

# PRE-OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

## Introduction

Students interested in a career in Occupational Therapy have the option of pursuing any major along with completing specific prerequisites. Occupational Therapy schools requirements typically vary from a minimum of 60 credit hours to a bachelors degree being completed at the time of application. Students may pursue either a masters or doctoral degree in Occupational Therapy (we encourage students to consider applying to doctoral level OT programs.) Students must gain a thorough understanding of the profession through a range of shadowing experiences. The [Canisius Institute for Autism Research \(https://www.canisius.edu/academics/our-schools/school-education-human-services/institute-autism-research/\)](https://www.canisius.edu/academics/our-schools/school-education-human-services/institute-autism-research/) provides excellent opportunities for students. Some programs may require a competitive score on the GRE. Students should work with the Pre-Med Advisor to select appropriate coursework based on their schools of interest and co-curricular experiences. In addition to the information in this section, please check the general information at the pre-medical and pre-health section of the catalog (<http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/academics/curricular-information/pre-professional-programs/pre-medical-pre-health-professions/>).

## Recommended Pre-Occupational Therapy Courses

Academic admission requirements vary by school, but the following courses typically prepare a student to apply to multiple programs:

### Anatomy & Physiology

At least one year of anatomy/physiology with laboratory:

Code	Title	Credits
BIO 114 & 114L	Human Biology: Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology and Human Biology: Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory	4
BIO 115 & 115L	Musculoskeletal Anatomy and Physiology and Musculoskeletal Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory	4

### Mathematics

One semester of statistics:

Code	Title	Credits
PSY 201	Basic Statistics for Behavioral Sciences	3
		or
		4
or MAT 131	Statistics for Social Sciences	
or MAT 141	Inferential Statistics and Computers for Science	

### Psychology

Psychology requirements vary at the different schools. Students work with the PreMed Advisor to plan for any additional courses. (Note that completing the four courses, along with PSY 201 and PSY 202 is an excellent way to earn a minor in Psychology along with satisfying OT psychology prerequisites for a broad range of schools.)

Code	Title	Credits
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Select one of the following:

PSY 101 or PSY 102	Introduction to Psychology I Introduction to Psychology II	3
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Take both of the following:

PSY 203	Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3
PSY 303	Abnormal Psychology	3

### Sociology

One course in Sociology:

Code	Title	Credits
SOC 110 or SOC 111	Introduction to Sociology Contemporary Social Problems	3

### Medical Terminology

One course in medical terminology is required by some schools.

Code	Title	Credits
HRP 111	Medical Terminology	1
		or
		3
or CLS 220	Greek and Latin Roots of Medical Terminology	

## Additional Pre-Occupational Therapy Course Suggestions

### Sciences

Some programs may require coursework in General Biology and/or General Chemistry.

### Elective Courses

HRP 101 allows students to explore different health professions.

HRP 201 and HRP 202 allow students to explore areas of medicine in more depth.

HRP 498 is an internship in medical informatics.