OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, BS

You've decided you enjoy working with persons with disabilities either through direct care or administrative service. Not quite sure which is the best career path? The Bachelor of Science in Occupational Science and Technology (OST) allows you the chance to pursue a variety of career options. A flexible educational path, combined with a blend of elective courses, and you'll be prepared to work in different health and human service settings.

You will also be particularly well prepared for further graduate study in Occupational Therapy and other disability related disciplines. Students in the OST Program with the designated pre-occupational therapy designation may apply to the UWM Masters in Occupational Therapy Program through the Early Admission Program. This is an advantage over students applying through the regular Occupational Therapy Comprehensive Application System (OTCAS).

Become part of a large interdisciplinary department with a strong focus on interprofessional education, research excellence and technology, especially around assistive and therapeutic technologies. The OST undergraduate degree program is housed in the School of Rehabilitation Sciences and Technology within the College of Health Professions and Sciences. Students in the OST Program may study in specialty areas in assistive technology, engineering, human factors, injury and performance, occupational therapy and therapeutic recreation. Learn from faculty who are among the strongest in the nation in terms of their leadership, professional credentials and research productivity.

For additional information, please contact Patricia Thomas (pthomas@uwm.edu), MPA, CTRS, OST Program Director or visit the OST Undergraduate Program (https://uwm.edu/healthsciences/academics/bs-occupational-science-technology/) website.

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Foundation		35
Program Core		30
Track		21
Free Electives and GER		34-41
Total Credits		**120-127**

Degree Requirements

The undergraduate degree in occupational science and technology offers a flexible path that allows students to pursue a variety of career options in different settings. The combination of foundation, core, track electives and free electives allows students to create an individualized program based on their interests and career objectives. The first few semesters are focused on building a foundation of knowledge. In the final semesters of the OST degree program, students focus primarily on the track and free electives courses. Students are automatically admitted to the major after completion of 57 credits. Within those 57 credits students must have a B- or better in: BIO SCI 202 or BIO SCI 203, OCCTHPY 151, OCCTHPY 201, PSYCH 101, and THERREC 202.

At the time of admission to the major, students must declare at least one track to complete as part of their program of study. Selection of a minor or certificate is encouraged to meet the program free elective requirements. To remain in the program, students must maintain a 2.75 cumulative GPA. The faculty and staff in the OST Program want the students to succeed. Students falling below the required 2.75 cumulative GPA are strongly encouraged to meet with the Program's Academic Advisor to develop an action plan for success. Ongoing communication with the Academic Advisor and Program Director are encouraged and a key to success in the program.

Students must achieve the following to complete an undergraduate degree in occupational science and technology:

- Satisfactory completion of 120 credits with a cumulative 2.75 GPA or better in all credits earned at UWM. Because a master's degree is required for professional practice in many health-related fields, such as occupational therapy, it is recommended that students maintain a GPA greater than 3.0 to be competitive with other Graduate School applicants;
- Satisfactory completion of the University General Education Requirements (https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#bachelorsdegreegeneraleducation); and
- Completion of the last 30 credits in residence at UWM.

Students are encouraged to meet with the Program's Academic Advisor at least once per semester throughout your undergraduate career to ensure that all requirements are being met.

Course of Study

The program is divided into foundation, core, track and free elective courses. The undergraduate program requires 120 credits for graduation. All students admitted to the program must satisfy University-Wide General Education Requirements (GER) (https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#bachelorsdegreegeneraleducation), (except second-degree candidates who are exempt). English and mathematics competency requirements must also be met.

With 120 credits required to graduate with a bachelor's degree in Occupational Science and Technology, students need to take responsibility to complete all foundation and core courses, GER requirements, at least one program track, and sufficient free elective credits. A number of GER courses are part of the degree requirements. Recommended free electives and certificate/minor programs are listed to assist the student in creating an individualized area of study.

Requirements are subject to change as of the publication date of the catalog. Please check with the Office of Student Affairs for the most current information.

