

# OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE, B.S.

Saint Louis University is one of only a few universities in the United States that offers a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Science. This undergraduate degree provides students with a unique body of knowledge that equips them to excel in SLU's Master of Occupational Therapy accelerated program and provides them with a competitive advantage with specialized knowledge about the power of occupation upon graduation.

SLU awards students the B.S. in occupational science at the end of their first professional year in the M.O.T. accelerated program. On occasion, students may elect to pursue the B.S. in occupation science as their major. The following links provide information specifically about SLU's B.S. in occupational science program with options to learn about courses that prepare them for the M.O.T. accelerated program, as well as exploring the B.S. in occupational science major separate from the M.O.T. program.

## Careers

Most students who complete the B.S. in occupational science go on to earn a graduate degree in occupational therapy, such as SLU's direct-entry Master of Occupational Therapy. Upon completing a degree from an accredited occupational therapy program, graduates must pass the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) examination. After passing the certification exam, students will become a registered occupational therapist and will have earned the privilege of using the credentials "OTR," which allow them to apply for a state license to practice.

If pursuing an occupational therapy degree is not the selected career path, then individuals with occupational science degrees are prepared to pursue career opportunities in a variety of fields, such as community-based programming, health and human services, and public health-related roles. Additionally, an undergraduate degree in occupational science may position graduates for application to graduate-level degrees in a variety of social and health science disciplines.

## Tuition

Tuition/Fee	Cost Per Year
Undergraduate Tuition	\$58,960
University Fees	\$1,000

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer-current/>)

## Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

- **Scholarships:** Awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need. In addition to SLU scholarships, the Doisy College of Health Sciences offers scholarships (<https://www.slu.edu/doisy/about/scholarships-for-current-students.php>) to sophomores, juniors, seniors and graduate students.

[www.slu.edu/doisy/about/scholarships-for-current-students.php](https://www.slu.edu/doisy/about/scholarships-for-current-students.php)) to sophomores, juniors, seniors and graduate students.

- **Financial Aid:** Provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration of merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by Feb. 1.

For more information, visit the Office of Student Financial Services (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>).

## Accreditation

The BS in Occupational Science program strategically supports SLU's MOT accelerated program, which is accredited by The Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). ACOTE is an Associated Advisory Council of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Board of Directors and is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation as a programmatic accreditor for the profession of occupational therapy.

American Occupational Therapy Association, (AOTA)  
7501 Wisconsin Avenue  
Suite 510E  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
301-652-6611  
<https://acoteonline.org> (<https://acoteonline.org/>)

## Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to describe the occupational nature of humans as occupational beings across the lifespan.
2. Graduates will be able to analyze contextual influences on occupational engagement.
3. Graduates will be able to examine the relationship between health and occupation.
4. Graduates will interpret scholarly literature for application to health through occupation.

## Requirements

All students must earn a grade of "C" or higher in all required program curriculum courses.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Undergraduate University Core (<a href="https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/university-core/">https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/university-core/</a>)</b>		<b>32-35</b>
<b>Major Requirements</b>		<b>103</b>
<i>Foundation</i>		
ANAT 1000	Basic Human Anatomy	3
BIOL 1240 & BIOL 1245	General Biology: Information Flow and Evolution and Principles of Biology I Laboratory	4
CHEM 1080 & CHEM 1085	Principles of Chemistry 1 Lecture and Principles of Chemistry 1 Lab	4
ENGL 1900	Advanced Strategies of Rhetoric and Research	3

