2008

Occupational Therapy Program 2008

Nova Southeastern University

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Nova Southeastern University, synonymous with dynamic innovation and intellectual challenge, is the largest independent not-for-profit university in the Southeast, and with an enrollment of more than 26,000 students, is the sixth largest in the United States. Situated on a beautiful, 300-acre campus in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, the university is experiencing a sustained period of academic growth, fiscal strength, and commitment to the challenges of the 21st century.

In this environment of expansion and stability, the university is capitalizing on its strengths in such areas as academic innovation, comprehensive clinical training, and flexible educational delivery systems.

Founded in 1964 as Nova University, the institution merged with Southeastern University of the Health Sciences in 1994, creating Nova Southeastern University. To date, the institution has approximately 90,000 alumni. Fully accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the university awards associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees in a wide range of fields including the health professions, law, business, marine sciences, psychology, social sciences, computer and information sciences, and education.

The university's programs are administered through 15 academic centers that offer courses at the main campus and at field-based locations throughout Florida; across the nation; and at selected international sites in Europe, Canada, the Pacific Rim, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

With a budget of more than $220 million per year and an upward trend in enrollment, the university will continue to maintain a solid record of academic and fiscal strength and excellence in teaching and community service, while expanding its mission in research and scholarship.
As a student in the Health Professions Division of Nova Southeastern University, you can anticipate a remarkable experience. You will train, study, interact, and share faculty and resources (either campus-based or online) with students from various backgrounds and disciplines. This interdisciplinary approach distinguishes the Health Professions Division as unique and will better prepare you to master your discipline with a sensitivity and understanding of the entire health care system.

The Health Professions Division, with a student body of more than 2,500, is home to six colleges. The College of Osteopathic Medicine, the first one in the southeastern United States, grants the doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.) degree. The College of Osteopathic Medicine also awards the master of public health (M.P.H.) and the master of science in biomedical informatics (M.S.BI) degrees. The College of Pharmacy offers the doctor of pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree to entry-level, international, and postbaccalaureate students. The College of Optometry is the only institution in the state of Florida that awards the doctor of optometry (O.D.) degree as well as the master in clinical vision research (M.S.). The College of Allied Health and Nursing offers an entry-level bachelor of science degree in nursing (B.S.N.), as well as an R.N. to B.S.N. program, a master of science in nursing (M.S.N.) degree, a post-M.S.N. certificate, and a Ph.D. in nursing education. The college offers a physician assistant program that awards the master of medical science in physician assistant (M.M.S.) degree, and a master of occupational therapy (M.O.T.) degree, as well as the entry-level doctor of physical therapy (D.P.T.) degree. Doctoral programs are offered in occupational therapy (Ph.D./O.T., Dr.OT), physical therapy (Ph.D./P.T., D.P.T.), and audiology (Au.D.).

In addition to these programs, the College of Allied Health and Nursing offers the bachelor of health science (B.H.Sc.), master of health science (M.H.Sc.), and doctor of health science (D.H.Sc.) degrees—open to midlevel clinicians and allied health professionals. There are also courses of study in bachelor of health science—vascular sonography and master of health science—anesthesiologist assistant. The College of Medical Sciences grants the master of biomedical sciences (M.B.S.) degree. In the fall of 1997, the College of Dental Medicine admitted its charter class into the doctor of dental medicine (D.M.D.) program. Now, the college also offers a master of science in dentistry (M.Sc.D.) degree, as well as postgraduate programs in endodontics, oral surgery, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, and prosthodontics.

The Health Professions Division occupies a $70 million complex, covering 21 acres of the university campus. The division includes eight buildings totaling more than 900,000 square feet of space for classrooms, laboratories, offices, the Health Professions Division Library, an outpatient health center, and a pharmaceutical care center. The adjacent 1,500-vehicle parking garage overlooks the Miami Dolphins Training Camp.
If you wish to be a leader in the health professions, Nova Southeastern University can help you reach your potential. In less than two decades, NSU’s Health Professions Division has developed into a multidisciplinary academic health center of international stature. Composed of the Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, Pharmacy, Dental Medicine, Optometry, Allied Health and Nursing, and Medical Sciences, the Health Professions Division has redoubled its commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and community service, while expanding its mission in research and scholarship. Working together, our distinguished faculty members prepare students for an exciting career on tomorrow’s dynamic health care team.

