

Entry-level Doctor of **Occupational Therapy**

0721

Help others live life to the fullest

Chatham offers an entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (ELOTD) program for students who hold a bachelor's degree and wish to obtain this credential. At Chatham, you can earn your OTD in only 32 months—two terms beyond the Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT). The OTD provides more real-world experience through a doctoral project in your area of interest. Through this project, you'll increase the scope of your career to include paths such as leadership, advocacy, research, program development, and advanced clinical practice.

chatham.edu/ot



chatham[®]UNIVERSITY

Entry-level Doctor of **Occupational Therapy**

The entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy program is part of Chatham University's **SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES**. The highly-collaborative School stands in stark contrast to the “lost in the crowd” health sciences programs at larger universities, and allows for interprofessional education among students in nursing, psychology, physician assistant studies, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and athletic training. Graduates enter or advance their careers ready to contribute to improving the quality of care their organizations deliver.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The OTD program offers fieldwork opportunities in traditional and non-traditional practice settings at more than 350 sites nationwide—including the many nearby hospitals, clinics, and community agencies in Pittsburgh, a nationally recognized premier healthcare hub.
- Faculty members are accomplished teachers, scholars, practitioners, and active leaders in the field. Class sizes are small, ensuring each student receives personalized attention and feedback.
- Students take an active leadership role in holistic sustainable health through engagement in community health promotion and advocacy events.
- An elective course in global health perspectives allows students to gain experience in international healthcare settings.
- Students network with numerous OT practitioners, including our esteemed alumni, through guest lectures and fieldwork experiences. Opportunities also exist to present at state and national OT conferences.
- In addition to newly renovated classroom and laboratory spaces, students have the opportunity to practice OT techniques in our full-size, mock apartment. Chatham's location also offers access to a network of resources from nearby colleges and universities.

SAMPLE COURSES

Occupational Performance in Children and Adolescents

This course addresses the occupational development of children and adolescents, and the interrelationship between the child, occupation, and the environment on occupational performance and participation. Students learn theories and conceptual models of practice used in pediatric OT, and the evaluation and intervention process as practiced in a variety of settings (community, hospitals, schools, etc). Influence of the family, environment, and sociocultural factors on the developing child and the OT process is explored.

Environmental Interventions

Students learn principles of assistive technology practice and the occupational therapist's role on the assistive technology team. Students explore and critique technology resources, assess environments, and apply information to evaluation and treatment. The impact of environmental interventions on the consumer's ability to engage in meaningful occupations is discussed and analyzed.

Community Based Fieldwork & Seminar

This community-based fieldwork experience emphasizes higher level management and leadership skills, including program development, advocacy, and consultation. Students learn about community agencies, population and organizational needs, and apply their knowledge to conceptualize, plan, implement, and evaluate a unique program in a community-based agency.

FACULTY EXPERTISE

Students benefit from the breadth of faculty expertise found in Chatham's OTD program:

- Biomechanics
- Community-based Practice
- Evidence-based Practice
- Geriatrics/Skilled Nursing
- Gerontology
- Holistic practice
- Home Care
- Leadership
- Mental Health
- Neuroscience
- Pediatrics
- Rehab Management
- School-based Practice
- Sensory Integration
- Spinal Cord

“Our faculty has carefully and intentionally designed an entry-level OTD program which lays a foundation for graduates to confidently function as well-informed, generalist practitioners. The program guides students through introspection and self-reflection to develop individualized, authentic leadership skills, and prepares them with the tools and knowledge to be leaders within the OT profession and society at large. Students are provided opportunities both inside and outside the classroom to explore and apply cutting-edge theories and intervention approaches. They gain an understanding of professional responsibilities and advocacy through engagement in various personal and professional leadership and scholarship opportunities.”

— JODI SCHREIBER, OTD, OTR/L, C/NDT,
associate professor of occupational therapy

LEARN MORE

chatham.edu/ot

Chatham University
Office of Admission
Woodland Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
800-837-1290 or 412-365-1825
gradadmission@chatham.edu

ADMISSION INFORMATION

Students must apply and submit all relevant materials directly to OTCAS, which opens each July. Students begin their application the year prior to the fall term they intend to start.

Prerequisite Courses

- Human Anatomy with lab
- Physiology with lab (human or animal)
- Abnormal Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Statistics or Research Methods

Applicants must have three of the five prerequisite courses completed by August 31 of the application year, and at least one of those courses must be human anatomy with lab or physiology (animal or human) with lab or anatomy & physiology I with lab. Additionally, prerequisite courses must have been completed no more than ten years prior to the anticipated start date of the program.

For more detailed admission requirements and application deadline information, please visit chatham.edu/ot.

ADMITTED STUDENT PROFILE

for students beginning fall 2020

- Average Overall GPA: 3.57
- Average Prerequisite GPA: 3.60

▶ **Apply online to OTCAS at otcas.liasoncas.com**

Chatham's Entry-Level Occupational Therapy Doctoral Degree Program has applied for accreditation and has been granted Pre-Accreditation Status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its web address is www.acoteonline.org.

The program must complete an on-site evaluation (scheduled for September 2021) and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.