

Master of Occupational Therapy

Program Overview

St. Ambrose University offers the only program leading to a registered occupational therapist degree in the state of Iowa. The two plus three year program consists of two years of liberal arts education prerequisites emphasizing biological and social sciences, and three years of professional occupational therapy course requirements including internships.

Students may enter the program as an undergraduate or graduate student. If you have not yet earned an undergraduate degree, you will need to complete a baccalaureate degree by the end of your second year in the program and will be considered a graduate student your third year. If you have already earned a baccalaureate degree, you will be considered a graduate student throughout your enrollment.

Prior to entering the MOT program, students receive a strong foundation in the liberal arts completing a minimum of two years of pre-requisite coursework. The professional phase of the program is arranged in life-span development and includes five semesters on campus with the final semester including 24 weeks of full-time field experience. With this three-year format, students have the opportunity to enroll in electives, special topics or independent study courses. The MOT program also has an Assistive Technology Lab that serves as a resource center offering free services to students and health-care professionals.

Accreditation

The St. Ambrose MOT program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA); 4720 Montgomery Lane, PO Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1224. Telephone: 301/652-2682.

Program graduates are eligible to sit for the national certification examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an occupational therapist (OTR). In Iowa and most other states, a professional license is also required for practice. The NBCOT exam typically serves as the licensing exam but students will need to apply separately for licensure. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification exam or attain state licensure.

Mission Statement

The MOT Department reflects the institutional commitments that stress excellence in teaching and learning, facilitation of scholarship, and service to others. The MOT program advances the university's mission by:

- Providing quality educational experiences in an intimate learning environment that enhances the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual development of students.
- Promoting the public good by educating students to become competent, ethical and sensitive professionals capable of influencing the health and well-being of society.
- Infusing students with high aspirations and a commitment to engage in the best practices through life-long learning in order to address challenges to occupational performance now and in the future.

Admission Requirements/Prerequisites

Contact the MOT Program for current program information. Additional requirements may be added. Applications and support documents must be submitted to the MOT office and are accepted Oct. 15 through Jan. 15 for the following fall (however, applications will be accepted until the class is filled).

- Complete the following pre-requisite coursework, with a grade of C or higher, prior to beginning the MOT program:

SUBJECT	SAU EQUIVALENT
Anatomy/Physiology (4 cr)	*BIOL 202
Anatomy/Physiology (4 cr)	BIOL 204
Medical Terminology (course/competency, 1 cr)	HS 250
English Comp (3 cr)	ENGL 101
Speech or Oral Communication (2 cr)	COMM 101/203
Statistics (3 cr)	STAT 213
Ethics (3 cr)	PHIL 207
Social Sciences (must include Lifespan, 12 cr)	PSYC 305

**BIO 202 must be completed at the time of application*
- Complete the MOT program application. Applications are available online at www.sau.edu/apply or in hard copy as requested from the MOT office.
- Have a pre-requisite GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale) at the time of application and enrollment in the professional program.
- Provide documentation, on official letterhead and signed by a registered occupational therapist, of 50 hours of OT volunteer experience, completed within the past 5 years, in at least two different OT settings. Applicants may receive some credit from employment in an occupational therapy setting with approval from the MOT Program.
- Submit the Plan of Study Course Checklist in the application packet. Students planning to take credits toward their baccalaureate degree while enrolled in the MOT Program can have no more than nine credit hours outstanding towards that degree by the time MOT coursework begins. Students may need to enroll in summer and interim sessions to complete this course of study in five years. Discussion of your plan of study with an MOT faculty is encouraged.

- Submit the three Professional Reference Forms from persons familiar with the applicant's qualities related to becoming an OT. At least one of the three references must be from an employment (paid or volunteer) or educational setting.

Prospective students will be selected for professional interviews that focus on academic, personal and professional preparedness in anticipation of beginning graduate level study. At the completion of the application process students will be notified of their admission status in writing and must submit a written acceptance and pay the accompanying fee.

MOT Curriculum

Semester 1	CREDITS
HS 500 Pathology for the Health Profession	3
MOT 415 Principles and Practice of OT	3
MOT 425 Fundamentals OT with Individuals & Groups	5
MOT 430 Neuroscience Applied to OT	4
MOT 440 Kinesiology I: Analysis of Movement	3
Semester 2	
MOT 444 Kinesiology II: Advanced Assessment & Remediation	3
MOT 467 Psychosocial Interventions Across the Lifespan.	5
MOT 480 Occupational Therapy with Adults.	5
MOT 482 Field Experience with Adults	2
MOT 484 Occupational Studies I: Adult Health, Wellness & Occupation	3
Semester 3	
HS 501 Pharmacology for the Health Professions	2
MOT 545 OT Research I: Using Evidence to Guide Practice	3
MOT 570 Occupational Therapy with Older Adults.	5
MOT 572 Field Experience with Older Adults	2
MOT 574 Occupational Studies II: Older Adult Health, Wellness & Occupation	3
Semester 4	
MOT 575 OT Research II: Developing Research Project.	3
MOT 585 Occupational Therapy with Pediatrics	5
MOT 587 Field Experience with Pediatrics	2
MOT 589 Occupational Studies III: Pediatric Health, Wellness & Occupation	3
Interim/Summer	
MOT 600 OT Research III: Implementing Research	2
MOT 610 Level I Intensive Fieldwork	2
Semester 5	
MOT 625 Level II Fieldwork Seminar	1
MOT 630 Occupational Therapy Leadership and Management	4

MOT 635 Applied Occupational Therapy Practice with Upper Extremity Conditions.	3
MOT 640 Clinical Reasoning and Ethics in OT	3
MOT 645 OT Research IV: Dissemination of Research.	2

Semester 6

MOT 650 Level II Fieldwork Experience.	6
MOT 655 Level II Fieldwork Experience.	6

Any Semester

*MOT 510 Special Topics	1-3
*MOT 511 Independent Studies.	1-2

*Students will need two additional courses for graduation. These may be chosen from MOT Special Topics or Independent Studies or approved electives.

Field Experience

Students will complete a variety of field experiences while enrolled in coursework, and will complete 24 weeks of full-time field experience upon completion of their MOT coursework. Students are responsible for their own transportation, travel and housing costs for these experiences, and still will pay tuition while completing their field experience.

Tuition Plan/Financial Assistance

MOT students are included in the One Price Tuition plan that eliminates all course fees and includes some other miscellaneous costs incurred by OT students. The plan ensures that tuition costs remain one rate throughout the normal course of graduate study making financial planning easier and allowing students to take elective courses at no additional cost. A limited amount of graduate financial aid is available. Check with the program director for details. The St. Ambrose Financial Aid Office provides information on graduate studies loans.

International Students

Visa holders are subject to federal nonimmigrant laws that vary based on visa type. Contact International Student Services at global@sau.edu for information on admission requirements and academic guidelines for your specific visa type.

For Further Information

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