Fred Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D.
Chancellor
Occupational therapy (O.T.) offers an opportunity to combine science with creativity to improve and enhance the lives and functions of individuals, while preventing disruptions in their daily occupations (driving, working, dressing, meal preparation, or whatever they may consider meaningful to life). Occupational therapists help redesign people's lives and environments so they can function to their maximum in the activities important to them. Occupational therapists work with a wide variety of individuals from infants and older adults to individuals with psychiatric and/or physical impairments, as well as healthy individuals who have had interruptions in their day-to-day functioning (such as injured workers, premature babies, and individuals who are homeless, among others). Opportunities in this field are limitless.

More than 100,000 occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants work in public and private schools, private practices, community-based programs, nursing homes, hospitals, home health agencies, outpatient clinics, disability insurance companies, pediatric programs, prisons, work rehabilitation programs, sheltered workshops, homeless programs, drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs, and day treatment and other psychiatric programs. And the U.S. Department of Labor projects that by 2010, occupational therapists will see a 21–35 percent increase in the number of jobs available. Occupational therapy ranks in the top 15 fastest growing jobs and among the top 25 best paying jobs for college graduates ages 20–29.

The faculty members of the Nova Southeastern University department of occupational therapy are internationally known for their leadership roles in the profession. They are equally well known for their scholarly pursuits and many publications. Here at NSU, we are also home to the International Institute for Leadership in Occupational Therapy (IILOT).

**NSU OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT**

Through its innovative curricular design, the Occupational Therapy Department prepares qualified students to become successful occupational therapy practitioners, managers, leaders, and scholars. The master's degree program gives students the knowledge and skills for competent entry-level, occupation-based practice and professional leadership, and to remain contemporary in practice in a variety of contexts in an ever-changing world. The postprofessional distance doctoral program prepares occupational therapists for roles in scholarship, research, advanced practice, and professional leadership. The Occupational Therapy Department further seeks to lead the profession and community through its contributions in educational leadership, community and professional service, lifelong learning, scholarship, and research.
The health care marketplace is undergoing a rapid change. The pace of this change has provided a formidable challenge for institutions that provide the educational programs for future health care professionals.

Nova Southeastern University's College of Allied Health and Nursing is committed to providing the highest quality of education to students in a variety of health care disciplines, including occupational therapy, physical therapy, and physician assistant studies, as well as audiology and the newly added nursing programs. The Physician Assistant Department offers a program that can be completed in 27 months. Upon successful completion of the program, students graduate with a master of medical science in physician assistant (M.M.S.) degree. In addition, the college is committed to a lifelong learning philosophy through the Ph.D. in physical therapy and the Dr.OT and Ph.D. in occupational therapy. We also have the bachelor of health science (B.H.Sc.), master of health science (M.H.Sc.), doctor of health science (D.H.Sc.), and transition doctor of physical therapy (T.-D.P.T.) programs, as well as the bachelor of health science—vascular sonography and the master of health science—anesthesiologist assistant specialty courses of study. These degrees for practicing health care professionals are delivered mainly through the use of innovative distance technology.

The Occupational Therapy Department provides a rich learning environment. Students develop the skills to become leaders in wellness, prevention, and rehabilitation through instruction in theoretical knowledge and therapeutic approaches by the college's distinguished faculty.

The College of Allied Health and Nursing is committed to providing health care educational opportunities in formats that meet the needs of prospective students in the community and adequately prepare graduates to assume greater leadership roles in health care delivery systems.

Richard E. Davis, PA-C, Ed.D.
Dean, College of Allied Health and Nursing
COURSE OF STUDY (STARTING EACH JUNE) The master's of occupational therapy (M.O.T.) degree program is an entry-level program designed so students may enter with an undergraduate or graduate degree in a related field. Students with 90 semester hours of undergraduate work also may apply to the program and will be considered by the Committee on Admissions if they have completed all prerequisites and show strong evidence of success in their current academic program.

The M.O.T. program prepares the student for the requirements of current and emerging practice. Because of continual advances in knowledge and societal changes, the emphasis of the program is on the acquisition of decision-making, problem-solving, and critical-thinking skills. These skills serve the graduate with ongoing professional development and lifelong learning. Moreover, the acquisition of specific therapeutic skills is grounded in a thorough understanding of the theoretical rationales behind them.