HCE or PSY 3XXX/4XXX	Health Care Ethics or Psychology Elective	3
HSCI 2200	Medical Terminology	3
HSCI 2500	Human Development across the Lifespan	3
IPE 2100	Interprofessional Collaboration and Healthcare in Global Context	3
IPE 4200	Applied Decision-Making in Interprofessional Practice	3
IPE 4900	Interprofessional Community Practicum	3
PHIL 2050 or HCE 2010	Ethics Foundations in Clinical Health Care Ethics	3
PUBH 2100	Introduction to Global Health	3
PPY 2540	Human Physiology	4
PSY 1010	General Psychology	3
PSY 3460	Abnormal Psychology	3
STAT 1300 or STAT 1100	Elementary Statistics with Computers Introduction to Statistics	3
<i>Occupational Science courses</i>		
OCS 1000	Seminar in Occupational Therapy	2
OCS 1010	Exploration of Self Through Occupation	2
OCS 3120	The Study of Occupation	3
OCS 3220	Contexts of Occupation	3
OCS 3320	Occupational Development Across the Lifespan	3
OCS 3520	Occupation, Health, and Wellness	3
OCS 3720	Occupational Justice	3
OCS 3820	Practical Applications in Occupational Science	3
<i>Choose one track:</i>		30
B.S. in Occupational Science track (see requirements below)		
Master of Occupational Therapy track (see requirements below)		
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>121</b>

## Undergraduate Continuation Standards

- To progress through the program, the required GPA minimum for freshmen is 2.70, for sophomores is 2.80, and for juniors is 2.90. All students must earn a grade of "C" or higher in all required program curriculum courses. Students who do not meet the GPA requirements will not be permitted into the MOT accelerated program.
- Students in the direct-admit BS to MOT accelerated program will take graduate level courses that will count for both the BS in Occupational Science and the Master of Occupational Therapy in their fourth year. Students must have a 3.00 cumulative GPA to begin their first professional year in the MOT program.

## B.S. in Occupational Science Track

*\*If a student has earned course credit from SLU's MOT accelerated program, those credits may count toward fulfilling the OS Depth Requirements.*

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Occupational Science Depth Requirement</b>		<b>12</b>
Students should choose 12 credits at the 3000- or higher level in any of the following course codes: ANTH, HCE, HSCI, IPE, PSY, PUBH, or SOC		

<b>General Electives</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>30</b>

## Master of Occupational Therapy Track

Code	Title	Credits
<b>MOT Coursework</b>		<b>30</b>
<i>Students who plan to progress into the Master of Occupational Therapy can count up to 30 credits of graduate coursework for both their B.S. and M.O.T.. Courses included are:</i>		
MOT 5030	Application of Occupational Therapy Practice	
MOT 5040	Application of Occupational Therapy Practice 2	
MOT 5100	Functional Anatomy for Occupational Therapy	
MOT 5150	Kinesiology	
MOT 5170	Neuroscience in Occupational Therapy	
MOT 5200	Health Conditions and Occupational Implications	
MOT 5250	Administration & Leadership in Occupational Therapy	
MOT 5300	Foundations of Occupational Therapy Practice	
MOT 5350	Theoretical Perspectives of Occupational Therapy	
MOT 5370	Occupational Therapy Assessments Throughout the Lifespan	
MOT 5400	Occupational Therapy Practice with Adults 1	
MOT 5410	Occupational Therapy Practice in Mental Health	
MOT 5450	Occupational Therapy Practice with Children and Youth 1	
MOT 5550	Occupational Therapy Practice with Adults 2	
MOT 5560	Occupational Therapy Practice in the Community	
MOT 5570	Specialty Occupational Therapy Practice	
MOT 5580	Emerging and Focused Practice in Occupational Therapy	
MOT 5600	Occupational Therapy Practice with Children and Youth 2	
MOT 5610	Quantitative Research Methods in Occupational Therapy	
MOT 5611	Occupational Therapy Graduate Research Project 1	
MOT 5620	Qualitative Research Methods in Occupational Therapy	
MOT 5621	Occupational Therapy Graduate Research Project 2	
MOT 5631	Occupational Therapy Graduate Research Project 3	
MOT 5641	Occupational Therapy Graduate Research Project 4	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>30</b>

# Roadmap

If students decide to pursue the B.S. in occupational science only, then they will be advised to take courses that fulfill Occupational Science Depth Requirements (<https://www.catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/health-sciences/occupational-science-therapy/occupational-science-bs/#requirementstext>).

