



Pre-Occupational Therapy Professional Program

Courses recommended for the first year: PSYC100, SOAN100, PSYC216

****IF Biology major (psychology majors do not need these) – CHEM131- CHEM132**

Contact:

Dr. Lisa Szafran (lisaszafran@augustana.edu)

The Professional Program in Pre-Occupational Therapy

Note: Pre-OT is not a major; the student can major in any field; biology and/or psychology are most common.

Required Courses

Course Number	Course Name	Learning Perspective / Suffix	Prerequisites	Usually offered: F, J, SP, SU*	Credits
PSYC100	Introduction to Psychology	PS	--	F, SP	4
PSYC216	Human Development		PSYC100	F, SP	4
PSYC240	Statistics	Q	Requires Pre-registration with PSYC department	F, SP	4
PSYC224	Psychological Disorders		PSYC100	F, SP	4
BIOL130	Molecules to Cells		--	F, SP	4
BIOL351	Human Anatomy		--	F, SP	4
BIOL362	Human Physiology		BIOL130	F, SP	4
SOAN101	Introduction to Sociology	PS, D	--	F, SP	4
REL 355	Medical Ethics	PH	--	SP	4
CLAS290	Greek & Latin for Science		--	SP	2

Possible Supporting Courses: Check specific graduate programs

Course Number	Course Name	Learning Perspective/ Suffix	Prerequisites	Usually offered: F, J, SP, SU*	Credits
BIOL358	Neuroanatomy		BIOL351		4
BIOL455	Gross Anatomy Lab		BIOL351		2
PHYS151	Principle of Physics I	PN	--	F, SP	4

Philosophy, math, speech communication, first aid and CPR certification may be required or suggested by specific graduate programs.

Program Overview

Occupational therapists help patients regain control over important job-related or day-to-day functions that may have been impaired through accident, disease or birth trauma.

Augustana's pre-OT program includes courses in biology, psychology, and sociology. The flexibility of the Pre-OT curriculum allows a student to satisfy entrance requirements to most of the occupational therapy schools in the country, and it prepares students for success both in graduate school and in their career.

Augustana assists pre-occupational therapy students in gaining clinical experience. The clinical experience required for entrance into occupational therapy programs is made available through the college at a variety of clinics in the Quad-Cities area and beyond.

There are two paths to completing the Pre-OT program. **The first option** is a four-year B.A. program (nearly any major) at Augustana followed by graduate work in occupational therapy. Students who choose this option may apply to any graduate program in the country. **The second option** is a coordinated degree program in occupational therapy with Washington University in St. Louis. In this program, the student spends three years at Augustana followed by either two years (Master of Science in Occupational Therapy degree) or three years (Clinical Doctorate in Occupational Therapy) at Washington University. The student can choose a major in any field, but all graduate program prerequisites must be met prior to matriculation. The student must complete a Senior Inquiry in the chosen major during the junior year or summer following the junior year.

Prior to attending Washington University, the student must: 1) complete all Augustana general education courses, with the exception of the last 30-credits at the 300+ level; 2) major requirements unless waived by the appropriate department (with the possible exception of BIOL358/Neuroanatomy* for the biology major.) *If the student plans to transfer WU's Neurobiology credits back to Augustana to be applied toward the biology major, then BIOL358 cannot be taken.

It is important to check on requirements of the WU OT graduate program on a regular basis, as prerequisites and other application requirements may change.

Acceptance into the 3:2 (MS) or 3:3 (OTD) WUOT programs is not guaranteed. It is a highly competitive process, and all applicants are considered based on their merits and achievements. Once enrolled at Washington University, the student transfers as many as 30 appropriate 300-level credits to Augustana to complete remaining requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree.

****Students interested in 3:2 or 3:3 WU program should contact Dr. Szafran early in their first year for more information**

*Fall, J term, Spring, Summer; see [Academic Calendar](#) for specific dates

Updated May 2025