The program is dedicated to preparing occupational therapy practitioners to serve as interdisciplinary health professionals in a variety of areas across the life span. The program builds on the students' strong undergraduate preparation, continuing to teach them to think clearly, understand new technologies, communicate and solve problems effectively, and appreciate the connections that enhance quality of life.

The M.O.T. degree curriculum is designed to be completed in 29 consecutive months. The first year of study in the master's degree program consists of basic sciences, clinically related didactic and laboratory experiences, and the study of occupation and occupational analysis. Students must successfully complete all courses before advancing to the second year. The second year of study is devoted to advanced didactic coursework and clinical training. In addition to completing coursework on research methods, organization and administration, and professional issues, students will complete four consecutive classes with a two- or three-week practicum or clinical rotation after each. The courses address the occupational therapist's role in pediatrics, geriatrics, mental health, and physical dysfunction/work settings.

After successful completion of Year II, students must complete six months of internship to be eligible to take the national certification examination. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM COURSE OF STUDY
- five semesters of academic coursework
- four practicums:
  - children and adolescents
  - mental health
  - physical dysfunction and work settings
  - older adults
- two three-month internships
INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM

Earn your master's degree in occupational therapy on the NSU campus in only two-and-a-half years.

• Enter NSU’s Master of Occupational Therapy Program after completing an undergraduate degree or after completing 90 credits of undergraduate work (including 30 semester hours of upper-division coursework).

• Our renowned faculty members empower students to envision themselves pursuing entrepreneurial and pioneering practice endeavors.

• Our curriculum enables graduates to compete in the evolving health care market by building students’ leadership skills, critical thinking, and resourcefulness through progressive coursework and innovative fieldwork opportunities.

• NSU’s Master of Occupational Therapy Program received an unprecedented 10-year accreditation.

EXPOSURE TO EMPLOYERS

Students participate in at least six fieldwork experiences throughout the curriculum, giving them considerable occupational therapy practice exposure and opportunity to network with at least six potential employers.

SUCCESS RATE

Ninety percent of students who have graduated from NSU’s M.O.T. program have passed the National Occupational Therapy Certification Examination on the first attempt. This is above the national average.

Students are provisionally admitted to a degree-seeking program based on a review of unofficial transcripts or other specific program admission requirements. However, this admission includes a condition that final and official transcripts, documents, and requirements must be received within 90 calendar days from matriculation. If these final and official transcripts, documents, and/or requirements are not received by that time, the student will not be allowed to continue class attendance. Financial aid will not be disbursed to a provisional/conditional student until he or she has been fully admitted as a regular student (all admissions requirements have been approved by the college/program admissions office). Students who have an unpaid balance 30 days from the start of the term will be assessed a $50 fee.
## Curriculum Outline

### First Year: Summer Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5101</td>
<td>Historical and Theoretical Foundations of Occupational Therapy Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5110</td>
<td>Medical Terminology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5420</td>
<td>Anatomy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### First Year: First Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5011</td>
<td>Human Occupations Across the Life Span</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5013</td>
<td>Creative Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5121</td>
<td>Human Disorders Across the Life Span I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5822</td>
<td>Occupational Evaluation I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### First Year: Second Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANA 5533</td>
<td>Neuroanatomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5015</td>
<td>Applied Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5123</td>
<td>Human Disorders Across the Life Span II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5395</td>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5824</td>
<td>Occupational Evaluation II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Second Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5132</td>
<td>Current Issues in Occupational Therapy I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5133</td>
<td>Current Issues in Occupational Therapy II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5174</td>
<td>Research Methods for Occupational Therapy I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5175</td>
<td>Research Methods for Occupational Therapy II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5243</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy with Children and Adolescents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5343</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy Mental Health Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5443</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy Physical Dysfunction/Work Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5643</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy with Older Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5963</td>
<td>Fieldwork Issues I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5964</td>
<td>Fieldwork Issues II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Third Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5981</td>
<td>Fieldwork Experience I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 5982</td>
<td>Fieldwork Experience II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clinical curriculum is subject to change as directed by the department.
A graduate of NSU's Master of Occupational Therapy Program (M.O.T.) is assured admission to the doctoral programs in occupational therapy if the student's GPA in the on-campus M.O.T. program is 90 or higher and other standards for admission are met. The student may choose between the doctor of occupational therapy (Dr.OT)—a practice doctorate—and the doctor of philosophy in occupational therapy (Ph.D.)—a research doctorate. The M.O.T. program is offered only on campus and must be completed first.

