

Exercise Physiology Curriculum Plan

Freshman Year

First Semester	Hrs.
ENGL 101.....	3
PSYC 101 <i>Intro. to Psychology</i>	6
MATH 126 <i>Algebra</i>	3
BIOL 101 & 103	4
EXPH 293 <i>Intro. to EXPH I</i>	1
Total	17

Second Semester	Hrs.
MATH 128 <i>Trig.</i>	3
BIOL 102 & 104.....	4
GEC courses	6
ATTR 121 <i>Athletic Training</i>	3
EXPH 293A <i>Intro. to EXPH II</i>	1
Total	17

Sophomore Year

First Semester	Hrs.
CHEM 115	4
PHYS 101	4
GEC course	3
EXPH 364 <i>Kinesiology</i>	3
ENGL 102.....	3
Total	17

Second Semester	Hrs.
CHEM 116	4
PHYS 102.....	4
PHYS 241 <i>Human Psychology</i>	4
CHPR 172 <i>First Aid & Em. Care</i>	2
Total	14

Junior Year

First Semester	Hrs.
EXPH 365 <i>Exercise Physiology I</i>	3
EXPH 368 <i>Lab Tech. & Methods I</i>	3
ATTR 219 <i>Anatomy</i>	3
PSYC 241 <i>Human Growth & Dev.</i>	6
GEC course	3
Total	18

Second Semester	Hrs.
CHEM 231 <i>Organic Chem. Brief</i>	4
EXPH 493D <i>Strength/Cond. Meth.</i>	3
HN&F 171 <i>Nutrition</i>	3
EXPH 370 <i>Scientific Writing</i>	3
Electives	3
Total	16

Senior Year

First Semester	Hrs.
EXPH 491 <i>Prof. Field Exp.</i>	3
EXPH 496 <i>Senior Thesis</i>	3
STAT 211	3
Electives (e.g., Rsch. methods).....	3
Total	12

Second Semester	Hrs.
EXPH 491 <i>Prof. Field Exp.</i>	3
EXPH 493 <i>Exercise Management</i>	3
GEC course.....	3
Electives	6
Total	15

(Suggested electives: BIOL 219 *The Living Cell* (4 hrs.) and 339 *Biochemistry* (3 hrs.)

*MATH 129, 150, or 155 can be substituted for MATH 126 and 128.

**BIOL 115 and 117 can be substituted for BIOL 101–104.

Students may also choose an emphasis in health professions. This program prepares the student to continue their education in graduate or professional schools. An aquatic therapy emphasis is also available for students who wish to pursue a clinical career.

Occupational Therapy

Randy P. McCombie, Ph.D., OTR/L, Chair

Degree Offered

Master of Occupational Therapy

Introduction

In fall 1993, the Board of Trustees approved the establishment of a new master’s degree program at WVU, leading to an entry-level master’s degree in occupational therapy. The program accepted its first students into the professional program in the fall semester of 1996. The academic and fieldwork program requires three years to complete. Prior to application, students are required to complete 58 hours of prerequisite courses, which in most instances will take approximately two years to fulfill.

The Profession

Occupational therapy is a health profession whose services are provided to people of all ages with physical, mental, or developmental disabilities. The purpose of occupational therapy is to help individuals achieve a maximum level of independence. The focus is on developing the capacity to function in all activities (occupations) of daily life, including self care, work, and leisure; hence the name occupational therapy.

Occupational therapy is a health and rehabilitation profession designed to help people regain and build skills that are important for health, well-being, security, and happiness.

Occupational therapists work with people of all ages who, because of physical, developmental, social, or emotional deficits, need specialized assistance in learning skills to enable them to lead independent, productive, and satisfying lives.

Occupational therapists work in schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, home health agencies, skilled nursing homes, and private practice.

Accreditation Status

WVU's Division of Occupational Therapy has been awarded accreditation status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220. AOTA's phone number is (301) 652-AOTA. Graduates of the program are able to sit for the National Certification Examination for the Occupational Therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). For more information, NBCOT can be contacted at (301) 990-7979. After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an occupational therapist, registered (OTR). Most states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT certification examination.

Note: A felony conviction may impact a graduate's ability to take the NBCOT (National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc.) examination and/or obtaining a state license. For further information on NBCOT's Character Review Program, interested parties can obtain information from that Board on their Web site at www.nbcot.org.

