

2022-2023

UA-UAMS OTD Program Evaluation Report,

June, 2023

The Doctorate of Occupation Therapy degree in the UA/UAMS Department of Occupational Therapy program ensures that degree candidates meet the minimum academic and clinical practicum requirements established by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). Program goals are based on the knowledge and skills recommended by the ACOTE to prepare graduates to pass the National Board for the Certification of Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) board exam.

Graduate students are expected to demonstrate knowledge and skills related to the 1) foundations of occupational therapy professional practice; 2) screening, assessment, evaluation, and diagnosis of deficits and disorders that impact occupational performance; 3) evaluation, treatment planning and implementation, discharge planning, and ongoing community support. Students must pass multiple clinic rotations (Level 1 and Level 2 fieldwork) to graduate. Then pass the national NBCOT board examination to qualify for licensure in any state. Final data for employment of the inaugural 2022 graduating class is not available at the time of this report.

The OTD program has had a very successful year, despite four open faculty positions. An accreditation site visit was completed by accreditors with the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) in June and the council voted in August to grant the maximum seven years of initial accreditation. The only noted area of concern was the lack of core faculty, but also acknowledged that there was sufficient quality adjunct faculty to meet accreditation standards. Four new faculty, two tenure track and two non-tenure track have been hired since January, 2023, filling all open positions.

Clinical Education:

Goal: 100% of students will pass Level 1 and Level 2 Fieldwork experiences.

Spring 2022 Fieldwork:

Level 2B - 26 students placed and passed
Highlighted placement: Shriners Hospital in Shreveport, LA – Kylie Coker

Level 1B – 23 students placed and passed

Summer 2022:

Level 1C – 22 students placed and passed

Fall 2022:

Level 2A – 23 students placed and passed
Highlighted placement: Tulane Lakeside, LA – Jamie Bernal
University Medical Center in New Orleans, LA – Brett Polaski

Level 1A – 22 students placed and passed

*First week-long rotation in Fall semester. Shifted from 6 different daily rotations to 1 week to increase rigor of fieldwork program.

Spring 2023

Level 2A – 25 students placed and 24 passed (one withdrew)

OTHER NOTES:

- The program continues to increase the number of clinical sites available to students. We have 224 recorded fieldwork and capstone sites in Exxat.
- Cohort 2024 completed community site visits as a part of OCH 5203 Professional Perspectives. This was added to serve as a pre-cursor to fieldwork and provide students with the opportunity to observe in traditional (pediatric outpatient), non-traditional (PACE), and emerging practice areas (Richardson Industries/Able Talks). One week fieldwork rotation replaced these opportunities in the Fall semester to increase rigor of skill application.
- Fieldwork educators frequently compliment our students on professional behaviors – particularly on their eagerness to learn and be involved in the OT process.

Plan: No changes in this measure as it is required for accreditation

Goal: Occupational therapy doctoral students will exhibit excellent professional behaviors by progressively demonstrating personal responsibility & accountability for their learning & professionalism.

Outcome:

- The Assessment of Professional Behaviors (APB) form was redesigned through a collaboration of the Chair of the Progressions Committee, Academic Fieldwork Coordinator, and the Graduate Coordinator, with input from all faculty to better describe expected professional behaviors and promote self-reflection and goal setting by students.
- Beginning in January 2023, students completed this self-assessment of professional behaviors using the new Assessment of Professional Behaviors (APB) form & process and reviewed these with their Faculty Advisor. Students will complete a reassessment at least annually. This form will also be used for formative feedback when there are small concerns that arise throughout the semesters.
- A common theme this year from clinical fieldwork educators was that our students demonstrated excellent self-initiation, professional behaviors and clinical reasoning, willingly ask thoughtful questions, and confidently establish rapport with clients and families.
- Use of this new form and process will be monitored over the next academic year to evaluate its effectiveness for providing formative feedback to help students develop their professional behaviors and identity.

Goal: 95% of students will pass the Culminating Assessments, indicating integration and application of learning across courses.

Outcome: Culminating Assessments (CA) are completed in Spring Yr 1 & 2, & Fall Yr 1 semesters (not in summer due to the shorted time frame or Fall Yr 2 as students leave for Level 2 FW), require advancing knowledge & performance skills.

Class 2024: Fall Yr 1: 100% pass rate
Spring Yr 2: 100% pass rate

Class 2025: Spring Yr 1: 100% pass rate

Plan: Culminating Assessments for all semesters will be reevaluated and likely revised to better articulate and consistently measure clinical competencies required for success on fieldwork.

Goal: 100% of students will earn a passing score on final OTKE given before capstone experience, in August (beginning in 2022)

OT students take the Occupational Therapy Knowledge Exam (OTKE), a practice exam for the OT national board exam before leaving for their first Level 2 Fieldwork and then again after completion of the second Level 2 Fieldwork. The 2023 cohort data is not yet available as they are scheduled to take the OTKE June 6th, 2023.

	Mean (Percentage Correct)	
OTKE Test Period After completing all fieldwork	Your Selected Student(s)	National
2022 cohort	60%	61%
2023 cohort	Not yet available	

Plan: Once the 2023 cohort completes the OTKE, the program will further analyze the OTKE data provided on specific tasks to evaluate curricular design, course sequence, content and delivery, and improve assessment of student performance. Progress & findings will be documented in Curriculum Committee meetings and this goal will be updated accordingly.