

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT - A.A.S.

College of Applied and Technical Studies
www.kent.edu/cats

About This Program

The Occupational Therapy A.A.S. program provides you with the skills and experience needed to become a licensed occupational therapy assistant, working with individuals of all ages to help them live meaningful and fulfilling lives. Read more...

Contact Information

- Program Coordinator: **Julie Mirabell** (Ashtabula Campus) | jmirabel@kent.edu | 440-964-4316
- **Kathy Swoboda** (East Liverpool Campus) | kswobod1@kent.edu | 330-382-7456
- Speak with an Advisor
 - Ashtabula Campus
 - East Liverpool Campus
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - Mostly online
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Ashtabula Campus (mostly online)
 - East Liverpool Campus (in person)

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Occupational therapy assistants

- 34.6% much faster than the average
- 47,100 number of jobs
- \$62,940 potential earnings

Accreditation

The A.A.S. degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) located at 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD 20814. ACOTE's telephone number, C/O AOTA, is (301) 652-AOTA(2682) and the website is www.acoteonline.org.

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics'

Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

Kent State campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, and the Twinsburg Academic Center, have open enrollment admission for students who hold a high school diploma, GED or equivalent.

Some programs may require that students meet certain requirements before progressing through the program. For programs with progression requirements, the information is shown on the Coursework tab.

For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|---|---|--------------|
| Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA; min C/S grade required in all courses) | | |
| OTA 10000 | FOUNDATIONS IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY | 2 |
| OTA 10002 | OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN PSYCHOSOCIAL HEALTH | 4 |
| OTA 10003 | OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERVENTIONS FOR PRACTICE I | 1 |
| OTA 10010 | OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERVENTIONS FOR PRACTICE II | 3 |
| OTA 10192 | FIELDWORK 1A (ELR) | 1 |
| OTA 20001 | OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS | 2 |
| OTA 20002 | OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN PHYSICAL HEALTH | 3 |
| OTA 20003 | OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERVENTIONS FOR PRACTICE III | 3 |
| OTA 20004 | OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN PEDIATRIC POPULATIONS | 3 |
| OTA 20006 | OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN PHYSICAL HEALTH II | 3 |
| OTA 20392 | FIELDWORK 1B (ELR) | 1 |
| OTA 20492 | FIELDWORK 1C (ELR) | 1 |
| OTA 21092 | CLINICAL APPLICATIONS I (ELR) | 4 |
| OTA 21192 | CLINICAL APPLICATIONS II (ELR) | 4 |
| Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA; min C grade required in all courses) | | |
| AHS 12005 or NURS 20950 | CONCEPTS IN LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS | 3 |
| AHS 12010 | PROFESSIONALISM IN HEALTHCARE | 1 |
| AHS 22002 | CLINICAL KINESIOLOGY | 3 |
| AHS 22003 | CLINICAL KINESIOLOGY LABORATORY | 1 |
| BSCI 11010 | FOUNDATIONAL ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I (KBS) (KLAB) ¹ | 3 |
| BSCI 11020 | FOUNDATIONAL ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II (KBS) (KLAB) ¹ | 3 |
| PSYC 11762 | GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS) | 3 |
| PSYC 21211 | PSYCHOLOGY OF EVERYDAY LIFE (DIVD) (KSS) | 3 |

| | | |
|--|-----------------|----|
| or PSYC 40111 | PSYCHOPATHOLOGY | |
| UC 10001 | FLASHES 101 | 1 |
| Kent Core Composition | | 3 |
| Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning | | 3 |
| Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts | | 3 |
| Minimum Total Credit Hours: | | 65 |

¹ Students who have successfully completed ATTR 25057 and ATTR 25058 (or EXSC 25057 and EXSC 25058 or BSCI 21010 and BSCI 21020) may use those courses in place of BSCI 11010 and BSCI 11020.