Admissions Process

This includes obtaining an application packet available December 1 from the Admissions and Records Office, (304) 293-3521, and completing that packet by February 15. A personal interview may be required.

College Prerequisite Courses—Traditional Track	Hrs.
ENGL 101	3
ENGL 102	3
PSYC 101	3
PSYC 241	3
PSYC 281	3
SOCA 101 or SOCA 105	3
BIOL 101 and BIOL 103	4
BIOL 102 and BIOL 104	4
PHYS 101	4
STAT 211	3
COMM 100	1
COMM 102	2
Total	36

Note: Physiology will become an official prerequisite course; therefore, it is *strongly recommended* that applicants do take physiology prior to starting the occupational therapy program. Students should contact the Division of Occupational Therapy at (304) 293-8828 to obtain information on the specifics of that course.

Recommended Courses	Hrs.
PHYS 241 or 441	4
CHEM 115	4

Note: Students must complete the WVU General Education Curriculum (GEC) requirements. Students should contact their advisor for specifics on these requirements.

Note: Occupational therapy assistants interested in the OTA to OT distance learning track should contact the Division of Occupational Therapy for specifics on program prerequisites and other program requirements.

WVU students must consult the Student Advising Center prior to enrolling in prerequisite courses. These courses may be taken at any institution which offers equivalent courses. Any questions regarding prerequisite courses may be directed to the Office of Academic Advising, (304) 293-5805. Equivalence may be determined by contacting the transfer desk, Admissions and Records, West Virginia University, P.O. Box 6009, Morgantown, WV 26506-6009.

Admission Standards

Normally, students apply to the program during their second year of college. They must have a minimum of 48 hours of college credit which includes the prerequisites listed above. Students who already have a degree in another field are also eligible to apply. All applicants must meet the following criteria.

- Minimum GPA of 3.0, overall and prerequisites.
- Minimum of 60 hours of volunteer or work experience with people with disabilities is required. A minimum of 45 of those hours must be with a licensed occupational therapist (OTR/L).
- Two recommendation forms are also required, one from an occupational therapist who supervised the volunteer/work experiences and the other from a professor who has recently taught the applicant.
- Completion of all prerequisite courses by the end of the semester of application (normally, second semester of sophomore year) is normally required.

What to Expect

Like many professional programs, the curriculum in the master's entry-level occupational therapy program is fairly fixed and intense. The first professional year will include courses in basic sciences and introductory professional courses. The second and third professional years will deal more specifically with training in occupational therapy theory and practice as administered across a wide variety of settings. The professional curriculum includes two off-campus, full-time clinical experiences known as fieldwork. Students are financially responsible for transportation, housing, and meal expenses related to clinical assignments.

Program Timeframe

Students must complete all didactic coursework and Level II Fieldwork within a period of *five years* after commencing the occupational therapy program. Furthermore, all Level II Fieldwork must be completed within *18 months* following completion of academic coursework while remaining within the five-year time frame.

Occupational Therapy Curriculum Plan

Junior Year

Summer Session II	Hrs.
OTH 300	4
OTH 480	1
Total	5

First Semester	Hrs.
PSIO 441	4
OTH 301	3
OTH 302	2
OTH 303	2
OTH 304	4
OTH 306	4
Total	19

Second Semester	Hrs.
OTH 307	3
OTH 308	4
OTH 321	3
OTH 360	3
OTH 406	3
OTH 480	1
Total	17

Senior Year

First Semester	Hrs.
OTH 384	2
OTH 401	2
OTH 417	3
OTH 430	3
OTH 435	3
OTH 480	1
OTH 493	2
OTH 497	1
Total	17

Second Semester	Hrs.
OTH 385	2
OTH 408	3
OTH 416	2
OTH 419	3
OTH 432	4
OTH 480	1
OTH 493 A	2
OTH 497	1
Total	18

Graduate Year

Summer 1-2	Hrs.
OTH 540	6
Total	6

First Semester	Hrs.
OTH 480	1
OTH 500	3
OTH 503	4
OTH 505	3
OTH 520	3
OTH 551	3
OTH 697	2
Total	19

Second Semester	Hrs.
<i>Weeks 1-4</i>	
OTH 480	1
OTH 501	3
OTH 550	3
OTH 697	2
<i>Weeks 5-16</i>	
OTH 640	6
Total	15