statistics.

Theoretical Bases for the Scope of Practice
OT-GE.2030 Buckley. 40 hours: 3 units. Spring. Prerequisites: OT-GE.2701 and OT-GE.2709.

Analysis of Human Activity and Occupational Therapy Performance I
OT-GE.2035 Buckley, Poole. 20 hours: 2 units. Spring. Prerequisite: successful completion of all first-semester occupational therapy courses.

Medical and Psychiatric Conditions
OT-GE.2039 Voelbel, Poole. 40 hours: 3 units. Spring. Prerequisites: General Psychology; Abnormal Psychology; OT-GE.2002; OT-GE.2010; OT-GE.2709.

Professional Issues I
OT-GE.2040 Silver. 10 hours: 1 unit. Spring. Prerequisite: OT-GE successful completion of all Fall first year courses

Professional Issues II
OT-GE.2041 Silver. 10 hours: 1 unit. Spring. Prerequisites: satisfactory completion of all level I fieldwork in the first year. Students must be in good standing in academic courses for the second year.

Disability in a Global Context
OT-GE.2170 Perr. 30 hours: 3 units. Spring.

Independent Study
OT-GE.2300 Silver. 45 hours per unit: 1-6 units. Fall, spring, summer; hours to be arranged.

Treating Children with Sensory Regulatory Dysfunction
OT-GE.2332 Koenig. 30 hours: 3 units. Summer.

Successful Intervention in Schools
OT-GE.2335 Koenig. 30 hours: 3 units. Fall.

Reframing the Meaning of Disability to Families
OT-GE.2338 Grossman. 30 hours: 3 units. Summer.

Foundations of Occupational Therapy
OT-GE.2701 Poole. 20 hours: 2 units. Fall.

Fieldwork II in Occupational Therapy
OT-GE.2703 Bear-Lehman. Minimum of 480 hours per unit: 3 units (6 units required). Fall, spring, summer; hours to be arranged. Registration by permission of instructor.

Fieldwork II in Occupational Therapy (Specialty)
OT-GE.2704 Bear-Lehman. Minimum of 480 hours (10-12 weeks): 2-3 units. Fall, spring, summer; hours to be arranged. Registration by permission of instructor.

Activity Group Process
OT-GE.2707 30 hours: 3 units. Fall.

Performance and Development Across the Life Span
OT-GE.2709 Howe. 30 hours: 3 units. Fall.

Kinesiology
OT-GE.2710 Poole. 35 hours: 2 units. Spring. Prerequisite: OT-GE.2002

Fieldwork I
OT-GE.2720 55.5 hours: 1 unit. Summer. Prerequisites: OT-GE.2707 and OT-GE.2709

Fieldwork I in Occupational Therapy
OT-GE.2721 Perr. 195 hours: 1 unit. Fall. Prerequisites: successful completion of all first year courses

Fieldwork I
OT-GE.2722 Perr. 120 hours: 1 unit. Spring. Prerequisite: OT-GE.2721

Research Design in Occupational Therapy
OT-GE.2724 Bear-Lehman. 20 hours: 2 units. Summer. Prerequisite: OT-GE.2025

Research Interpretation for Occupational Therapy
OT-GE.2725 Bear-Lehman. 45 hours: 3 units. Fall. Prerequisite: OT-GE.2724

Analysis of Human Activity and Occupational Performance II
OT-GE.2736 Perr. 20 hours: 2 units. Summer. Lecture and laboratory. Prerequisite: OT-GE.2035

Orthopedic Evaluation and Intervention
OT-GE.2741 Poole. 45 hours: 3 units. Fall. Prerequisite: successful completion of all first year courses

The courses listed herein are to be offered in 2011–2013.

NOTES TO COURSES
*Registration closed to special students.
†Pass/fail basis.
Rehabilitation Evaluation and Intervention  
OT-GE.2742  Perr. 45 hours: 3 units.  
Spring.  
Prerequisite: successful completion of all first year courses.

Neurological Evaluation and Intervention  
OT-GE.2743  Buckley. 45 hours: 3 units.  
Fall.  
Prerequisite: successful completion of all first year courses.

Cognitive Evaluation and Intervention  
OT-GE.2744  Goverover. 30 hours: 3 units.  
Spring.  
Prerequisite: successful completion of all first year courses.

Mental Health Evaluation and Intervention  
OT-GE.2745  Voelbel. 44 hours: 3 units.  
Fall.

Community Practice  
OT-GE.2746  Buckley. 21 hours: 2 units.  
Spring.  
Prerequisite: OT-GE.2745.

Pediatric Evaluation and Intervention  
OT-GE.2748  Koenig. 45 hours: 3 units.  
Spring.  
Prerequisite: successful completion of all first year courses.

Health Advocacy and Administration  
OT-GE.2750  Gentile. 45 hours: 3 units.  
Spring.  
Prerequisite: OT-GE.2701.

Theoretical Foundations for Intervention  
OT-GE.2762  Hinojosa. 30 hours: 3 units.  
Fall.

Developing a Guideline for Intervention  
OT-GE.2763  Hinojosa. 30 hours: 3 units.  
Spring.  
Prerequisite: OT-GE.2762.  
It is a required course for OTHS (DPS) curriculum.

Ethics and Analytical Reasoning  
OT-GE.2764  Hinojosa. 30 hours: 3 units.  
Summer.

Clinical Anatomy of the Upper Quadrant, Face, Neck, and Selected Cavities  
OT-GE.2801  Aqua. 30 hours: 3 units.  
Spring.

Directed Project Design in Occupational Therapy  
OT-GE.2805  Goverover. 30 hours: 3 units.  
Fall.  
Corequisite: Research Methods.

Directed Project in Occupational Therapy  
OT-GE.2806  Howe. 30 hours: 3 units.  
Spring.  
Prerequisite: OT-GE.2805.

Developing Assistive Technology  
OT-GE.2900  Perr. 30 hours: 3 units.  
Spring.

Evidence-Based Practice  
OT-GE.3301  Howe. 30 hours: 3 units.  
Spring.

Advanced Assessment for the Practicing Therapist  
OT-GE.3306  Koenig. 30 hours: 3 units.  
Fall.

Professional Portfolio: Advanced Practice  
OT-GE.3310  Hinojosa. 30 hours: 0–3 units.  
Fall, spring.  
Professional Portfolio has a 1-credit option for those OTHS students to use for continuing in the e-portfolio seminar after conclusion of coursework, and a 0-credit option for those continuing in the e-portfolio seminar while enrolled in other courses.

Departmental Seminar: Occupational Therapy  
OT-GE.3406†  Goverover. 30 hours: 0–3 units.  
Fall, spring.  
Departmental Seminar has a 0-credit option for those Ph.D. students who have been advised to continue in the seminar after passing candidacy.

Occupational Therapy Doctoral Colloquium  
OT-GE.3408  Bear-Lehman. 15 hours: 0–1 unit.  
Fall, spring.  
Zero-credit option to be used for those Ph.D. candidates who are enrolled in other courses.