OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY OTD

Degree: Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD)

There are two options for the Occupational Therapy Doctoral program:

Occupational Therapy Doctorate (Entry-Level) ([https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/occutherapy/programs/elotd](https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/occutherapy/programs/elotd) - Accepting applications for Summer 2019
Program Director: Sonia Lawson, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Phone: 410-704-2313
Email: slawson@towson.edu

Post-Professional Occupational Therapy Doctorate ([https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/occutherapy/programs/ppotd](https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/occutherapy/programs/ppotd)
Program Director: Kendra Heatwole Shank, PhD, OTR/L
Phone: 410-704-4437
Email: kheatwoleshank@towson.edu

Post-Professional Occupational Therapy

The Post-Professional Occupational Therapy doctorate (PPOT) is an advanced clinical degree for eligible occupational therapists with evidence of successful initial certification by the National Certification Board of Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) as an OTR, and at least a Master’s degree. The PPOT is grounded in the science of occupation and evidence-based advanced practice. The curriculum consists of 33 units, with the majority of the coursework occurring through online learning. Course content includes advanced clinical assessment and intervention, occupational science and inter-professional studies. Each graduate must complete an individual capstone project during a two-course sequence. The program can be completed on a part-time or full-time basis.

Occupational Therapy (Entry-Level)

The entry level Occupational Therapy doctoral program has applied for accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE’s telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-4500, and its web address is www.acoteonline.org. Anticipated program start date Summer 2019.

The program must be granted Candidacy Status, have a pre-accreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, 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.

Licensed occupational therapists can earn a doctorate in Post-Professional Occupational Therapy (PPOT) by completing required coursework in an online format.

The PPOT program consists of 33 units, with advanced clinical coursework focused on children and youth, adults and aging, or other relevant areas such as autism or mental health.

**Admission Requirements**

All of the following criteria must be met for admission:

- Master’s degree from an accredited institution of higher learning
- GPA of 3.25 in graduate coursework—conditional admission with overall GPA of 3.00
- Towson University Graduate Application and fee
- Official transcripts indicating occupational therapy degree and any other post-graduate coursework
- Two Letters of Recommendation
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae
- Personal statement (750 words)
- Proof of NBCOT certification (copy of NBCOT certificate)
- Current licensure in good standing to practice occupational therapy
- Interview at the request of the department

To begin the application process, submit an online application ([https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply](https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply)). Students are admitted to the program on a rolling basis. An Admissions Committee reviews submitted materials after receipt of all components.

**Non-immigrant international students**: See additional admission information in Graduate Admissions ([https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply/international.html](https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply/international.html)).

**See Exceptions to Policy** in Graduate Admissions ([https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply/policies.html](https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply/policies.html)).

**Degree Requirements**

All required courses are delivered in an online format. Some courses may require synchronous attendance in online courses as well as use technologies that allow for accurate assessment of certain skill competencies.

**Required Occupational Therapy Courses**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCTH 778</td>
<td>ADVANCED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSESSMENT</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCTH 779</td>
<td>ADVANCED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERVENTIONS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTH 881</td>
<td>CAPSTONE RESEARCH PROJECT I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTH 882</td>
<td>CAPSTONE RESEARCH PROJECT II</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Required Occupational Science Courses**

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OSC 742</td>
<td>ORIGINS AND EVOLUTION OF OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSC 744</td>
<td>PARTICIPATION AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF PEOPLE IN THEIR CONTEXT</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSC 746</td>
<td>PARTICIPATION AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN COMMUNITIES AND POPULATIONS</td>
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Required Inter-Professional Education Courses (Choose one from each category):