This roadmap is just one example of a semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. There are other plans students can and do take. The plan of study for each particular student is established in consultation with each student's academic advisor; *this roadmap does not replace academic advising appointments.*

**Roadmap notes:**

- This Roadmap assumes full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.
- Courses/Milestones marked with an "!" are critical and must be completed in the semester listed in the Roadmap to ensure a timely graduation.
- Course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Year One</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
BIOL 1240	General Biology: Information Flow and Evolution	3
BIOL 1245	Principles of Biology I Laboratory	1
CORE 1500	Cura Personalis 1: Self in Community	1
CORE 1700	Ultimate Questions: Philosophy	3
ENGL 1900	Advanced Strategies of Rhetoric and Research	3
OCS 1000	Seminar in Occupational Therapy	2
PSY 1010	General Psychology	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ANAT 1000	Basic Human Anatomy	3
CORE 3400	Ways of Thinking: Aesthetics, History, and Culture	3
HSCI 2500	Human Development across the Lifespan	3
IPE 2100	Interprofessional Collaboration and Healthcare in Global Context	3
PUBH 2100	Introduction to Global Health	3
Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>18</b>
<b>Year Two</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
CHEM 1080 & CHEM 1085	Principles of Chemistry 1 Lecture and Principles of Chemistry 1 Lab	4
OCS 1010	Exploration of Self Through Occupation	2
PSY 3460	Abnormal Psychology	3
STAT 1300 or STAT 1100	Elementary Statistics with Computers or Introduction to Statistics	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
<b>Participation in Study Abroad Optional</b>		

CORE 1200	Eloquentia Perfecta 2: Oral and Visual Communication	3
CORE 1600	Ultimate Questions: Theology	3
CORE 2800	Eloquentia Perfecta 3: Creative Expression	2-3
HSCI 2200	Medical Terminology	3
PHIL 2050 or HCE 2010	Ethics or Foundations in Clinical Health Care Ethics	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>14-15</b>
<b>Year Three</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
CORE 3500	Cura Personalis 3: Self in the World	1
PPY 2540	Human Physiology	4
OCS 3120	The Study of Occupation	3
OCS 3220	Contexts of Occupation	3
IPE 4200	Applied Decision-Making in Interprofessional Practice	3
HCE or PSY 3XXX/4XXX	Health Care Ethics or Psychology Elective	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>17</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
OCS 3320	Occupational Development Across the Lifespan	3
OCS 3520	Occupation, Health, and Wellness	3
OCS 3720	Occupational Justice	3
OCS 3820	Practical Applications in Occupational Science	3
IPE 4900	Interprofessional Community Practicum	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Year Four</b>		
<b>Summer</b>		
MOT 5100	Functional Anatomy for Occupational Therapy	3
MOT 5150	Kinesiology	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Fall</b>		
MOT 5170	Neuroscience in Occupational Therapy	3
MOT 5200	Health Conditions and Occupational Implications	3
MOT 5300	Foundations of Occupational Therapy Practice	3
MOT 5350	Theoretical Perspectives of Occupational Therapy	3
MOT 5370	Occupational Therapy Assessments Throughout the Lifespan	3
MOT 5610	Quantitative Research Methods in Occupational Therapy	2
MOT 5611	Occupational Therapy Graduate Research Project I	1
<b>Credits</b>		<b>18</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
MOT 5030	Application of Occupational Therapy Practice	3

MOT 5250	Administration & Leadership in Occupational Therapy	3
MOT 5400	Occupational Therapy Practice with Adults 1	3
MOT 5410	Occupational Therapy Practice in Mental Health	3
MOT 5450	Occupational Therapy Practice with Children and Youth 1	3
MOT 5620	Qualitative Research Methods in Occupational Therapy	2
MOT 5621	Occupational Therapy Graduate Research Project 2	1
<b>Credits</b>		<b>18</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>134-135</b>

## Contact Us

Apply for Admission (<https://www.slu.edu/admission/>)

### Contact Doisy College of Health Sciences

Recruitment specialist

314-977-2570

dchs@health.slu.edu