

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MSc Occupational Therapy (Pre-registration)
2	Course Code	PT1798
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	NA
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	Health and Care Professions Council Royal College of Occupational Therapists

6	Course Description
	<p>As an occupational therapist, you'll help people who have difficulties with daily activities resulting from disability, illness, trauma, ageing, and a range of long-term conditions. You could work in many different settings, including hospitals, schools, rehabilitation centres, mental health facilities, private practices, and children's clinics.</p> <p>So, if you're looking for a career where you can help people to live independently and would enjoy a variety of work where you're always learning and can use your creativity to support people to re-gain, maintain or improve their independence, occupational therapy could be the pathway for you.</p> <p>Our MSc Occupational Therapy (pre-registration) course will support you to become a competent, autonomous and reflective occupational therapist. You will have the opportunity to develop excellent professional interpersonal and research skills and the ability to apply these across the multifaceted profession of occupational therapy.</p> <p>Upon successful completion of the course, you will be eligible to apply for registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) for the protected title of occupational therapist, fully equipped for employment and able to provide the highest standards of person focused care, both individually and within interprofessional teams.</p> <p>Through specialist teaching and learning techniques, you will explore and learn the philosophy, theory and science behind occupational therapy practice, as well as the human anatomy, physiology, sociology and psychology that underpins occupational therapy. You will explore occupational science and its interaction with the mental, physical and social elements of health. You will develop your practice and skills by spending time on placement gaining significant specialist experience of at least 1000 hours, as well as developing your employability skills.</p> <p>Your academic studies will take place at our City South Campus, which features a simulation centre with specialist home environment and mock ward facilities. Through use of these</p>

	<p>dedicated facilities, you will develop the essential knowledge, skills and behaviours to become a confident occupational therapist within a safe, supported educational environment.</p> <p>Our MSc Occupational Therapy (pre-registration) course is a qualifying course intended for graduates with a suitable, relevant first degree and provides an accelerated route into the profession. It is not for those who have already completed a qualification in occupational therapy.</p> <p>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>Theories, sciences and core concepts underpinning human occupation and the occupational therapy provision. Human anatomy, physiology, psychology across the lifespan of patients with varying impairments, illnesses and conditions. human occupational performance and the relationship between the person, environment and occupation. The occupational therapy management of patients with long term conditions and complex health and care requirements. Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary team working. Development of key skills relevant to occupational therapy, including communication, abstraction, critical thinking, reflection, research and professionalism will enable you to become a compassionate and competent practitioner who can deliver effective, evidence-based and quality-driven care.</p>
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7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Master of Science (Pre-registration) in Occupational Therapy	7	180
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Postgraduate Certificate in Studies in Health	7	60
	Postgraduate Diploma in Studies in Health	7	120

8	Variations from the University Academic Regulations
	<p>This course has approved variations to the University's Academic Regulations. These can be accessed via the student contract page: https://www.bcu.ac.uk/student-info/student-contract.</p>

9	Delivery Patterns		
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study
	Full time	City South Campus	2 years
			Code(s)
			PT1798

10	Entry Requirements	
	Home:	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.

11	Course Aims
	<p>The MSc Occupational Therapy (pre-registration) course will develop competent autonomous, compassionate, patient focussed and reflective Occupational Therapists capable of problem solving and critical thinking. You will develop highly specialist interpersonal skills and be capable of promoting high quality care tailored to the needs of people who access Occupational Therapy and their carer</p> <p>The course will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop competent, autonomous, reflective Occupational Therapists with highly developed and broad ranging clinical and interpersonal skills who are eligible to apply for registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and able to influence future healthcare provision. • Provide students with a supportive and engaging environment in which they can develop academic and professionally with the focus on providing exemplary patient focussed care, which is highly skilled, evidence based and compassionate. • Develop the practical and research skills and professional attributes of a student's professional practice enabling them to demonstrate a level of competence as demanded by both the Health and Care Professions Council and the Royal College of Occupational Therapists. • Provide an environment and opportunities for students to develop their collaborative skills and effectiveness for working together with and learning from, a range of healthcare workers, fellow professionals, patients, their carers and other stakeholders within both the practice based and academic setting. • Enhance employability of our students, developing them into highly respected, caring, competent and autonomous graduates who are eligible for registration with the Health and Care Professions Council. • Develop the clinical and research skills, and professional attributes required to work and develop as an autonomous practitioner who is inspired to take ownership of their learning and development. • Ensure that Occupational Therapy graduates are responsive to the needs of diverse cultures and have the necessary knowledge, understanding and skills to enable them to practice and contribute effectively to a global workforce. • Provide opportunities to learn with and from other healthcare professionals, fellow professionals, service users and other organisations to develop competence in inter-professional practice and collaborative working.

