

HONOURS BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Overview

Honours Bachelor of Health Sciences

This program is offered in French.

The Honours Bachelor of Health Sciences program is defined by its integrative approach for studying health. Students are provided with a foundational biosciences core, research analytical skills training in a range of quantitative and qualitative methodologies within a broader interdisciplinary context of the social and environmental determinants of health. This unique academic approach allows students to discover innovative ways to examine, measure and unravel complex health problems at all life stages, in Canada and around the world.

Future health professionals will be challenged to understand biological, environmental and social factors, both in isolation and as interactive health determinants. The curriculum contains a research methodologies core to provide students with applied, quantitative and qualitative transferrable skills for post-graduate training or employment. Three thematic programming options enable students to focus their academic trajectory in Integrative Health Biosciences, Technologies and Innovation in Healthcare or Population and Public Health, gaining theoretical and applied knowledge and skills in these domains. This program also includes select opportunities to conduct a research thesis project and participate in interdisciplinary health sciences fieldwork.

Graduates will be well-prepared to undertake health-related MSc programs or pursue careers in public or private health agencies, non-governmental health organizations or in community health programs. Students are provided with the necessary foundation for further studies in medicine, rehabilitation studies, dentistry or pharmacy. Our interdisciplinary focus enhances the quality and maturity of future clinicians and health professionals.

Learn more about this program (<https://www.uottawa.ca/faculty-health-sciences/interdisciplinary/undergraduate-studies/honours-bachelor-health-sciences-and-master-health-sciences-occupational-therapy/>)

Master of Health Sciences Occupational Therapy

This program is offered in French.

Occupational therapists work collaboratively with individuals and groups of individuals to help people engage or re-engage in the activities that are important to them ("occupations"). Occupational therapists are experts in occupation. They help individuals and groups of individuals to identify and prioritize their occupations. They collaboratively explore the supports and barriers to engaging in these occupations and work with individuals and groups of individuals as they identify and implement ways to engage in these occupations despite physical, cognitive, or emotional challenges.

The Master of Health Science in Occupational Therapy at the University of Ottawa is designed for those dedicated to improving well-being through holistic, evidence-based care. This program offers comprehensive training, hands-on experience, and theoretical knowledge to prepare students for impactful roles across various settings. The program emphasizes equitable occupational participation and effective work in bilingual and multicultural environments, aligning with its mission to serve minority Francophone communities.

Graduates of the University of Ottawa's occupational therapy program are equipped to become leaders who will impact their community by advancing knowledge, building relationships to promote diversity and equity, and fostering opportunities for occupational participation for all.

The occupational therapy program meets the standards developed by the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT). These national standards ensure the quality of professional education. In addition to the coursework, students complete 1,000 hours of clinical training in Ottawa-area hospitals, schools, community organizations, private clinics and rehabilitation centres or at locations outside the National Capital Region.

This limited capacity enrolment program is completed over six consecutive full-time study terms, including placements.

The objectives of the program are achieved through successful completion of theoretical and practical courses, integration seminars and clinical placements. Teaching activities are grouped under the following six themes:

- Theme 1: Occupational participation: interaction among the person, their occupations, and their environment;
- Theme 2: Fundamental principles for the practice as an occupational therapist (being a professional);
- Theme 3: Knowledge of health conditions and interventions - occupational therapist and the team;
- Theme 4: Occupational therapy practice: collaborating to promote occupational participation;
- Theme 5: Critical evaluation of knowledge;
- Theme 6: Knowledge integration

Admission and Retention Requirements

- Admission to a dual fast-track degree program does not guarantee entry into the master's program.
- The minimum cumulative grade point average required for good academic standing is 8.5.
- By the end of February of the 3rd year of study:
 - Have passed a language proficiency test in the official language other than the language of instruction at the undergraduate degree.¹ AND
 - Have a satisfactory score on a personal characteristics test (Computer-Based Assessment for Sampling Personal Characteristics (CASPer)).^{1,2}

¹ Candidates are responsible for any fees associated with the CASPer and language test.

² The CASPer exam can be completed in either French or English, depending on the candidate's preference.

Program Requirements

For the most accurate and up to date information on admission requirements, please visit the program prerequisites (<https://www2.uottawa.ca/study/undergraduate-studies/program-prerequisites/>) webpage.

Requirements for this program have been modified. Please consult the 2025-2026 calendars (<http://www.uottawa.ca/academic/info/regist/1516/calendars/>) for the previous requirements.

The minimum C.G.P.A. required for good academic standing is 8.5.

