



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

Associate of Applied Science: 82 Credits

GRADE	DEVELOPMENTAL MATHEMATICS	HOURS
	GSTD0383 Pre-Algebra	3
	GSTD0433 Intermediate Algebra	3
	GSTD0101 College Algebra Lab	1

GRADE	DEVELOPMENTAL ENGLISH/READING	HOURS
	GSTD0103 College Reading	3
	GSTD0243 Essential English	3
	GSTD0201 Composition I Lab	1

GRADE	OTA PRE-REQUISITES	HOURS
	SPD1003 Success Strategies	3
	ENGL1113 Composition I	3
	ENGL1123 Composition II	3
	MATH1023 College Algebra	3
	SOC2003 Intro to Sociology	3
	PSYC2003 General Psychology	3
	PSYC2033 Developmental Psychology	3
	PSYC2303 Abnormal Psychology	3
	BUS1003 Microcomputer Applications	3
	MED1453 Medical Terminology	3
	BIOL2064 Anatomy & Physiology I	4
	BIOL2074 Anatomy & Physiology II	4
	OTA1113 Intro to OTA	3
Total Pre-Requisites		41

GRADE	OTA PROGRAM CORE	HOURS
	OTA2103 Therapeutic Activities I	3
	OTA2104 Human Movement in OT	4
	OTA2213 Pathophysiology in OT	3
	OTA2303 Mental Health/Psychosocial OT	3
	OTA2301 Level I Fieldwork A/Mental Health	1
	OTA2203 Therapeutic Activities II	3
	OTA2204 Therapeutic Interventions w/Lab	4
	OTA2312 Management in OT	2
	OTA2223 Physical Dysfunction in OT	3
	OTA2221 Level I Fieldwork B/Physical Dysfunction	1
	OTA2113 Pediatrics in OT	3
	OTA2111 Level I Fieldwork C/Pediatrics	1
	OTA2402 Professional Issues in OT	2
	OTA2404 Level II Fieldwork A (8 weeks)	4
	OTA2414 Level II Fieldwork B (8 weeks)	4
Total Program Core		41

Occupational Therapy is a profession that works with people of all age groups with physical, emotional, and other challenges. This career allows individuals to make a lasting difference in helping people to regain their independence and get back to enjoying life to the fullest. The Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA), under the supervision of an Occupational Therapist, provides rehabilitative services to individuals with physical, mental, emotional, and developmental disabilities. The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program at UA Cossatot combines classroom instruction with clinical experiences. The OTA program is housed at UA Cossatot's Little River Campus in Ashdown, Arkansas. The program consists of two portions which include the general education core and the OTA program core courses and is a two and a half year program. Students successfully completing the OTA program are awarded an Associate of Applied Science degree (AAS) in Occupational Therapy.

Application deadline for the OTA program is March 1st. Students wishing to apply for the program must have either completed or be enrolled in pre-requisite courses at the time of application. Applicants must be a high school graduate or have equivalency certification (GED), meet all admission and placement requirements for the college, complete the TEAS V exam and have scores sent to the medical education academic advisor, complete the online OTA application which includes: the mental and physical abilities statement, criminal background check, program recommendation form, and observation form.

Enrollment in the OTA program is limited to 15-18 students each year. Applicants will be ranked according to required general education course G.P.A. (only grades of "C" or better are accepted), pre-entrance exam scores, observation report, and three (3) letters of recommendation. Selected students must pass a criminal background check and random drug screen(s) throughout the year. Additionally, students are required to complete required immunizations prior to entering the program. UA Cossatot and the OTA program will not discriminate in the selection of students to the OTA program. Students not accepted into the upcoming class are encouraged to re-apply prior to the application deadline for the next year.

The OTA program begins in August and ends the following December. To meet requirements of ACOTE/AOTA, the OTA program follows a special calendar, and class days will be different from those followed by students in other programs. Regular class days will be 6 - 8 hours each; clinical/fieldwork days will be 8-12 hours each. Days and hours may vary depending on the course you are in and the

required clinical hours. Clinicals and workshops may on occasion be required on weekends as well. Some community clinical sites are some distance from the campus, i.e., Texarkana, De Queen, Nashville, Hope, Paris, etc. Students are required to arrange transportation to these areas as well as mandatory workshops or class trips out of town. Because this program is very intense and a large amount of material is covered in a short period of time, attendance in class and clinical is critical. An attendance policy will be in effect throughout the OTA program.

