This course will equip you with the skills required to practise as a competent occupational therapist in a wide variety of environments.
COURSE OVERVIEW

The pre-registration master’s course is a graduate award aimed at applicants who already have a degree in a relevant field and who wish to study to become an occupational therapist. The course has the approval of the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and accreditation from the College of Occupational Therapists.

On completion of the course, you will have the opportunity to work with people of all ages, including children and young people, from all walks of life in a variety of settings including:

- hospitals
- within the community
- workplaces
- schools
- homes
- a variety of voluntary settings.

You will support people to develop skills to best manage any limitations or disabilities, and enable them to fulfill the demands of their daily lives with greater satisfaction. This could be in all areas of physical disability and rehabilitation, mental health, or learning disability. The OT course has a long and prestigious history of educating occupational therapists who are well equipped to deliver and develop excellent OT practice in the UK and internationally.

The curriculum offers a student-centred approach to learning, which involves the integration of OT theory, practice, and components of the biological, behavioural, social and medical sciences. You will learn to assess the living skills and occupations of clients in order to enhance and promote their performance within their unique environments. You will also develop the technical, practical, managerial and communication skills necessary to enter practice as a qualified occupational therapist.

STUDYING ABROAD

Studying abroad is an option after graduation. In partnership with the Boston School of Occupational Therapy, Tufts University, Boston, USA, a generous annual scholarship is available to enable an OT graduate from Oxford Brookes University (with at least two years’ work experience) to study full-time overseas for the MSc in OT post-registration.

PLACEMENTS

Learning through experience to integrate the theory and practice of OT is a key part of the course and the placements you undertake will provide you with practical experience of the work of an occupational therapist.

You will focus on developing clinical reasoning skills taking a critically evaluative approach to practice, whilst also developing sound theoretical knowledge.

You will experience a wide variety of practice learning opportunities throughout London, Oxford and the South East. You will complete three placements, consisting of up to 30 weeks of supervised workplace learning in selected health or social care settings, which may be located in a hospital or in the community. You will become increasingly involved in the treatment of clients of different ages and with a diversity of needs.

There are additional costs associated with placements which are not always reimbursed by the NHS. These costs can be between £500 - £3,000 per placement for associated travel/accommodation costs.

Examples of placement experiences may include:

- within the community with people who have mental health conditions or learning disabilities
- within schools for children who have a disability
- a range of hospital settings, such as accident and emergency, neuro-rehabilitation, orthopaedics, and palliative/hospice care.

You will be allocated a qualified occupational therapist, who will be your dedicated practice educator and will facilitate your learning, provide tuition and feedback, to enable you to develop your skills.

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

When you have successfully completed the OT course, you will be eligible to apply for registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). See contact details. Registration is required for employment as an occupational therapist within the NHS and Social Services.

The College of Occupational Therapists is the professional, education and trade union body which supports student, assistant and professional occupational therapists.

COURSE DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award/Level:</th>
<th>MSc / 7 Master’s level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mode:</td>
<td>Full time only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starts:</td>
<td>September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Length of course:</td>
<td>2 years (a period of 4 years of maximum registration)</td>
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TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

Oxford Brookes teaches a very wide range of degrees in pre-qualification nursing, midwifery, operating department practice, paramedic emergency care, physiotherapy and social work. This gives the course a strong multiprofessional focus, and you will have many opportunities to share your learning with students from other health and social care professions. This is a key component of the course, as it is essential to developing your teamwork skills and your understanding of the other roles you will encounter in practice.

You will experience a range of different approaches to teaching and learning which will include both traditional and practical learning opportunities. In addition to lectures and seminars, you will learn through group work activities using a case-based approach. Throughout the course there is a range of assessments, such as skill-based assessments, coursework and exams. Each of your three placements will be assessed by meeting the requirements to practise safely as an occupational therapist.