Honours Bachelor of Health Sciences

Compulsory courses at the 1000 level

ANP 1511	Principes d'anatomie et de physiologie humaines I	3 Units
ANP 1515	Principes d'anatomie et de physiologie humaines II	3 Units
BIO 1541	Introduction à la biologie cellulaire et moléculaire	3 Units
BIO 1550	BioZoo : Un laboratoire d'introduction en biologie	3 Units
CHM 1711	Principes de chimie	3 Units
FRA 1710	Analyse, écriture et argumentation I	3 Units
HSS 1500	Microbiologie et immunologie	3 Units
HSS 1501	Déterminants de la santé	3 Units
PSY 1501	Introduction à la psychologie : fondements	3 Units
SOC 1501	Éléments de sociologie	3 Units

Compulsory courses at the 2000 level

HSS 2502	Communication et santé	3 Units
HSS 2705	Mécanismes moléculaires des maladies	3 Units
HSS 2721	Perspectives sociopolitiques et économiques de la santé	3 Units
HSS 2781	Analyse quantitative des données en sciences de la santé: variables continues	3 Units
HSS 2782	Analyse quantitative des données en sciences de la santé: variables catégorielles	3 Units
PHI 2796	Bioéthique	3 Units

Compulsory courses at the 3000 level

HSS 3501	Recherche en santé : approches qualitative et quantitative	3 Units
HSS 3503	Expérience de la maladie, de la déficience et du handicap	3 Units
HSS 3506	Pharmacologie : Mécanismes d'action et observance de la prise des médicaments	3 Units
HSS 3510	Épidémiologie	3 Units
HSS 3703	Environnement et santé	3 Units
HSS 3705	Pathophysiologie des problèmes de santé	3 Units

Compulsory courses at the 4000 level

HSS 4501	Élaboration et évaluation de programmes en santé	3 Units
HSS 4502	Origines développementales de la santé et des maladies	3 Units

Optional courses

15 optional course units in Health Sciences from the list of optional courses	15 Units
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3 science optional course units offered by the Faculty of Science 3 Units

Total: 90 Units

List of Optional Courses

HSS 2504	Activité humaine, travail et santé	3 Units
HSS 2505	Comprendre la santé mentale	3 Units
HSS 2516	La santé des francophones en situation minoritaire	3 Units
HSS 2521	Histoire des soins de santé	3 Units
HSS 3505	Citoyenneté mondiale et santé	3 Units
HSS 3507	Comprendre les signaux mesurés par des technologies de la santé	3 Units
HSS 3508	Prévention des maladies et promotion de la santé	3 Units
HSS 3509	Approches de recherche en biosciences de la santé	3 Units
HSS 3732	Technologie et santé	3 Units
HSS 4508	Méthodes d'évaluation des technologies de la santé	3 Units
HSS 4509	Applications en santé assistées par ordinateur	3 Units
HSS 4510	Santé publique et santé des populations	3 Units
HSS 4511	Perspectives en santé sexuelle et reproductive	3 Units
HSS 4512	Déterminants moléculaires de la santé et de la longévité	3 Units
HSS 4712	Évaluation critique et appréciation de la recherche en santé	3 Units
HSS 4713	Approches intégrées en biosciences de la santé	3 Units
HSS 4724	Thèmes choisis en sciences de la santé	3 Units

Master of Health Sciences Occupational Therapy

Master's with Coursework

Compulsory Courses

ERG 5512	Anatomie et éléments du mouvement pour la participation occupationnelle	3 Units
ERG 5525	Exploration de la participation occupationnelle	3 Units
ERG 5526	Analyse de la participation occupationnelle	1.5 Units
ERG 5527	Participation occupationnelle de l'enfant et l'adolescent	1.5 Units
ERG 5528	Aspects sociopolitiques de la participation occupationnelle	3 Units
ERG 5714	Principes généraux du processus de pratique ergothérapique	3 Units
ERG 5722	Perspectives théoriques et modèles en ergothérapie	3 Units
ERG 5741	Atteintes à la santé des enfants et approches d'intervention	3 Units
ERG 5742	Atteintes à la santé physique des adultes et approches d'intervention	3 Units

ERG 5743	Atteintes à la santé mentale des adultes et approches d'intervention	3 Units
ERG 5744	Atteintes à la santé des personnes âgées et approches d'intervention	3 Units
ERG 5754	La recherche en ergothérapie	3 Units
REA 5703	Pratiques professionnelles en réadaptation	3 Units
ERG 6715	Pratiques professionnelles avancées en ergothérapie	3 Units
ERG 6741	Intervention de l'ergothérapeute auprès des enfants	3 Units
ERG 6742	Intervention de l'ergothérapeute auprès des adultes (santé physique)	3 Units
ERG 6743	Intervention de l'ergothérapeute auprès des adultes (santé mentale)	3 Units
ERG 6744	Intervention de l'ergothérapeute auprès des personnes âgées	3 Units
REA 6503	Pratique factuelle en réadaptation	3 Units
Seminars		
ERG 6755	Séminaire de recherche	3 Units
ERG 6761	Séminaire d'intégration des acquis en ergothérapie	3 Units
Clinical Placements ¹		
ERG 5901	Clinical Placement in Occupational Therapy I	
ERG 5902	Clinical Placement in Occupational Therapy II	
ERG 6903	Clinical Placement in Occupational Therapy III	
ERG 6904	Clinical Placement in Occupational Therapy IV	
ERG 6905	Clinical Placement in Occupational Therapy V	
Total:		60 Units

Note(s)

¹ A minimum of 1000 placement hours must be completed over the five clinical placements.

