



PRE-OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PREPARATION

AT EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

NAME	
E NUMBER	
CATALOG	

SP20

In its simplest terms, occupational therapists help people of all ages participate in the things they want and need to do through the therapeutic use of everyday activities (occupations). Unlike other professions, occupational therapy helps people function in all of their environments (e.g., home, work, school, community) and addresses the physical, psychological, and cognitive aspects of their well-being through engagement in occupation.

An Occupational Therapist may have a Master's or Doctoral Degree; the entry-level degree requirement for the occupational therapist will move to the doctoral level by July 2027. Students enrolled at Eastern who decide to pursue a career in Occupational Therapy should complete a baccalaureate degree in an appropriate major, such as Psychology, Biology, Kinesiology, Neuroscience, Sociology, or Public Health, and apply to a graduate program. A 3.50 gpa and a solid performance on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), taken the summer before senior year, are required. Most programs also require 45+ experience hours with a licensed occupational therapist and three letters of recommendation (1 academic, 1 professional, and 1 of your choice).

Each OT program has different requirements, it is very important to identify which programs you plan to apply and plot out their requirements accordingly.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

LANGUAGE: 9 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
ENG 1001G Composition & Language	3		
ENG 1002G Composition & Literature	3		
CMN 1310G Speech Communication	3		

BIOLOGY*: 12 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
BIO 1500 General Biology I	4		
BIO 2210 Anatomy & Physiology I	4		
BIO 2220 Anatomy & Physiology II	4		

SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: 9 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
PSY 1879G Intro to Psychology	3		
¹ ANT 2200G Intro to Anthropology OR SOC 1838G Intro to Sociology	3 3		

¹Anthropology or Sociology required by some schools

MATH*: 4 HRS

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
MAT 2250G Elementary Statistics	4		

* Additional prerequisite classes may be required. See Undergraduate Catalog.

* Required by some occupational therapy schools

There are some schools that require Chemistry and Physics, if so the typical requirements are below:

CHEMISTRY*

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
CHM 1310G [†] General Chemistry I	3		
CHM 1315G [†] General Chemistry I Lab	1		
CHM 1410 General Chemistry II	3		
CHM 1415 General Chemistry II Lab	1		

PHYSICS*

Course	Hours	Grade	Semester
PHY 1151G [†] Principles of Physics I Lab	3		
PHY 1152G [†] Principles of Physics I Lab	1		

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Medical Terminology
- Human Development/Child Psychology
- Abnormal Psychology
- CPR Certification
- Departmental Exit Interview (final semester on campus)
- Course work or experience with ceramics, crafts, weaving, woodworking, etc. for fine motor function.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

	HRS	C	E	G	L	M	N	R	I
CHEMISTRY									
CHM 1310G General Chemistry I	3			✓		*			
CHM 1315G General Chemistry I Lab	1			✓		*			
CHM 1410G General Chemistry II	3								
CHM 1415G General Chemistry II Lab	1								
PHYSICS									
PHY 1151G Physics I	3			✓		*			
PHY 1152G Physics I Lab	1			✓		*			
PHY 1161G Physics II	3								
PHY 1162G Physics II Lab	1								
MATH									
MAT 2110G Brief Calculus	3								
MAT 2250G Statistics OR PSY 2610 Statistical Methods	4	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
BIOLOGY									
BIO 1001G OR BIO 1004G OR BIO 1500	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
BIO 2210 Anatomy & Physiology I *	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
BIO 2220 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
BEHAVIORAL/SOCIAL SCIENCES									
PSY 1879G Intro to Psychology	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ANT 2200G Intro Anthropology	3	a		✓			a	a	a
SOC 1838G Intro to Sociology	3	b		✓	✓		b	b	b
PSY 3515 Child Psychology**	3	a	a	a	a	✓	a		✓
PSY 3521 Psych of Adolescence & Young Adulthood**	3		b	b	b		b		
PSY 3525 Psych of Maturity and Old Age**	3		c	c	c	✓	c		
HSL 1800 Human Development	3	b	d	d	d		d	✓	
PSY 3780 Abnormal Psychology**	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS									
MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY		✓		1	*				✓
INTRO TO OT		✓		✓					
CPR - BLS for Health Care Professional						✓			✓
FIRST AID						✓			
MINIMUM GPA		3.0	3.2	3.0	3.25	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
GRE			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
OBSERVATION HOUR REQUIREMENT		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓

a/b/c/d: Choose one option

* BIO 1001G, 1004G, or 1500 is prerequisite

** PSY 1879G is prerequisite

* Recommended

NOTE: Programs may not require BIO 1001G, BIO 1004G, BIO 1500 or PSY 1879G but require courses with those as a prerequisite.

ILLINOIS OT PROGRAMS:

C - CHICAGO STATE

E - ELMHURST

G - GOVERNOR'S STATE UNIVERSITY

L - LEWIS UNIVERSITY - ROMEVILLE

M - MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY

N - NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE

R - RUSH

I - UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

American Occupational Therapy Association
www.aota.org

Governors State University
www.govst.edu

Midwestern University
www.midwestern.edu

University of Illinois at Chicago
www.ahs.uic.edu

Rush University
www.rushu.rush.edu

Chicago State University
www.csu.edu

Elmhurst College
www.elmhurst.edu

Lewis University
www.lewisu.edu

North Central College
www.northcentralcollege.edu

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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