Although the pre-registration master’s students will be taught alongside undergraduate occupational therapy students, the pre-registration master’s students will be offered an enhanced level 7 learning experience. This will take the shape of:

- Additional tutorial/seminars to explore a more critical and evidence based approach to the subject matter.
- Tutorials specific to support and prepare students for level 7 assessment
- Online discussion in order to enable collaboration and interaction between their MSc peers from both their own professional group and across the professions and members of the programme team

As the expected cohort of students is small, the faculty will put in place opportunities for small group sessions, 1:1 tutorials and a peer mentoring scheme.

We offer a very friendly and supportive environment in which to learn and consistently receive very high satisfaction ratings for its student support and its learning resources in student surveys. We have excellent teaching facilities including classrooms, a 280 seated lecture theatre, dedicated clinical skills suites and simulation resources, which include a very well equipped movement laboratory, family of computerised simulation manikins, and an extensive range of anatomy models.

For OT students in particular, we have an Activity of Daily Living (ADL) suite, which is designed to simulate the home environment. It has a kitchen, bathroom, bedroom and living room areas, designed to recreate typical real life scenarios to enable you to learn to provide care or promote independence.

For many people, whether young or old, managing their daily lives without supportive orthoses/splints would be difficult, painful or impossible. Preparing and fitting orthotic splints is another essential skill of the occupational therapist. Our hand therapy lab suite is very well equipped and has all the resources necessary to make the full range of orthoses that may be required to support upper limb function or relieve disabling pain.

Information technology plays an increasingly important role in health care courses. An extensive range of learning resources can be accessed through ‘Brookes Virtual’; an online repository of lectures, handouts, information and learning exercises. We have fully networked computer rooms and excellent library resources, accessible both through the web and through a range of locally based facilities on university and NHS sites.

We provide a range of support mechanisms for students, such as academic advisers, who will facilitate your academic development and student support co-ordinators who provide a drop in service for any queries you may have about any aspect of student life, covering both academic and personal welfare.

The university’s support services also includes Upgrade (academic skills development support), the Student Disability and Dyslexia Service and advice on important finance and medical matters.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Upon successful completion of the course, you will be well equipped with the knowledge, values and professional strategies you require to develop your career in OT.

A common first job for newly qualified occupational therapists is a rotational post, which gives you the opportunity to work in different aspects of OT over a series of four-monthly postings. Many occupational therapists move into more specialist areas of practice, research, teaching or management. Some occupational therapists go on to take consultant posts within the NHS, whereas others work outside the NHS in industry or with charities, both in the UK and abroad.

There are further opportunities to study at postgraduate level, including the MSc in Contemporary Occupational Therapy. For more information, go to: www.brookes.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/prmot
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- A good honours 2:2 or above degree (or equivalent) preferably in a health/science related subject. We will however also consider applications from graduates with non-health related degrees.
- GCSE Maths and Science at grade C or above and English at grade B or above.
- Two recent references, at least one academic.
- Experience of paid or voluntary work within a health care environment or relevant to chosen field.
- Successful performance in the selection process (including at interview).
- Occupational Health and enhanced Criminal Records Bureau clearance.
- English language requirements - IELTS 7.0 with no less than 6.5 in any component.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

For information on fees, please visit our website: www.shs.brookes.ac.uk

HOW TO APPLY

Applications should be made via UKPASS.
MSc Occupational Therapy (pre-registration)
UKPASS Code: P048452
University code: HL51

Note: There are associated travel and accommodation costs with going on the 3 mandatory practice placements that are part of this degree. These could go up to £3,000 in addition to your tuition fees.

CONTACT DETAILS

Programme Administrator
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 485526
Email: occupationaltherapy@brookes.ac.uk
Website: shs.brookes.ac.uk

British Association / College of Occupational Therapists
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7357 6480
Website: www.cot.org.uk

Health and Care Professions Council
Tel: +44 (0) 845 300 447
Website: www.hpc-uk.org

To obtain a large-print copy of this publication or to enquire about other formats please contact +44 (0) 1865 484848 or email query@brookes.ac.uk

Oxford Brookes University actively supports equality in education and welcomes applications from all people representative of our diverse community. For more details please visit www.brookes.ac.uk/services/hr/eod or phone +44 (0) 1865 485929.