Master's with Coursework and Research Project

Compulsory Courses

ERG 5512	Anatomie et éléments du mouvement pour la participation occupationnelle	3 Units
ERG 5525	Exploration de la participation occupationnelle	3 Units
ERG 5526	Analyse de la participation occupationnelle	1.5 Units
ERG 5527	Participation occupationnelle de l'enfant et l'adolescent	1.5 Units
ERG 5528	Aspects sociopolitiques de la participation occupationnelle	3 Units
ERG 5714	Principes généraux du processus de pratique ergothérapique	3 Units
ERG 5722	Perspectives théoriques et modèles en ergothérapie	3 Units
ERG 5741	Atteintes à la santé des enfants et approches d'intervention	3 Units
ERG 5742	Atteintes à la santé physique des adultes et approches d'intervention	3 Units

ERG 5743	Atteintes à la santé mentale des adultes et approches d'intervention	3 Units
ERG 5744	Atteintes à la santé des personnes âgées et approches d'intervention	3 Units
ERG 5754	La recherche en ergothérapie	3 Units
REA 5703	Pratiques professionnelles en réadaptation	3 Units
ERG 6715	Pratiques professionnelles avancées en ergothérapie	3 Units
ERG 6741	Intervention de l'ergothérapeute auprès des enfants	3 Units
ERG 6742	Intervention de l'ergothérapeute auprès des adultes (santé physique)	3 Units
ERG 6743	Intervention de l'ergothérapeute auprès des adultes (santé mentale)	3 Units
ERG 6744	Intervention de l'ergothérapeute auprès des personnes âgées	3 Units
REA 6503	Pratique factuelle en réadaptation	3 Units
Seminars		
ERG 6761	Séminaire d'intégration des acquis en ergothérapie	3 Units
Research Project		
ERG 6920	Individual Research Project	6 Units
Clinical Placements ¹		
ERG 5901	Clinical Placement in Occupational Therapy I	
ERG 5902	Clinical Placement in Occupational Therapy II	
ERG 6903	Clinical Placement in Occupational Therapy III	
ERG 6904	Clinical Placement in Occupational Therapy IV	
ERG 6905	Clinical Placement in Occupational Therapy V	
Total:		63 Units

Note(s)

¹ A minimum of 1000 placement hours must be completed over the five clinical placements.

Specific requirements for the master's program

Minimum Requirements

The pass mark in each individual course is C +. S (Satisfactory) is required for each clinical placement.

Two failures (course or clinical placement) result in withdrawal from the program. In the case of a single failure, the failed course or clinical placement can be repeated the next time the course is offered, but registration for courses or clinical placements for which the failed course or clinical placement is a prerequisite will not be possible. In this case, it will not be possible to complete the program within the prescribed time. Failing the repeated course or clinical placement is considered a second failure.

Duration of the Program

The program normally runs over 6 consecutive full-time terms. All program requirements are expected to be complete, including the

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placements and the Research Project (ERG 6755 or ERG 6920), within this two-year period.

Expected Professional Behaviour

You must comply with the requirements of integrity as well as professional ethics in all aspects of your program (courses, clinical placements, projects) during your interactions with colleagues, professors, clinical supervisors, clients, research participants, academic staff, etc. A list of essential skills and qualifications of occupational therapy can be found here (<https://www.uottawa.ca/faculty-health-sciences/sites/g/files/bhrskd346/files/2021-12/fhs-rehabilitation-essential-skills-occupational-therapy.pdf>).

Requirements for Clinical Placements

You must adhere to the requirements established by the Faculty of Health Sciences Requirements for practical learning activities (<https://www.uottawa.ca/faculty-health-sciences/clinical-education/>) (courses, labs, internships and clinical placements) regarding immunizations, police records and any other training or information required to ensure health and safety in clinical placement settings. It is your responsibility to know these requirements and to abide by them.

Non-adherence to the requirements can have major consequences, including not being able to start a clinical placement and even withdrawal during a clinical placement.

Attendance at clinical placements is mandatory, the abandonment of a clinical placement already started without good reason is a failure. In accordance with the affiliation agreement between the University of Ottawa and the clinical institution: "The organization may terminate an internship in a clinical setting and prohibit a student from continuing it if, in its opinion, the student's behavior represents a potential danger to its customers or patients or has a negative impact on their well-being or on the personnel of the organization ". If you are dismissed from a clinical placement by the clinical organization, you will receive a failing grade for this clinical placement.

The clinical placements take place in the Ottawa region as well as in other parts of Ontario and Canada. You may be assigned to a local or out-of-area clinical placement. In some cases, the Consortium National de Formation en Santé (<http://www.cnfs.ca/>) (CNFS) may cover part of the travel costs for out-of-area clinical placements.

All students are expected to have placements in both majority English-speaking settings and in majority French-speaking settings.