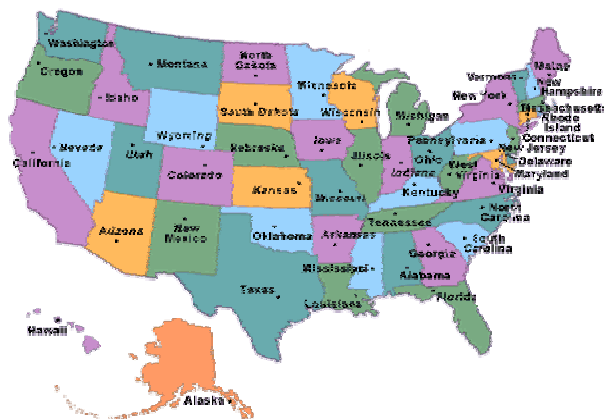


Occupational Therapy Education in USA

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State of Nebraska The heartland





- The number 1 regional university in the Midwest
 - US NEWS & World Report



Photo Courtesy: Creighton University

Background Information Professional vs. Graduate Education



Professional Education

- Programs that enroll students for service delivery of a particular profession
- Highly influenced by professions they serve
- Standards are set at a minimally accepted level
- Directed on: professional competency, understanding of society, ethical behavior and scholarly concern (Mayhew & Ford, 1974, p. 3)

Graduate Education

- Master's & doctoral degrees
- Historically, the intent:
 - Character formation
 - Preparation of college teachers
 - Research in specialized field
 - Enter work force & apply research competencies in professional fields

Levels of Education in USA (Coppard & Dickerson, 2007)



- Associate
 - At least 2 yrs, but not > 4 yrs of education
- Baccalaureate
 - 4-5 full-time equivalent academic yrs
 - BS / BA (bachelor of science, *atrium baccalaureus*)
- Master's
 - Approximately 36 credits of post-baccalaureate education in a subject field
 - Types: academic, professional, and experiential
 - Historical intent: produce graduates with beginning research or inquiry skills
 - Not easily compared

Levels of Education in US (Coppard & Dickerson, 2007)



- Doctoral
 - Highest degree conferred
 - Equivalent of 3 yrs- 5 yrs full-time post-baccalaureate education
 - Usually a minimum of 72 credits + residency
 - Types:
 - Research or Academic (PhD): requirements include didactic coursework, written or oral comprehensive exams, completion of dissertation
 - Doctor of Science (ScD): Focus is on the study of applied science; requirements include didactic coursework, advanced clinical practicum, clinical research project
 - Professional (e.g., OTD, DPT, PharmD, MD, etc.): seldom requires a master's degree, sophisticated clinical competencies

Post Doctoral & Residency Education



Post Doctoral Education

- Intent: produce highly knowledgeable, creative, work in universities, government, & industry (Carmichael, 1961)
- AKA: postdoctoral fellow, postdoctoral research associate, postdoctoral trainee (Knowles, 1977)

Residency

- Not common in OT
- Advanced preparation as a provider of patient care services in a defined area of practice (DiFabio, 1999)
- Includes integration of practice, research and scholarly inquiry (Medeiros, 1998)
- Offer after a doctoral degree

Professional or Clinical Doctorate



- Seldom requires a master's degree or dissertation (Unger, 1996)
- Intent: "sophisticated practice competencies" (Pierce & Peyton, 1999, p. 64)
- Entry into a profession at the clinical doctorate level usually requires passing a national examination to practice (Unger, 1996)
- Typically requires mentored advanced clinical experiences (Edens & Labadie, 1987; Faut-Callahan, 1992; Hummer, Hunt, & Figuers, 1994; Pierce & Peyton, 1999; Watson, 1988)

Occupational Therapy Education in USA



Approximately 140,000 OTs
practice in US

Graduated from an accredited
occupational therapy
program

Over 156 OT programs in US

Currently, there are different
entry levels: Master (MAOT,
MSOT), OTD
(clinical/professional
doctorate), and PhD



Resolution J passed in 1997



Mandate occupational therapy education move to post
baccalaureate entry into the field by 2007

OT programs in US have been transited to post
baccalaureate education

Offer entry-level masters and entry-level doctorate
(entry-level OTD) programs

Currently, there are five entry level OTD programs and
many post professional OTD degrees

Possible Mandate in 2025



Mandate occupational therapy education move to
doctoral entry into the field by 2025

Offer entry-level doctorate (entry-level OTD) programs

Currently, there are

- Six American entry level OTD programs and many
post professional OTD degrees

- Six American universities in the OTD academic
program candidate status phase

- Eight in the applicant status phase (American
Occupational Therapy Association)

Possible requirement in 2025



Rationale:

Multifactorial: Internal and external

National politics, demographics, level of healthcare
services, economy, funding models for healthcare
services, results of scientific research, geography,
and the colleagues with whom we work

Impact on international community?