**Leadership/Advocacy**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECED 762</td>
<td>LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY IN EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECED 764</td>
<td>ETHICS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN EDUCATION AND RELATED HUMAN SERVICES</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLTH 637</td>
<td>SKILL DEVELOPMENT: LEADERSHIP IN THE HEALTH CARE SETTING</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLTH 657</td>
<td>HEALTH ADVOCACY ACROSS SERVICE SETTINGS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLTH 617</td>
<td>HEALTH ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILPD 668</td>
<td>LEADERSHIP &amp; GROUP DYNAMICS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILPD 675</td>
<td>LEADERSHIP AND ACTION RESEARCH</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Health Care Systems/Administration**

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HLTH 603</td>
<td>EMERGING ISSUES IN THE HEALTH OF THE NATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLTH 619</td>
<td>ORGANIZING SYSTEMS OF CARE FOR CRONICALLY ILL AND PHYSICALLY DEPENDENT POPULATIONS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLTH 645</td>
<td>HEALTH CARE POLICY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDHP 610</td>
<td>ADMINISTRATION OF HEALTH CARE ORGANIZATIONS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDHP 651</td>
<td>PLANNING AND MARKETING HEALTH IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Program Evaluation/Grant Funding**

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IDHP 602</td>
<td>CLINICAL PROGRAM PLANNING,IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLTH 649</td>
<td>PROGRAM EVALUATION</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Elective**

- One 3 unit elective that complements clinical focus

Total Units: 33

1. Examine and analyze research evidence related to the application of occupation to support the participation of people in their daily lives.
2. Generate and critique clinical evidence related to the application of occupation to support the participation of people in their daily lives.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in the use of technology to effectively prepare and lead a classroom discussion in an online learning environment.

**Courses**

**OCTH 521 KINESIOLOGY OF OCCUPATION (3)**

Analysis of human movement and pathology as it applies to occupational performance. Presents the principles of biomechanics, muscle physiology, joint structure, muscle function, and motor control emphasizing palpation of anatomical structures. Prerequisite: consent of department.

**OCTH 570 SPECIAL TOPICS IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (1-3)**

Designed to explore topics of special interest in the theory and practice of occupational therapy. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. May be repeated for a maximum of 3 units.

**OCTH 600 FOUNDATIONS OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (4)**

Historical and philosophical underpinnings of occupational therapy focusing on the meaning of occupation across the lifespan. Occupational therapy process and analysis of occupational performance are emphasized. Prerequisites: consent of department. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

**OCTH 601 GROUP DYNAMICS IN DIVERSE CONTEXTS (3)**

A study of group process in various contexts, representing diverse cultures.

**OCTH 603 ISSUES IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (3)**

Analysis of current issues in occupational therapy. Prerequisite: Admission to Occupational Therapy master’s program. Consent of department.

**OCTH 604 ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL EDUCATION (3)**

College/university teaching and clinical supervision strategies for the preparation of professionals in clinical disciplines. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

**OCTH 605 MANAGING HUMAN RESOURCES IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (3)**

Issues and trends: in leadership, decision-making styles, productivity, professional development recruitment and retention, and performance appraisal systems. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

**OCTH 606 ADULT AND OLDER ADULT NEUROLOGICAL OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (3)**

Examination of the etiology, progression, and management of neurological conditions and other influences on adults and older adults’ engagement in occupation. Fundamentals of developmental theories, and occupational therapy theory and practice applied to adults and older adults with neurological conditions. Corequisite: OCTH 607. Prerequisites: OCTH 600, OCTH 601, OCTH 221, BIOL 427.

**OCTH 607 ADULT AND OLDER ADULT MUSCULOSKELETAL OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (3)**

Examines the etiology, clinical course, evaluation, and management of musculoskeletal conditions as they influence engagement of occupation for adults and older adults. Fundamentals of occupational therapy theory and practice are applied to adults and older adults with musculoskeletal conditions. Corequisite: OCTH 606. Prerequisites: OCTH 600, OCTH 601, OCTH 221, BIOL 427. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

**OCTH 609 ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS AND DATA ANALYSIS IN OCCUPATION BASED PRACTICE (3)**

Application of qualitative and quantitative research methods and data analysis. Prerequisite: consent of department.