12	Course Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
1	Develop and critically apply the knowledge, skills and professional competence of a qualified practicing Occupational Therapist.
2	Critically analyse sound knowledge of the application of human anatomy, physiology, disease, impairments, psychology, occupation, vocation and rehabilitation.
3	Apply extensive theoretical knowledge of patient* illness, disease, impairment, recovery, health promotion, holistic care and lifelong management
4	Critically appraise and be able to explain the rationale for use of different Occupational therapy techniques and models and how these techniques may be adapted to meet the individualised needs of the patient.
	Skills and other attributes
5	Foster a highly skilled, patient focussed and compassionate approach with highly effective interpersonal, communication skills, teamwork and leadership competence to establish a career within Occupational therapy practice.
6	Develop reflective skills and motivation to foster a pro-active lifelong approach and commitment to learning, enabling you to provide consistent service user focussed care, and adapt and support the implementation of changes within an ever-changing healthcare environment.
7	Develop effective collaborative working within and between a variety of health and social care teams.
8	Develop problem solving and critical thinking skills
9	Incorporate and embrace leadership strategies as a team member to promote collaboration in both traditional and emerging health and social care settings.
10	Practice as a reflective, critical, evaluative and evidence-based Occupational Therapist
11	Practice within the legal and ethical boundaries of Occupational Therapy and practice safely and effectively within your own scope of practice.
12	Develop into a highly respected, caring, competent and autonomous graduate who meets the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Standards of Proficiency, Standards of Conduct Performance and Ethics and is eligible to apply for registration as an Occupational Therapist with the HCPC.
13	Recognise the advantages of building and maintaining professional relationships as both an independent practitioner and collaboratively as a member of a team.
14	Validate and apply patient-centred reasoning, to assess the needs of an individual and develop, implement and evaluate appropriate intervention strategies to meet their needs.
15	Work autonomously, demonstrating self-efficacy, as an effective Occupational Therapist within the legal, ethical and cultural context of health care.
16	Incorporate and embrace leadership strategies as a team member to promote collaboration in both traditional and emerging health and social care settings.
17	Understand the historic and social processes which may impact on experience of minority and diverse groups/populations.

* The word patient is referred to in these learning outcomes but other terms may be used depending on the context of practice, and the person's own preference. These may include, service user, client, people accessing services.

13. Level Learning Outcomes	
Upon completion of PG Certificate students will be able to:	
Demonstrate understanding of professionalism in working practices.	
Analyse and appraise key Occupational Therapy theory.	
Upon completion PG Diploma, students will be able to:	
Apply an advanced understanding of research in its application to Occupational Therapy practice.	
Demonstrate understanding of complex aspects of Occupational Therapy practice and undertake analysis of the evidence base that underpins recent developments in cancer care.	
Upon completion of Level 7 Master's of Science students will be able to:	
Meet the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Standards of Proficiency, Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics, and be eligible to apply for registration as an Occupational Therapist with the HCPC.	
Identify and critically review relevant literature/methodologies and complete a chosen Occupational Therapy research project.	

14	Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy
	<p>The course will utilise a variety of theories and methods within our learning and teaching strategy to encourage inquisitive, reflective and critical thinking enabling students to become confident and autonomous learners with sound academic and professional knowledge.</p> <p>This will encourage reflective and critical thinking skills, enabling you to become confident and autonomous learners.</p> <p>You will develop sound academic and practical competencies, so you are readily employable and well-equipped for lifelong learning as an Occupational Therapist.</p> <p>The course will be delivered via a blended approach. A high proportion of the course will be delivered face to face on campus, in state-of-the-art purpose-built facilities, where you can immediately apply theory to practice. Some sessions will be delivered in hybrid form utilising technology to support both synchronous and asynchronous online learning. This will allow you to study at your own pace and at a convenient time within asynchronous learning specifically Sessions will vary in mode (lecture, seminar, practical, simulation) and will be delivered in variety of teaching spaces.</p> <p>You will also undertake a minimum of 1000 hours of practice-based learning in a variety of settings and environments.</p> <p>You will be assessed using a range of methods including examinations, coursework, presentations, case studies and practical assessments. Each of these assessments will enable you to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of Occupational Therapy, and they are learning opportunities as you reflect on the feedback provided to improve your academic and practical performance.</p>

The year plans are designed to integrate theory and practice using a modular approach with blocks of academic studies and practice across both years so that students can forge connections between their developing professional knowledge and practical skills as a developing Occupational Therapist.

Our approach to teaching has been to embed fundamentals of professional knowledge within the first phases of the course so that students have a firm foundation in pillars of Occupational Therapy practice and the basis of provision of high standards of patient care.

From these, students will study increasingly more complex aspects of Occupational Therapy practice and undertake analysis of the evidence base that underpins recent developments in care culminating in the production of a MSc Professional dissertation project.

All assessments within the preregistration programme leading to eligibility to apply to register as an occupational therapist with the HCPC must be successfully completed.

15 Course Requirements

15a

Level 7:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 180 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
HSC7004	Evidence Based Professional Practice	20
HSC7023	Becoming an Occupational Therapist	20
HSC7024	The Human Body, Mind and Occupational Therapy	20
HSC7026	Integrating Occupational Therapy Theory, Evidence and Practice	40
HSC7028	Consolidating Professional Practice (Occupational Therapy)	20
HSC7025	Advancing Occupational Therapy Practice	20
HSC7029	Healthcare Professional Project: Occupational Therapy	40

15b Structure Diagram

Year	Semester	Module title	IPL or OT specific	Credits	Dates
1	2	Becoming an Occupational Therapist	OT	20	January – April
1	AYL	Evidence based professional practice <i>(Includes Practice placement 1)</i>	IPL	20	January – December
1	2	The Human body, mind and Occupational Therapy	OT	20	January – April
1	3	Integrating Occupational Therapy theory, evidence and practice	OT	40	May – September
2	2	Advancing Occupational Therapy practice	OT	20	January – March
2	2 and 3	Consolidating Professional Practice Occupational Therapy <i>Includes practice placements 2 and 3</i>	IPL	20	January – September
2	AYL	Health Care Professional Project: : Occupational Therapy	OT with some shared multiprofessional learning	40	January – December

16 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable

- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Workload

Level 7 (Both year 1 and 2)

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	294
Directed Learning	462
Private Study	944
Total Hours	1800 (+1000 Practice based learning hours)

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	55%
Exam	11%
In-Person	34%