Requirement for Occupational Therapists



Graduated from an ACOTE accredited OT program

Pass the certification exam and become a registered occupational therapist

When practicing in different state, he/she needs to be licensed



Requirement for Occupational Therapists



Choose a mission-driven school for occupational therapy!

- Occupational therapy is the science and art of facilitating well-being through occupation.
- The profession is particularly concerned with how people construct meaningful lives.

Welcome



- OT Education in USA: A case illustration



Clinical Doctoral Degree in Occupational Therapy



- 2 Pathways leading to the degree of OTD

Entry Level: Students who do not have a previous degree in occupational therapy, but who have completed the prerequisite coursework

First entry level OTD in USA
Ranked #15 among over 156 programs in USA

Post Professional: Students having a bachelor's or master's degree in occupational therapy who wish to pursue the clinical doctorate degree



- Must demonstrate unprecedented level of advanced clinical reasoning
- Define & demonstrate the uniqueness of occupational therapy
- Demand for autonomous & interdependent practitioners
- Environment reinforces move to this level

(Hughes, Brayman, Clark, Delaney & Miller, 1998)



- Preparation for outcomes research & evidence based practice
- Serve on interdisciplinary teams
- Clarify delineation between therapist & assistant
- Keep with trends in related professions/fields

(Hughes, Brayman, Clark, Delaney & Miller, 1998)

Creighton's Rationale



- Institutional prerogative & context
- Proliferation of OT knowledge base
- Shortage of doctorally prepared faculty
- Few PhD programs in occupational therapy
- Need for advanced training
- Need for occupational therapists to possess leadership abilities
- Advanced degree for clinical focus (vs. research)

(Runyon, Aitken, & Stohs, 1994)

Clinical Doctorate (OTD)



- Creighton and Nova Southeastern University simultaneously started the post professional doctorate degree in OT.
- The OTD was started as a post-professional degree in 1995 with the 1st class graduating in 1997.
 - There were 8 students in that class.
- The 1st entry level OTD students started in 1999 & graduated in 2002.
- The 1st entry level OTD distance cohort started in 2008.
- The second distance cohort started in 2013
- The third distance cohort will start in 2015



Future

- ACOTE (Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education) created separate standards for the OTD entry level degree.
 - Added requirement of a bachelor's degree as a prerequisite starting in 2010.
 - Our program already meets or exceeds the standards.
 - We received full accreditation for 10 years following the recent ACOTE review, September 2010.
 - Zero citations and multiple areas of strength listed.
 - The curriculum continues to be refined and revised.

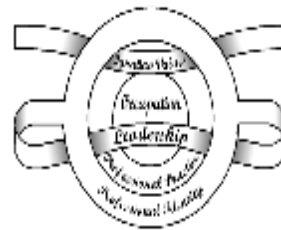


Curriculum Overview

Curriculum Model



- In order to conceptualize the OT curriculum at Creighton, a model comprised of three themes and two threads is used
- Themes are not addressed in courses sequentially, rather they are nested so that contents of each theme unfold over the 8 semesters / 3 years of the program



Curriculum: 1st Year



Fall - 1st Semester (16 credits)

- Occupations and Occupational Therapy
- Occupation and Health: Population Perspectives
- *Professional Practice and Ethical Formation Seminar*
- Neuroanatomy
- Health Conditions

Spring - 2nd Semester (18 credits)

- Research Proposal
- Clinical Anatomy
- *Clinical Anatomy Lab*
- *Applied Kinesiology*
- *Physical Rehabilitation I: Evaluation*
- *Occupational Therapy in Mental Health*
- Level IA Fieldwork: Mental Health

*

Italics denotes course with a laboratory component. **Bolded** courses are experiential co

Curriculum: 1st Year (cont.)