GRADING SCALE FOR OTA: 90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 76-79 = C; 70-75 = D (failing); 69 or below = F

The OTA program combines classroom instruction with clinical experiences. Throughout the program, OTA courses function as prerequisites to the next semester of required courses. Failure to successfully complete any of these courses will prohibit the student from continuing in the program and the student will be administratively withdrawn. These students may be eligible for re-admission according to the re-admission policy. Additionally, students are required to maintain a minimum of 76% in both theory and clinical to progress and complete the program and to adhere to the Student Code of Ethics/Conduct section in this catalog. All courses in the OTA program are enhanced with the use of Blackboard. In addition, during the last semester of coursework, students complete OTA2402 Professional Issues in OT in an online format while completing their Level II Fieldwork rotations. Course structure in the curriculum of the OTA program is custom designed to maintain compliance with the standards as established by the American Occupational Therapy Association and ACOTE. The hallmark of the OTA program is the student's ongoing involvement in the experiential and service learning projects throughout the program. Due to the strenuous nature of the OTA program and practice-orientation, the College reserves the right to determine the eligibility of any student to enroll or continue in the OTA program. This determination is based on, but not limited to, the characteristics required of a clinical OTA. Eligibility determination is made by the faculty's evaluation of a student's ability to perform the clinical tasks necessary to complete the clinical and course objectives. These abilities are reevaluated after each course.

Students applying for re-admission must meet with the Academic Advisor to identify reasons for failure to achieve program completion and develop a plan of action for student success during the student's second attempt. The student will then meet with the Program Director for final approval and must follow the readmission criteria. A student who fails a course or leaves the program for any reason will be permitted one (1) opportunity to re-enroll (regardless of which semester). As courses are taught in a prescribed sequence and only taught once each program year, students will be required to wait until the following program year to re-enter the program. Students re-entering the program will be encouraged to audit previous OTA coursework with a final transcribed grade of "C" or better. Auditing students may participate in all lectures and will not be required to take the exams. All other coursework not meeting the standard of "C" or better must be re-taken. In addition, students re-entering the program are required to complete all skills lab check-offs including any documentation, assignments, or modules related to competency skills with a minimum passing grade for all prior and concurrent courses they previously passed to ensure ongoing skills competency. If the re-admittance has been longer than one academic school year, the student must repeat the entire course sequence of the program. Students may not be candidates for re-admission if they committed any of the following violations while previously enrolled in the OTA program: uncooperative attitude/behavior that was previously addressed with verbal and written warnings, insubordination, cheating, falsification of records, positive identification of drug activities (taking, selling, buying, etc.), violation of medical ethics (breach of confidentiality, client abuse, etc.), or endangering the health, safety, or life of a client or peer.

Students must complete all prerequisites courses and all OTA program courses with a grade of "C" or better to graduate from the OTA program. Students must complete all Level II Fieldwork within 18 months following completion of the didactic portion of the program. Upon completion, the student's status will be submitted to the National Board for Certification of Occupational Therapy declaring the student has completed their Associate of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy and wishes to sit for the certification examination. Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the OTA certification examination for the OTA, administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy. (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the graduate will be a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) and will be eligible to apply for licensure in the state of Arkansas. Please note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

Due to differences in curriculum in other OTA programs, the UA Cossatot OTA program does not accept transfer students. Students who were enrolled in another program will follow the same requirements and admission procedures. Students who previously attended an OT or OTA program are required to provide a "letter of good standing" from the institution previously attended.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE via AOTA can be reached by phone at (301) 652-6611 ext.2914 or online at www.acoteonline.org.

TRANSFER OPTIONS:

- Arkansas Tech University (ATU) to complete a Bachelor of Professional Studies.
- If planning to transfer to an institution other than the ones listed above, students may visit <https://acts.adhe.edu/studenttransfer.aspx> to inquire about transferability of courses to any Arkansas college or university.