**OCTH 610 DATA ANALYSIS IN OCCUPATION-BASED RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE (3)**

In depth examination of quantitative and qualitative data in health related literature and application of data analysis procedures in occupation-based research. Prerequisites: consent of department.

**OCTH 611 ADVANCED THEORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF OCCUPATION (3)**

Analysis of the theories and philosophical assumptions underlying occupation. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

**OCTH 612 OT HEALTH PROMOTION INITIATIVES IN THE COMMUNITY (3)**

Theory and practice of occupational therapy in health promotion in the community with special emphasis on the cultural context of the community. Integrates knowledge and skills for the practice of occupational therapy services which foster healthy development; prevent health problems; maintain optimal function; and develop occupational performance skills of individuals, families, and communities. Prerequisite: OCTH 611 or permission of instructor.
OCTH 613 ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS IN OCCUPATIONAL BASED PRACTICE (3)
Application of qualitative and quantitative research methods. Prerequisite: consent of department.

OCTH 614 PRINCIPLES OF PSYCHOSOCIAL OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE (5)
Psychosocial aspects of human functioning and occupational implications of clinical conditions. Occupational therapy theory and practice are applied to mental health. Corequisite: OCTH 620. Prerequisites: OCTH 600 and OCTH 601.

OCTH 615 SEMINAR IN PROFESSIONAL AND CLINICAL REASONING (3)
Synthesis and integration of clinical reasoning, reflective practice, and professional knowledge required for clinical practice. Prerequisites: OCTH 319 and OCTH 320.

OCTH 619 ADULT PHYSICAL REHABILITATION LEVEL I FIELDWORK (3)
Classroom and fieldwork experiences in evaluation and intervention in adult rehabilitation and disability. Students explore assumptions related to clinical skills, identify areas in need of improvement, and apply learned concepts. Corequisites: OCTH 606 and OCTH 607 or consent of department. Prerequisites: OCTH 600, OCTH 601, OCTH 521, BIOL 427.

OCTH 620 PSYCHOSOCIAL LEVEL I FIELDWORK (3)
Occupational therapy service delivery in the mental/behavioral health practice arena. Students employ their clinical reasoning, therapeutic use of self and professional attitudes and behaviors while in the classroom and during their Level I fieldwork experience. Transformative learning theory frames learning activities and expected outcomes. Corequisite: OCTH 614. Prerequisites: OCTH 600, OCTH 601; consent of department.

OCTH 624 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH (5)

OCTH 626 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY FIELDWORK FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH (3)
Classroom and fieldwork practice in occupational therapy evaluation and intervention with children and youth and their families. Students gain knowledge of delivery of occupational therapy services in various practice settings, legislation, and documentation. Competency and professionalism are addressed in Level I fieldwork. A transformative learning theory is used to frame the course. Corequisite: OCTH 624. Prerequisite: consent of department.

OCTH 627 ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES (3)
Administrative and organizational processes applied to occupational therapy service delivery. Includes leadership in personnel relationships, systems analysis, program planning, budgeting, marketing occupational therapy and related services, and ethical and legal issues. Topics are viewed within the perspective of the dynamics of the current health care industry. Prerequisite: consent of department.

OCTH 628 CONTEMPORARY OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE (3-6)
Combines classroom preparation with a directed independent study focused on expanding and developing skills in an area of occupational therapy practice of special interest to the student. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 units. Prerequisite: completion of one Level II fieldwork or consent of instructor.

OCTH 633 OCCUPATION BASED PEDIATRIC INTERVENTION (3)
Advanced intervention principles for pediatric populations, including provisions for care of children from birth to 21 years of age in health delivery systems, including the schools. Prerequisite: consent of the department, permit required.

OCTH 634 CONTEXTUAL FACTORS AND OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE (3)
Study of contextual factors that influence occupational performance across the lifespan. Prerequisites: Consent of department.