Summer – 3rd Semester (8.5 credits)

- *Physical Rehabilitation II: Neurorehabilitation*
- *Upper Extremity Evaluation and Intervention I*
- Level IB Fieldwork: Physical Rehabilitation

* *Italics* denotes course with a laboratory component. **Bolded** courses are experiential courses.

Curriculum: 2nd Year



Fall – 4th Semester (18 credits)

- Research Project Implementation I
- Neuro-Occupation
- *Occupational Therapy with Older Adults*
- *Upper Extremity Evaluation and Intervention II*
- *Occupational Therapy with Children and Youth I*
- Critical Analysis of Occupational Therapy Practice
- Clinical Education Seminar I
- Level IC Fieldwork: Pediatric or Selected Practice Setting

Spring – 5th Semester (18 credits)

- Research Project Implementation II
- Management and Program Development
- Disability and Healthcare Policy
- *Occupational Therapy with Children and Youth II*
- *Physical Rehabilitation III: Interventions and Outcomes*
- Clinical Education Seminar II
- Level ID Fieldwork: Pediatric or Selected Practice Setting

* *Italics* denotes course with a laboratory component. **Bolded** courses are experiential courses.

Curriculum: 2nd Year (cont.)



Summer – 6th Semester (12 credits)

- Level IIA Fieldwork

Fieldwork: Through the Lens of an Occupational Therapy Student

2012 Winning Submissions



* **Bolded** courses are experiential courses.

Curriculum: 3rd Year



Fall – 7th Semester
(15.5 credits)

First 3 weeks

- Professional Identity and Ethical Perspectives in the Ignatian Tradition (online format)

Last 12 weeks

- Professional Competency (online format)
- Level IIB Fieldwork

Spring – 8th Semester
(17 credits)

- Professional Rotation
- Capstone (online format & final campus component)



Curriculum Summary



- 8 semesters
- 3 academic years
- 123 credits
- 36 classes
- 12 labs
- 43.5 weeks of clinical experiences
 - 4 Level I Fieldworks
 - 2 Level II Fieldworks
 - 1 Professional Rotation



Electives



- The program is “lock-step”
- Student may choose to enroll in additional electives; examples are:
 - Spanish for Health Professionals
 - Institute for Latin American Concerns (ILAC) Immersion
 - Exploring Spirituality in Occupational Therapy
 - Foundations in Patient Safety
 - Cultural Immersion and Experiential Learning in China
 - Directed Independent Studies



OTD Program Goals



The goals of the OTD program are to prepare therapists who:

1. Demonstrate entry-level occupational therapy clinical skills.
2. Develop a new or refine an existing program that enhances occupational therapy practice.
3. Demonstrate positive interpersonal skills and insight into one's professional behaviors to accurately appraise one's professional disposition strengths and areas for improvement.
4. Demonstrate the ability to practice educative roles for clients, peers, students, and others in community and clinical settings.
5. Influence policy, practice, and education by advocating for occupational therapy services for individuals and populations and for the profession.
6. Demonstrate leadership aptitude and characteristics to assume leadership roles at the local, national, and international levels in occupational therapy, health professions, and the community.
7. Develop essential knowledge and skills to contribute to the advancement of occupational therapy through scholarly activities.
8. Apply principles and constructs of ethics to individual, institutional, and societal issues, and articulate justifiable resolutions to these issues and act in an ethical manner.

Collaboration partnership in OT education in China



- A master program in Rehabilitation with a focus in OT
 - For students who graduated with a bachelor degree in rehabilitation (not approved by WFOT)
 - 1.5 year study: 1 year in USA and .5 year in China
 - A total of 36 credit hours
 - Receive a Master degree from Creighton University
 - MS in Rehabilitation with a focus in OT

Collaboration partnership in OT education in China



- A master program in OT
- For students who graduated with a bachelor degree in OT from a program that has been approved by WFOT
 - 1.5 year study: 1 year in USA and .5 year in China
 - A total of 36 credit hours
 - Receive a Master degree in OT from Creighton University
 - MSOT

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This presentation was developed based on previous various presentations by OT faculty at Creighton University

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Questions?