VISIT WITH FACULTY MEMBERS AND STUDENTS
We invite you to spend a day in the NSU Master of Occupational Therapy (M.O.T.) Program. Take a campus tour, attend a class, meet our admissions counselors, mingle with current students, and visit with faculty members. Our invitation is extended to include your family members. Take advantage of this great opportunity to connect with NSU and gather more information about our premier M.O.T. program.

WHY NSU?
- program committed to building leaders
- state-of-the-art facility
- fast track to job market
- campus-based program
- multiple client contacts
- world-renowned, accessible faculty members
- low faculty/student ratio

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT DEGREE OPTIONS
- Master of Occupational Therapy (M.O.T.)
- Doctor of Occupational Therapy (Dr.OT)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Occupational Therapy (Ph.D.)
- Refer to table on page 16 for the curriculum outline for doctoral programs.

NSU'S INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR LEADERSHIP IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
The mission of the International Institute for Leadership in Occupational Therapy (IILOT) is to link occupational therapists worldwide and to bring together international occupational therapists for intellectual exchange and scholarship. The institute uses a variety of means to prepare advanced occupational therapy clinicians to take leadership roles in program development, research, service provision, and public policy from the local to the global arena.
The Master of Occupational Therapy Program selects students based on grade point average (GPA), Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores, a written essay, letters of evaluation, and an interview. Strong candidates will also demonstrate concern for people of diverse backgrounds, as well as the ability to use judgment, insight, and reasoning. All applicants must complete a minimum of 40 volunteer hours in at least two different OT environments. Some of these environments include hospitals, clinics, and private practices with a variety of populations.

The Master of Occupational Therapy program is designed so that a student may enter after completing an undergraduate or graduate degree or after completing 90 credits of undergraduate work (including 30 semester hours at the junior and/or senior level). Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.7 or higher on a 4.0 scale for the last two years of baccalaureate or master's degree study and a prerequisite course average of 2.7 or better.

Students are required to submit official scores that are less than five years old from all three areas of the GRE. A minimum GRE combined verbal and quantitative score of 800 and a 3.5 on analytical writing are strongly recommended. International students must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and obtain a score of 550 or higher.

FOR APPLICANTS WITH AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Prior to matriculation, applicants with an undergraduate or graduate degree in another field from a regionally accredited college or university must complete the following prerequisites:

**SEMESTER HOURS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy and physiology, including laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OR</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy with lab</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Physiology</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics with lab</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology with lab</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human growth and development or developmental psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applicants must demonstrate basic computer and word-processing competency. Applicants are required to submit official scores from the GRE. These scores must be less than five years old.

FOR APPLICANTS WITH 90 SEMESTER HOURS

Prior to matriculation, applicants who possess a minimum of 90 semester hours of baccalaureate study with a minimum of 30 semester hours at the junior and/or senior level, but who do not hold a baccalaureate degree, must complete the following prerequisites:
Psychology .................................................. 6
Anatomy and physiology, including laboratory .......... 4

OR

Anatomy with lab ........................................... 4
and Physiology with lab .................................. 3–4

Physics with lab ............................................. 3–4
Biology with lab ............................................ 3–4

Human growth and development or developmental
psychology (must cover infancy through aging) ........ 3
Statistics ......................................................... 3

Humanities (art, music appreciation, literature,
foreign language, history, philosophy, religion,
linguistics, critical theory, or classics) ..................... 9

English composition .......................................... 6
Social science (anthropology, sociology, geography,
political science, government, economics, culture studies,
gerontology, or recreation and leisure studies) ........ 3

Applicants must demonstrate basic computer and word-processing
competency.

Applicants are required to submit official scores from the Graduate
Record Examination (GRE). These scores must be less than five
years old.

RECOMMENDED COURSES

The following courses will also help you in the occupational
therapy curriculum.

Ethics ............................................................. 3
Public speaking .................................................. 3
Physics, including laboratory ................................ 4
Theories of personality ......................................... 3
Anthropology ..................................................... 3
Sociology .......................................................... 3
Logic/philosophy ............................................... 3
Physiology ......................................................... 3
Kinesiology ....................................................... 3

Upon review of an applicant's individual record, the committee on
admissions may require additional coursework and testing as a
condition of acceptance. The dean is empowered to evaluate the
total qualifications of every applicant and to modify requirements in
unusual circumstances.
Candidates for admission to the Master of Occupational Therapy (M.O.T.) Program are responsible for the submission of

1. a completed application form along with a $50 nonrefundable application fee

2. three letters of evaluation from individuals such as academic instructors and professors, occupational therapists and other health professionals, work supervisors, or volunteer supervisors
   Evaluations should be submitted on forms provided and not submitted in the form of a letter.