Progression Requirements

To be able to register for Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) courses, students must be accepted to technical study. Acceptance to technical study is a selective process. Criteria for acceptance are the following:

- Completion of prescribed developmental coursework
- Minimum 2.700 overall GPA

Graduation Requirements

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Minimum Major GPA | Minimum Overall GPA |
| 2.000 | 2.000 |

- Clinical education must be successfully completed within 18 months of the didactic coursework.
- Portions of the program’s courses incorporate the use of technology and/or may be offered in a distance learning format. Under certain circumstances, students are required to attend clinicals on days outside of the academic calendar. These circumstances may occur on scheduled or unscheduled campus closures or on days when classes are cancelled, but the campus remains open. Examples include certain holidays, spring recess and/or prior to the start of semesters. Students are notified in advance of these dates.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

| Semester One | | Credits |
|--------------|--|---------|
| ! | BSCI 11010 FOUNDATIONAL ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I (KBS) (KLAB) | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 3 |
| Semester Two | | |
| | AHS 12010 PROFESSIONALISM IN HEALTHCARE | 1 |
| ! | BSCI 11020 FOUNDATIONAL ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II (KBS) (KLAB) | 3 |
| | OTA 10000 FOUNDATIONS IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY | 2 |
| | OTA 10003 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERVENTIONS FOR PRACTICE I | 1 |
| | PSYC 11762 GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS) | 3 |
| | UC 10001 FLASHES 101 | 1 |
| | Kent Core Requirement | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 14 |

| Semester Three | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----|
| | AHS 12005 CONCEPTS IN LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT | 3 |
| | or or HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT | |
| | NURS 20950 FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS | |
| ! | AHS 22002 CLINICAL KINESIOLOGY | 3 |
| ! | AHS 22003 CLINICAL KINESIOLOGY LABORATORY | 1 |
| | OTA 10002 OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN PSYCHOSOCIAL HEALTH | 4 |
| ! | OTA 10010 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERVENTIONS FOR PRACTICE II | 3 |
| | OTA 10192 FIELDWORK 1A (ELR) | 1 |
| | PSYC 21211 PSYCHOLOGY OF EVERYDAY LIFE (DIVD) (KSS) | 3 |
| | or or PSYCHOPATHOLOGY | |
| | PSYC 40111 | |
| Credit Hours | | 18 |
| Semester Four | | |
| | OTA 20002 OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN PHYSICAL HEALTH | 3 |
| | OTA 20003 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERVENTIONS FOR PRACTICE III | 3 |
| | OTA 20392 FIELDWORK 1B (ELR) | 1 |
| Credit Hours | | 7 |
| Semester Five | | |
| | OTA 20001 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS | 2 |
| | OTA 20004 OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN PEDIATRIC POPULATIONS | 3 |
| | OTA 20006 OCCUPATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN PHYSICAL HEALTH II | 3 |
| | OTA 20492 FIELDWORK 1C (ELR) | 1 |
| | Kent Core Requirement | 3 |
| | Kent Core Requirement | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Semester Six | | |
| | OTA 21092 CLINICAL APPLICATIONS I (ELR) | 4 |
| | OTA 21192 CLINICAL APPLICATIONS II (ELR) | 4 |
| Credit Hours | | 8 |
| Minimum Total Credit Hours: | | 65 |

University Requirements

All students in an applied or technical associate degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements, please see Program Requirements for details.

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------|
| | Flashes 101 (UC 10001) | 1 |
| Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission. | | |
| | Kent Core (see table below) | 15 |
| Total Credit Hour Requirement | | 60 |
| Some associate degrees require students to complete more than 60 credit hours. | | |

Kent Core Requirements

| | |
|---|---|
| Kent Core Composition (KCMP) | 3 |
| Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR) | 3 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) | 3 |
| Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) | 3 |
| Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours: | 15 |

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Utilize professional behaviors when interacting with clients, peers and other professionals when providing occupational therapy services.
2. Apply clinical reasoning by integrating clinical experiences with evidence-based practice and personal experience to provide best-practice occupational therapy services.
3. Utilize a creative, holistic approach to support client's desired occupational roles and participation in occupations through a creative, holistic approach.
4. Collaborate with inter-professional team members to provide distinct valued services to each client based on individual needs.
5. Evaluate and support at-risk individuals, groups and populations who are in the community to identify resources and opportunities for improving engagement in occupations.

Full Description

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant prepares students for a career as an occupational therapy assistant. Occupational therapy services are provided for habilitation, rehabilitation and promotion of health and wellness, while emphasizing participation in meaningful occupations for clients and groups in a variety of settings. Occupational therapy assistants work under the direction of and in partnership with occupational therapists.

The degree program prepares students with a sequential curriculum, including lectures, labs and a variety of fieldwork experiences. Graduates are eligible to take the national certification exam and obtain state licensure.

Professional Licensure Disclosure

This program is designed to prepare students to sit for applicable licensure or certification in Ohio. If you plan to pursue licensure or certification in a state other than Ohio, please review state educational requirements for licensure or certification and contact information for state licensing boards at Kent State's website for professional licensure disclosure.