Code	Title	Credits
University General Education Requirements		
Competency Requirements		
Oral and Written Communication (OWC) Part A & B		
Quantitative Literacy (QL) Part A & B		
Foreign Language		
Distribution Requirements		
Arts		
Natural Sciences		
Social Sciences		
Cultural Diversity		
Foundation		
BIO SCI 202	Anatomy and Physiology I	4

BIO SCI 203	Anatomy and Physiology II (GER NS)	4
COMMUN 103	Public Speaking	3
Select one of the following:		3
ENGLISH 205	Business Writing (OWC-B)	
ENGLISH 207	Health Science Writing (OWCB)	
HCA 249	Writing for Professional Development in Health Administration (OWCB)	
CHPS 203	Human Life Cycle (GER SS)	3-4
or NURS 203	Human Growth and Development Across the Life Span	
KIN 270	Statistics in the Health Professions: Theory and Practice (QL-B)	3
CHPS 100	New Student Seminar in Health Professions	1
OCCTHPY 151	Foundations of Scientific Inquiry for Occupational Science and Technology	3
PHYSICS 120 & PHYSICS 121	General Physics I (Non-Calculus Treatment) and General Physics Laboratory I (Non-Calculus Treatment) (GER NS)	5
PSYCH 101	Introduction to Psychology (GER SS)	3
PSYCH 412	Abnormal Psychology	3
Program Core		
OCCTHPY 201	Introduction to Occupational Science and Technology	3
OCCTHPY 220	Gizmos and Gadgets: Introduction to Assistive Technology	3
THERREC 202	Disability: Society and the Person (GER SS)	3
CHPS 245	Client Diversity in Health Sciences: An Interdisciplinary Perspective (GER CD and SS)	3
OCCTHPY 260	Enhancing Health Through Activity, Occupation and Technology I	3
OCCTHPY 320	Introduction to Ergonomics for Healthcare Professionals	3
OCCTHPY 340	Evidenced for Practice I: Applications of Biostatistics	3
OCCTHPY 341	Evidence for Practice II: Appraising Evidence	3
OCCTHPY 401	Overview of Medical Conditions	3
OCCTHPY 530	Contemporary Issues and Professional Preparation in OST	3
Track		
Select at least one track		21
Free Electives and GER		
Select 34-41 credits (minimum of 9 cr at 400 level or higher). See below.		34-41
Total Credits		**120-128**

Tracks

Pre-Occupational Therapy

This track is predominantly aimed towards students that are interested in becoming an Occupational Therapist or other health and human service professionals. Students are encouraged to also add the Pre-Occupational Therapy designation to their program if following this track. The Program's Academic Advisor may assist with adding the designation.

Code	Title	Credits
Courses		
THERREC 202	Disability: Society and the Person (GER SS)	3
OCCTHPY 250	Concepts of Time and Occupation	3
THERREC 303	Inclusive and Disability Programs in the Community	3
OCCTHPY 315	Group Process in Rehabilitation	3
OCCTHPY 401	Overview of Medical Conditions	3
OCCTHPY 505	Work and Disability	3
or OCCTHPY 420	Principles of Human Factors and Usability	
OCCTHPY 625	Design and Disability	3
Total Credits		**21**

Applications of Assistive Technology

This track is aimed towards students who are interested in applying technology and/or designing environments and products that enhance the capabilities of persons living with and without a disability. This may include Occupational Therapy or other rehabilitation professions. Students are encouraged to also add the Pre-Occupational Therapy designation to their program if interested in pursuing Occupational Therapy. The Program's Academic Advisor may assist with adding the designation.