3. official college transcripts from all undergraduate (including advanced placement test scores), professional, and graduate institutions attended—sent directly from the institution
   It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure arrangements are made for these transcripts to be sent. All final transcripts, covering all of the applicant's work, must be forwarded to
   Nova Southeastern University
   Enrollment Processing Services (EPS)
   College of Allied Health and Nursing
   Occupational Therapy Admissions
   3301 College Avenue
   P.O. Box 299000
   Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33329-9905

4. official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores in all three areas of the general test: verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing
   The NSU institution code is 5522, and the department code is 0618.

5. a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 550 or higher for written or 213 or higher for computer-based test (international applicants only)

INTERVIEW

A personal interview is an integral part of the admissions process; however, being granted an interview is not a guarantee of admission. It also should be clearly understood that not all applicants will be granted an interview. Those who are selected for an interview will be notified of the date and time of the interview by the Office of Admissions.
The Office of Admissions processes applications on a “rolling” or periodic basis. It is in the best interest of prospective students to complete their applications early because of the limited number of positions in the class.

Anticipated tuition for 2008–2009 (subject to change by the board of trustees without notice) is $18,495 for Florida residents and $20,495 for out-of-state students.

A Health Professions Division general access fee of $145 is required each year. An NSU student services fee of $750 also is required annually.

Eligible applicants must request in-state tuition on their applications. For tuition purposes, a student's Florida residency status (in-state or out-of-state) will be determined at initial matriculation and will remain the same throughout the entire enrollment of the student at NSU. Accordingly, tuition will not be adjusted as a result of any change in residency status after initial enrollment registration.

1. **Acceptance Fee—$400.** This fee is required to reserve the accepted applicant's place in the entering first-year class. This advance payment will be deducted from the tuition payment due on registration day, but is not refundable in the event of a withdrawal. It is payable within two weeks of an applicant's acceptance.

2. **Preregistration Fee—$600.** This is due eight weeks after acceptance or by April 15, whichever comes first, under the same terms as the Acceptance Fee.

The first semester's tuition and fees, less the $1,000 previously paid, are due on or before registration day. Tuition for each subsequent semester is due on or before the appropriate registration day. Students will not be admitted until their financial obligations have been met.

The financial ability of applicants to complete their education at NSU is important because of the limited number of positions available in each class. Applicants should have specific plans for financing two-and-a-half years of professional education. This should include tuition, living expenses, books, equipment, and miscellaneous expenses.

It is required that each student carry adequate personal medical and hospital insurance. Students may avail themselves of the hospitalization insurance plan obtainable through the university.
The Occupational Therapy Department at Nova Southeastern University offers two avenues for doctoral study: the advanced practice doctorate [doctor of occupational therapy (Dr.OT)] and the research doctorate [doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.)]. Applicants with a bachelor's or master's degree may be accepted for the Dr.OT degree program. Any student who is not a certified occupational therapist will first complete the on-campus professional entry program, the master of occupational therapy (M.O.T.). NSU M.O.T. graduates with a GPA of 90 or higher are assured admission to the Dr.OT program if other admission requirements are met.

THE DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (DR.OT)

The postprofessional Dr.OT program prepares occupational therapists to become leaders in the advance practices of occupational therapy, health policy, consultation, and program development. Graduates incorporate evidence-based practice, client-centered approaches, occupation-based practice, and best practices to meet societal needs.

The Dr.OT program is offered through WebCT3, a distance-learning course format. Students complete two courses per semester, traveling to campus at the end/beginning of each semester for four days (Friday through Monday) of intensive coursework. The rest of the semester's work will be completed from the student's home through readings, writing, practicum experiences, online assignments, and communication with the professor and other students in the class. There are three semesters per year.

All Dr.OT students must successfully complete the required courses and select their remaining courses in consultation with the director of the doctoral program based on the student's professional interests and goals. (An evidence-based capstone paper is required, along with a 90-hour residency with a master clinician.)

THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.)