OCTH 635 LEVEL II FIELDWORK I (9)
Supervised Level II Fieldwork in occupational therapy practice. Prerequisites: OCTH 614, OCTH 620, OCTH 606, OCTH 607, OCTH 619, OCTH 625, OCTH 626 and consent of department.

OCTH 636 LEVEL II FIELDWORK II (9)
Supervised Level II fieldwork in occupational therapy practice. Graded S/U. Prerequisites: OCTH 635 and consent of department.

OCTH 670 SPECIAL TOPICS IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (1-3)
Study of selected topics in occupational therapy. Prerequisites: With each topic, consent of instructor.

OCTH 678 ASSESSMENT THROUGHOUT THE LIFESPAN (3)
Examination, selection, administration, and evaluation of a variety of measurement tools used in Occupational Therapy Practice. Corequisite OCTH 326. Prerequisites: OCTH 319, OCTH 320; consent of department. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

OCTH 691 DIRECTED READINGS IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (1-3)
Guided review of literature to explore in-depth subjects related to occupational therapy theory and practice. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

OCTH 692 INDEPENDENT STUDY (1-6)
In-depth investigation specific to area of interest in occupational therapy. Prerequisite: Consent of Department.

OCTH 777 ADVANCED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSESSMENT (3)
Analysis of current assessment practices in occupational therapy and synthesis of current evidence to advance assessment procedures for the profession within specific practice areas. Prerequisites: consent of department.

OCTH 779 ADVANCED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERVENTIONS (3)
Analysis of current intervention practices in occupational therapy and synthesis of current evidence to advance intervention procedures for the profession within focused practice areas. Prerequisite: consent of the department.

OCTH 781 GRADUATE SEMINAR IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (3)
Graduate project of thesis proposal preparation with feedback and discussion. Corequisite OCTH 319. Prerequisites: OCTH 320, OCTH 610, OCTH 613; and consent of department. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

OCTH 782 RESEARCH PRACTICUM (3)
Supervised participation in a research process that is oriented toward the application of specific research techniques in occupational therapy and occupational science. Prerequisites: OCTH 613 and OCTH 610 or OCTH 609 and consent of department.
OCTH 880 GRADUATE PROJECT IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (3)
Implementation and documentation of a project designed in OCTH 781 that is oriented toward the application of specific techniques in occupational technology. Prerequisites: OCTH 781, successful completion of the graduate examination and consent of project adviser.

OCTH 881 CAPSTONE RESEARCH PROJECT I (3)
Creation of an independent research project proposal related to current occupational therapy practice areas. Prerequisites: OCTH 609, OCTH 610, or other evidence of adequate statistical analysis preparation, and consent of department.

OCTH 882 CAPSTONE RESEARCH PROJECT II (3)
Implementation, documentation, and dissemination of an evidence-based project. Prerequisites: OCTH 881 and consent of the department.

OCTH 885 PROJECT CONTINUUM (1)
Continuing work on previously started project. prerequisites: Previous registration for project work.

OCTH 895 DOCTORAL EXPERIENTIAL PRACTICUM (9)
The Doctoral Experiential Practicum (DEP) is a 16-week (640 hours) in-depth experience to implement a pre-approved student plan designed to develop advanced skills in an area of focus. Approval of the placement and plan is contingent upon review by the DEP Coordinator, the assigned faculty member, and placement mentor. Prerequisites: OCTH 635 and OCTH 636 and consent of department; taken concurrently with OCTH 882.

OCTH 897 OCCUPATIONAL THESIS (6)
Original investigation using an acceptable research method and design conducted under the direction of a faculty member. Prerequisites: OCTH 781, successful completion of the graduate examination and consent of thesis chairperson.

OCTH 898 OCTH THESIS (3)
The previous course, OCTH 897, taken over two consecutive semesters.

OCTH 899 THESIS CONTINUUM (1)
Continuation of thesis work.