Code	Title	Credits
Courses		
OCCTHPY 220	Gizmos and Gadgets: Introduction to Assistive Technology	3
OCCTHPY 250	Concepts of Time and Occupation	3
OCCTHPY 420	Principles of Human Factors and Usability	3
OCCTHPY 521	Essentials of Assistive and Rehabilitation Technology	3
OCCTHPY 593	Introduction to Biomedical and Rehabilitation Instrumentation (U/G)	3
OCCTHPY 595	Vision I: Introduction to Low Vision & Visual Impairment	3
OCCTHPY 625	Design and Disability (U/G)	3
Total Credits		**21**

Therapeutic Recreation

This track is aimed toward students who are interested in the area of Therapeutic Recreation (also called Recreation Therapy). Students may pursue employment as a Life Enrichment Coordinator/Director, Activity Therapist or Program Leader/Director in the areas of adapted sports or community recreation for individuals with disabilities. Recreational Therapist as a profession may be pursued with additional requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
Courses		
THERREC 103	Life Balance: An Understanding of Leisure	3
THERREC 203	Therapeutic Recreation Process	3
THERREC 300	Therapeutic Recreation Assessment and Documentation	3

THERREC 308	Therapeutic Recreation in Physical Rehabilitation and Behavioral Health	3
THERREC 309	Therapeutic Recreation in Pediatrics and Gerontology	3
THERREC 310	Facilitation Techniques in Therapeutic Recreation	3
THERREC 400	Issues and Trends in Therapeutic Recreation (TR)	3
Total Credits		**21**

Human Factors, Injury and Performance

This track is targeted toward students interested in helping individuals (with and without disabilities) achieve peak occupational health and performance through the interaction of human factors and human function. This track is aimed at students who seek an entrepreneurial component to their educational learning experience, and provides a strong foundation for graduate study in rehabilitation professions. Students are encouraged to also add the Pre-Occupational Therapy or other pre-professional designation to their program if interested in pursuing graduate rehabilitation studies. The Program's Academic Advisor may assist with adding such designations.

Code	Title	Credits
Courses		
OCCTHPY 250	Concepts of Time and Occupation	3
OCCTHPY 320	Introduction to Ergonomics for Healthcare Professionals	3
Select one of the following:		3
BMS 232	Introduction to Nutrition	
NUTR 235	Introduction to Nutrition for the Health Professions	
KIN 230	Health Aspects of Exercise and Nutrition	
or NUTR 230	Health Aspects of Exercise and Nutrition	
OCCTHPY 420	Principles of Human Factors and Usability	3
OCCTHPY 522	Health, Performance, & Injury Monitoring in Organizations	3
OCCTHPY 592	Innovative Solutions in Human Factors and Performance	3
PRPP 553	Psychological Considerations for Optimizing Health & Performance	3
Total Credits		**21**

Recommended Minors/Certificates

(not inclusive)

College of Health Professions and Sciences

Code	Title	Credits
Certificate in the Study of Complementary & Integrative Health Approaches		
Minor in Health Care Administration		

Zilber College of Public Health

Code	Title	Credits
Minor in Kinesiology		
Minor in Nutritional Sciences		

College of Letters and Science

Code	Title	Credits
Certificate in Childhood and Adolescence Studies		
Certificate in Global Health		
Certificate in Spanish for Health Professionals		
Minor in Anthropology		
Minor in Communication		
Minor in Psychology		
Minor in Sociology		

Lubar College of Business

Code	Title	Credits
Minor in Business		

School of Education

Code	Title	Credits
Autism Spectrum Disorders		
Community Engagement		

Occupational Science and Technology BS Learning Outcomes

Students graduating from the Occupational Science & Technology (OST) program will be able to:

- accurately identify and utilize effective oral, written, and technical communication skills including the use of person-first and identity-first language with diverse individuals living with and without disabilities. (Communication).
- embody (pre)professional expectations for ethics, collegiality, service, and engagement for the health- or disability-related discipline of the student's choice by engaging in collaborative discussions, projects, experiential learning, and other professional activity. (Professionalism/Teamwork/Collaboration).
- develop and complete a post-graduation plan consisting of either an application to a health, rehabilitation or disability-related graduate school program or employment for transition into a future competent professional. (Prepared Health/Disability-Related Workforce).

Honors in the Major

Honors in the major are granted to students who earn a GPA of 3.500 or above on a minimum of 30 completed credits at UWM.

College of Health Professions and Sciences Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.500 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (https://catalog.uwm.edu/honors-college/) section of this site.

Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive

all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

Contact Information

Patricia Thomas, Program Director