The Ph.D. program develops scholars, scientists, and researchers for leadership in the advancement of the base of knowledge of occupational therapy.

The Ph.D. program is offered primarily through WebCT3, a distance-learning course format. Students generally complete two courses per semester, traveling to campus at the end/beginning of each semester for four days (Friday through Monday) of intense coursework. The rest of the course is completed from the student's home through readings, writing, practicum experiences, online assignments, and communication with the professor and classmates. In addition, students attend two Summer Research Institutes on campus. A research residency and a dissertation of original research also are required. The student selects a committee of three—two professors from the Occupational Therapy Department (with one identified as chair) and one outside expert—to supervise the dissertation research.
The occupational therapy doctoral programs select students based on cumulative GPA, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores, interviews and personal statements, letters of recommendation, and potential for success in the program.

1. Applicants must have either a bachelor's or a master's degree in occupational therapy from a regionally accredited university or college and be eligible for a Florida occupational therapy license. International applicants must present the equivalent of a bachelor's degree and evidence of successful completion of an O.T. educational program approved by WFOT. All foreign coursework must be evaluated by World Education Services, Inc. (www.wes.org), Josef Silny & Associates (www.jsilny.com), or Educational Credential Evaluators (www.ece.org).

2. Minimum Requirements

Dr.OT
- GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- preference given to applicants with combined verbal and quantitative GRE of 800 and analytical writing of 4.0

Ph.D.
- GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale
- have taken a graduate-level research methods course
- combined verbal and quantitative GRE of 900
- preference given to applicants with GRE analytical writing of 4.5
- master's degree

3. Applicants must submit official scores from all three areas (verbal, quantitative, and written analytical) of the GRE. These scores must not be more than five years old.

The NSU institution code is 5522, and the department code is 0618 to send GRE scores.

4. International applicants also must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and obtain a score of 550 or higher for written or 213 or higher for the computer-based test.

5. All students will be required to have a computer that meets the recommended minimum specifications as outlined on page 23 because of the extensive use of distance technology for communication through the electronic classroom.

The dean is empowered to evaluate the total qualifications of every applicant and to modify requirements in unusual circumstances.
The curriculum is in continual development, and new courses are added each semester. The courses preceded by an asterisk (*) are required core courses for both degrees. Those preceded by two asterisks (**) are additional courses required for the Ph.D. The courses preceded by three asterisks (***) are required of Dr.OT students.
Anticipated tuition for 2008–2009 (subject to change by the board of trustees without notice) is $3,000 per semester for students taking 1 to 6 credits and $5,575 per semester for students taking 7 to 12 credits. Annual full-time students pay $16,500.

1. **Acceptance Fee**—$100. This fee is required to reserve the accepted applicant’s place in the entering class. This advance payment will be deducted from the tuition payment due on registration day, but is not refundable in the event of a withdrawal. It is payable within two weeks of an applicant’s acceptance.

2. **Deposit**—$400. This is due 60 days prior to registration, under the same terms as the Acceptance Fee.

3. **Preregistration Fee**—$500. This is due 30 days prior to registration, under the same terms as the Acceptance Fee. The first term’s tuition and fees, less the $1,000 previously paid, are due on or before registration day. Tuition for each subsequent semester is due on or before the appropriate registration day. Students will not be admitted until their financial obligations have been met.

4. A Health Professions Division general access fee of $145 is required each year. An NSU student services fee of $750 also is required annually.
All applicants must be certified occupational therapists. The following courses are required to complete the program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>SEMESTER HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6005</td>
<td>Evidence-based Practice and Critical Thinking in OT .......... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6010</td>
<td>Theory Development for Models of Practice .............. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6103</td>
<td>Occupation-centered Practice .................. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6133</td>
<td>Advanced Policy Issues .......................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6860</td>
<td>Creative Leadership .......................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6006</td>
<td>Research: Process of Discovery .................. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6007</td>
<td>Evidence and Outcomes .......................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6003</td>
<td>Capstone Residency ................................ 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBTOTAL</td>
<td>............................................... 24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transfer credits ........................................ Up to 30*
Electives (selected with advisory committee approval to complement stated practice focus) .......... up to 51
TOTAL .................................................. Minimum of 72

