

What is Occupational Therapy?

Occupational Therapy helps people with injuries, illness or disabilities to live better, fuller and productive lives. Occupational Therapists analyze and assess human movement, neurological development, performance, motivation and human environments to develop therapeutic goals and treatment plans for individuals. They often specialize in working with children and adolescents or in the fields of geriatrics, mental health, disabilities and/or physical rehabilitation.

Areas of study in Occupational Therapy: Neuroscience, Kinesiology, Exercise Physiology, Physical and Industrial Rehabilitation, Human Behavior, Therapeutic Communication, Performance Analysis, Mental Health Care, Pediatrics, Geriatrics, Community Based Health Care, Leadership and Management, Health Care Policy, Professional and Medical Ethics.

Where does my path start?

You will complete an Associate of Arts – Direct Transfer Agreement (AA-DTA) at Shoreline.

Use the AA -DTA **Degree Planning Guide** to understand the requirements for graduation.

Once you complete your Shoreline degree, you can transfer to a four-year school to earn Bachelor of Arts or Science degree. Occupational Therapy is a post baccalaureate, graduate level professional program leading to a Master’s degree. Students must complete graduate course work, supervised, clinical fieldwork and be licensed in the state to practice. Provided students meet program prerequisites, they are encouraged to major in any liberal arts degree of interest. For more information:

<http://www.shoreline.edu/science/prehealth/>
<http://prehealthblog.shoreline.edu>

Where can I go for help?

Occupational Therapy Faculty Advisors

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General Academic Advising

FOSS (5000) Building, Rm. 5229
 206-546-4559
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www.shoreline.edu/advising

Career Planning

www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/

International Student Academic Advising

9000 Building, Rm. 9302
 206-546-4697
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Where can I transfer?

Students can transfer to a number of public and private colleges and universities in the U.S., but the Direct Transfer Agreement applies only within Washington. The following colleges in Washington offer a degree in Occupational Therapy. Once you have completed a bachelor’s degree, you may apply to any Occupational Therapy program.

[Eastern Washington University](#)
[University of Puget Sound](#)

[University of Washington - Seattle](#)

What can I do with a Bachelor’s Degree in Occupational Therapy?

Occupational Therapists develop strong critical thinking, assessment, problem solving, communication and technical skills that can be applied to a number of health care settings. Occupational Therapists provide direct patient care, conduct research, develop health care policies, teach, promote wellness, and provide leadership in the health care field.

Potential employers include: Hospitals, schools, rehabilitation centers, mental health facilities, nursing homes, home health care, colleges and universities, government agencies, non-profit organizations, business, industry and private practice. For more, please visit career information and resources at www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/.

Occupational Therapy – Major Preparation Sheet —2016–2017

What courses should I take? **

Below are recommendations for fulfilling the AA-DTA requirements if you are planning to pursue an Occupational Therapy pathway.

Strongly Recommended
These are commonly **required** for admission. Check with your chosen four-year program(s) to confirm.

Other Recommendations
These courses are well-matched with this field, but are not commonly required for admission.

I. GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Quant. and Symbolic Reasoning	MATH& 146
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II. DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

Humanities	CMST &220; World language may be required for university admission or graduation.
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Natural Sciences	CHEM &121 or CHEM 171/181; BIOL &211, &241, &242
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Social Sciences	PSYC &200, &220, SOC &110 or ANTH &206
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III. GENERAL ELECTIVES

HIIM 134, PSYC &100, &206, &208; take courses that apply toward an academic major for your bachelor degree

What does your chosen four-year school require?

Before choosing classes, become familiar with the four-year program where you want to apply: visit the website, email the department, and/or speak with a Shoreline advisor. While completing the Bachelor degree in a major of your choice, continue to take remaining prerequisite courses and pursue health care and other experiences to become a strong candidate. Below are examples from Washington schools with different admissions and graduation requirements. Check with the school for world language requirements. (Non-native speakers of English are often exempt from this requirement.) For more information contact The American Occupational Therapy Association at www.aota.org/

School	Degrees	Requirements	Course Equivalencies
Eastern Washington University	M.O.T. –Master of Occupational Therapy	A 3.0 GPA is required in last 90 cr. and all prerequisite courses. EWU requires that applicants earn at least 2.0 in each pre-req. Also, applicants are expected to be proficient in public speaking and computer skills. Another prerequisite course, Intro to Occupational Therapy, can be taken online with EWU.	BIOL &211, &241, &242, CHEM &121 or 171/181, ENGL &102, MATH &146, PSYC &100, &200, &220, HIIM 134, SOC &110 or ANTH &206 and an Intro. to Occupational Therapy that can be taken on-line at EWU
University of Puget Sound	M.S. in Occupational Therapy—Research Track M.O.T.—Master’s in Occupational Therapy with a Policy, Advocacy and Leadership Track	UPS also has a program for working Occupational Therapists with a bachelor degree who would like to complete their Master of Science degree in Occupational Therapy. HIIM 134 strongly recommended, but not required.	BIOL &211, &241, &242, MATH &146, and PSYC &200 and 2 upper division courses in human behavior (e.g. Psychology, Anthropology or Sociology).
University of Washington - Seattle	M.O.T. –Master of Occupational Therapy	The UW admits 25 students per year with an average GPA of 3.0 or above. Residents of any state can apply.	BIOL &211, &241, &242, CHEM &121 or CHEM 171/181, MATH &146 or 211, SOC &101 or ANTH &206, PSYC &200 and &220.

**** This unofficial guide is intended to support you as you prepare for your major. Please consult with an advisor and your chosen four-year school(s), as program and admissions requirements vary and may change without notice.**