

University of Tennessee Health Science Center (MOT)

Occupational Therapy School Guide Map

Recommended Timeline of Courses to Complete

(Degree Requirements/Sequencing may impact ability to strictly follow guide map)*

First Year	
ENGL 1010: English Composition I or ENGL 1011: English Composition with Writing Tutorial (3-4 credit hours)	SOC 1510: Intro to Sociology or ANTH 1200: Cultural Anthropology, or ANTH 1000: Mysteries of the Human Journey (3 credit hours)
MATH 2100: Introductory Statistics (3 credit hours)	PSY 1010: Introduction Psychology (3 credit hours)
Biology 1110: General Biology I with Lab (4 credit hours)	CHEM 1110 & 1110L: General Chemistry I with Lab (4 credit hours)
Second Year	
BIOL 2080: Human Physiology (4 credit hours)	BIOL 2060: Functional Human Anatomy (4 credit hours)
PSY 2210: Psychology of Child Development (3 credit hours)	PSY 2220: Psychology of Adolescence and Adulthood (3 credit hours)
PHYT 3020: Medical Terminology for Health Professionals (2 credit hours)	THSP 1090: Public Speaking (3 credit hours)
Third Year	
PSY 3080: Abnormal Psychology (3 credit hours)	HHP 3180: Kinesiology (3 credit hours)
PSY 2230: Psychology of Aging (3 credit hours)	Take GRE Winter of 3rd Year
Fourth Year	
Complete remaining major requirements	
<i>*Students coming in with: transfer credit, AP, Dual Enrollment, other credit, or who opt to take summer courses may have an amended timeline. Please reach out to the Pre-Health Professions Advisor to develop a custom timeline</i>	

Observation Hours

A minimal 40 hours in two settings. Visiting a variety of settings and observing occupational therapists who work with children both adults representing different age groups in encouraged. To demonstrate a commanding knowledge of the profession in the essay, it is strongly advised that the applicant spend as much time as needed to reflect

[UTHSC Observation](#) form should be submitted with OTCAS application to report observation hours, observation hours must be reported to OTCAS to count

Early Admission

Applicants must have a cumulative undergraduate GPA of a 3.2 or higher, have competitive GRE scores, and all required prerequisite coursework must be completed prior to the application submission. Will submit all official transcripts to OTCAS. All application materials, including transcripts, GRE scores, OT observation hours, and pre-professional evaluations, must be **verified** by OTCAS within four (4) weeks of the application close date for the Admissions Committee to consider the application, deadline for early admission in Jan 5

GRE Facts You Need to Know

Cost	Scores	Timing	Reporting
Registration fee: \$205 Late Registration (1 week after registration closes): Additional \$50	Scores can be sent/reported for up to 5 years	Computer based test can be taken once every 21 days	Additional scores requested are sent within 5 business days of request
Rescheduling fee: \$20 Changing test center fee: \$50 Refund of \$75 4+ days before test. No Refund 4 days or less from test date	Scores can be sent to up to 4 institutions for free. Additional score reports for can be ordered at \$27 per recipient from ETS account	Test can be taken no more than 5 times in a calendar year. Cancelled scores count in annual limit	Choose which scores to share, institution can only see the scores sent
Fee assistance is offered MUST be college senior or unenrolled college grad; First come/first serve Fee is reduced to \$75 GRE Fee Reduction Request	For the computer-delivered GRE test, official scores will be sent to designated instructions 10-15 days after test date	The institution can not see how many times you have taken the test	MUST designate where to send the scores on test day, after viewing unofficial results

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Timeline – Freshman and Sophomore Year

Year 1 Classes	Year 1 Experience	Year 2 Classes	Year 2 Experience
Complete: English Composition, General Biology, General Chemistry, PSY 1010, Statistics, and sociology or anthropology course	Join clubs. Begin working with PHPA to identify areas to develop and locating OTs to observe	Complete: PSY 2210, PSY 2220, Public Speaking, Medical Terminology, and Human Anatomy and Human Physiology	Begin observing, accruing volunteer hours, and leadership opportunities. Work with PHPA on personal statement. Participate in GRE prep. Identify recommenders

Timeline – Junior Year, Senior Year, and Acceptance

Year 3 Classes	Year 3 Experience	Summer- Year 3	Year 4 Class	Prerequisites
Complete: Abnormal Psychology, Kinesiology, and PSY 2230	Take the GRE Winter of third year in order to have scores ready for the application cycle. Secure letters of recommendation. Continuing working volunteer hours and shadowing	Submit OTCAS Application and all required materials. Early acceptance requires completion of all requirements prior to application	Complete: Remaining major requirements	All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better by August 31 of the app year. If a course is repeated, an average of “C” or better is required. Prerequisite courses may include on-site or online content

Application Breakdown

Application-Step 1- Gather your Materials and Determine your Eligibility

Admission Essay	Age of Courses	GRE
A foundation in general knowledge and evidence of critical writing and thinking skills is vital. Admissions essay is evaluated for evidence of knowledge and motivation for the field and mastery of writing skills.	Anatomy, physiology, and kinesiology courses must be taken within five years of planned enrollment	The UTHSC OT GRE code is 1986. Official GRE scores must be submitted in order for application to be considered complete

Application-Step 2 and 3- Fill out and Submit Applications

Application	Cost	Forms for OTCAS	Letters of Recommendation
New OTCAS Application required every year, applicants should review the UTHSC Application Checklist to determine readiness to apply	OTCAS Application fee \$150 plus \$65 for each additional school	UTHSC requires electronic versions of the Proposed Plan form electronically submitted to OTCAS. Observation documentation forms must be signed and submitted to OTCAS or submitted directly to the OT department only if they are not submitted to OTCAS	Three professional or academic references (recommend at least one by an occupational therapist) is required for admission. An electronic version of the Pre-Professional Evaluation form must be electronically submitted to OTCAS for verification

Application-Step 4 and 5- Interview and Decision

Interviews	Acceptance	Admission Priority
Successful interview is required by all applicants for admission. Applicants are notified via email Mid Spring	For accepted students, proof of the following is required prior to January start date: background check, health insurance, transcripts showing completion of bachelor’s degree and all prerequisites with a “C” or better grade, official copy of GRE scores, signed copy of the UTHSC Honor Code, and complete Eligibility of Entitlement Act form	Priority is given to Tennessee residents. Applicants should indicate if a parent is an alumnus

**** Some schools may have college service fees - check with Records/Registrar's Office of school for more information**