*A certified occupational therapy applicant with a master's degree in occupational therapy or a related discipline may transfer up to 30 credit hours. Courses to be considered for transfer must have grades of B or better, be from an accredited institution, and be less than 12 years old.
1. All applicants must be certified occupational therapists. The following courses are required to complete the program:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>SEMESTER HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6005 Evidence-based Practice and Critical Thinking in O.T.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6010 Theory Development for Models of Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCT 6103 Occupation-centered Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6170 Research Methods I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6171 Research Methods II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCT 6173 Statistical Measures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6820 Applying Measurement Theory</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6821 Measurement Theory and Evaluation: Advanced Applications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 6860 Creative Leadership</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCT 7930 Research Seminar</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 7940 Proposal Seminar</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 7945 Studies for the Qualifying Examination</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transfer Credits ....................................... Up to 30*

OCT 7950 Research Residency ........................................ 3–6

OCT 7970 Doctoral Dissertation ........................................ 6–12

Electives (selected with advisory committee approval to complement stated practice focus) ........ Up to 54

**TOTAL** .................................................. Minimum of 90

*A certified occupational therapy applicant with a master's degree in occupational therapy or a related discipline may transfer up to 30 credit hours. Courses to be considered for transfer must have grades of B or better, be from an accredited institution, and be less than 12 years old.

2. Graduates of the NSU Occupational Therapy Doctoral Program (Dr.OT) may be admitted to the Ph.D. program on a space-available basis if they meet the minimum requirements.
FOREIGN COURSEWORK

Undergraduate and graduate coursework taken at a foreign institution must be evaluated for U.S. institution equivalence. Foreign coursework must be evaluated by one of the services listed below. You should contact one of the following:

• World Education Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 745
Old Chelsea Station
New York, New York 10113-0745
(212) 966-6311

• Josef Silny & Associates, Inc.
International Education Consultants
7101 SW 102nd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33173
(305) 273-1616
www.jsilny.com

• Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
P.O. Box 415070
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203-3470
(414) 289-3400
www.ece.org

It is the applicant’s responsibility to have this coursework evaluated. An official evaluation must be sent to

• NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Enrollment Processing Services (EPS)
College of Allied Health and Nursing
Occupational Therapy Admissions
3301 College Avenue
P.O. Box 299000
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33329-9905

NONMATRICULATING STUDENTS

Nondegree-seeking students may take up to six credits of courses in the doctoral program. These are transferable if the student decides to pursue a doctoral degree. An application for nonmatriculating students needs to be completed and official transcripts received. GRE scores are not required. Tuition is $1,500 for a three-credit course for nonmatriculating students. Note: Admissions will not process two applications from one student at the same time (e.g., nonmatriculation and Ph.D. applications).
Numerous apartments, condominiums, and other rental facilities are located near campus. Limited on-campus housing is also available. Information concerning on- and off-campus housing may be obtained by contacting

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Office of Residential Life and Housing
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314-7796
(954) 262-7052
All students are REQUIRED to have a computer with the following recommended minimum specifications:

- Pentium; 800 MHz minimum processor
- 128 MB RAM
- Video and monitor capable of 1024 x 768 resolution or better
- CD-ROM drive
- Full duplex sound card and speakers
- 56.6 baud modem (DSL or CABLE modem preferred)
- Internet connection with private Internet service provider (ISP) for access from home to the Internet
- Windows 98/2000/ME/XP or NT
- Microsoft Office 2000 or newer with PowerPoint, Word, and Excel minimum
- Surge suppressor

Suggested options:

- DVD, CD/RW
- Laptop computer with wireless Internet capability
- USB memory device (stick, pen, drive, flash memory, etc.)
- Wireless capability for notebooks and laptops
M.O.T. students should anticipate spending $2,000 per year for books. In addition, students should anticipate spending approximately $13,000 for living expenses for a nine-month academic year.

The primary financial responsibility for a student's education rests with the student and his or her family. Economic circumstances for some families may make it necessary for the student to obtain assistance from other sources.

The purpose of the student Financial Assistance Program at NSU is to help as many qualified students as possible to complete their health professions education. Various loans, scholarships, and grants are available to qualified students to help ease the high cost of a health professions education. These financial assistance programs are described in a separate university publication, *The NSU Guide to Student Financial Assistance*. For a copy or information, contact:

**NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**
Office of Student Financial Assistance
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314-7796

(954) 262-3380 • 800-806-3680

A limited number of part-time work assignments are available. However, due to the demands of the program curriculum, the program strongly discourages any outside employment.