

# Combined Degrees: Biology B.S./Occupational Therapy OTD

## Curriculum

**Effective May 14, 2026 ENG0001 will no longer be a requirement in our undergraduate programs.**

Students have an opportunity to earn both their undergraduate and graduate degrees through the Combined Degrees: Biology B.S./Occupational Therapy O.T.D. program. This program enables qualified students to earn, in a continuous plan of study, both a B.S. degree in Biology from the John Hazen White College of Arts & Sciences, and an O.T.D. from the College of Health & Wellness, in as little as six years.

Qualified students are able to complete nine core Occupational Therapy doctoral courses that will count toward their undergraduate Biology degree. Visit the Biology B.S. degree and Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) program pages for program descriptions and outcomes.

### Requirements

Eligible undergraduate students who would like to pursue the Combined Degrees: Biology B.S./Occupational Therapy O.T.D. program should apply directly for the program by November 15 of third year through the Centralized Application Service for Occupational Therapy Programs (OTCAS) system. Qualified students who elect the Combined Degrees: Biology B.S./Occupational Therapy O.T.D. program as an undergraduate student must fulfill all admissions requirements for entrance into the intended doctoral program and complete a graduate program application. If admitted to the O.T.D. program, students will begin graduate study in the summer between their third and fourth year.

### Biology

A four-year program leading to the bachelor of science degree

#### Major Courses

BIO1022	General Biology - Organismal	3
BIO1026	General Biology Laboratory - Organismal	1
BIO2001	Genetics	3
BIO2003	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	3
BIO2006	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory	1
BIO2013	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	3
BIO2016	Human Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory	1
BIO3040	Molecular Biology	3
BIO3046	Molecular Biology Laboratory	1
BIO3100	Coastal Ecology	3
BIO3106	Coastal Ecology Laboratory	1
BIO4020	Integrative Biology	3
BIO4026	Integrative Biology Laboratory	1
BIO4100	Senior Seminar in Biology	3

#### Applied/Experiential Learning

Choose 6 credits from the following:		6
ASCI4799	College of Arts & Sciences Internship <sup>lc</sup>	
RSCH3810	Undergraduate Laboratory and Field Research	
RSCH3830	Undergraduate Research Experience	
RSCH4020	Honors Directed Academic Experience	
Study Abroad <sup>5a</sup>		

#### Related Professional Studies

CHM1011	General Chemistry I	3
CHM1016	General Chemistry I Laboratory	1
CHM1022	General Chemistry II	3
CHM1026	General Chemistry II Laboratory	1
CHM2011	Organic Chemistry I	3
CHM2016	Organic Chemistry I Laboratory	1
CHM2022	Organic Chemistry II	3
CHM2026	Organic Chemistry II Laboratory	1

#### University Core Curriculum

Communicating		9
ENG1020	Rhetoric & Composition I	
ENG1021	Rhetoric & Composition II	
ENG1030	Communication Skills	
Connecting		6
Two courses with the Connecting attribute (ECNG), one at the 2000 level, one at the 4000 level		
Experiencing		6
PHIL3240	Ethics: A Global Perspective	

Additional course with the Experiencing attribute (EEXP) in a different discipline		
Measuring		6
MATH1040	Calculus I <sup>*</sup>	
MATH2010	Introduction to Biostatistics	
Exploring		4
BIO1011 & BIO1016	General Biology - Cellular and General Biology Laboratory - Cellular	
Interacting		6
PSYC1001	Introductory Psychology	
Additional course with the Interacting attribute (EINT) in a different discipline		
A&S Electives		8
PHY1011 or PHY2011	General Physics I Physics I	
PHY1016 or PHY2016	General Physics I Laboratory Physics I Laboratory	
PHY1022 or PHY2022	General Physics II Physics II	
PHY1026 or PHY2026	General Physics II Laboratory Physics II Laboratory	
<b>Doctoral Courses **</b>		
OTD7015	Foundations of Occupational Therapy	3
OTD7030	Human Occupations and Participation Across the Lifespan	2
OTD7070	Introduction to Fieldwork	1
OTD7110	Kinesiology	4
OTD7130	Occupational Therapy Assessment and Theory Across the Life Span	3
OTD7160	Human Conditions I	3
OTD7170	Occupational Performance and Participation in Groups	3
OTD7190	Research I	3
OTD8220	Research II	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>122.0</b>

\* Students that do not place in MATH1040 Calculus I, will need to take an extra course(s), MATH1020 Fundamentals of Algebra, and/or MATH1030 Precalculus, as prerequisite(s).

\*\* Students use 9 credits from major electives, and 12 free elective credits for doctoral-level courses in the Occupational Therapy O.T.D. during their fourth year.

<sup>lc</sup>Typically, internships require a minimum of six credits. Students interested in a 9 or 12-credit internship can apply additional experiential learning and free elective credits, if available. Students are strongly encouraged to contact a faculty advisor before scheduling internship and free elective credits.

<sup>5a</sup>To be eligible to count toward Applied/Experiential Learning, a Study Abroad offering must meet certain requirements. Contact Experiential Education & Career Services to discuss eligible Study Abroad options for this degree program and visit the study abroad website for information, program descriptions and online applications.

# In addition to classes, free elective credits may be applied to a number of options such as internship, study abroad, and courses in a specialization or minor as relevant. For students who qualify for the J2 program, up to four graduate courses may apply. Students are strongly encouraged to contact a faculty advisor before scheduling free elective credits.

### Occupational Therapy Doctorate

Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD)

#### Core Courses

OTD7015	Foundations of Occupational Therapy <sup>†</sup>	3
OTD7030	Human Occupations and Participation Across the Lifespan <sup>†</sup>	2
OTD7060	Occupational Perspective on Health	3
OTD7070	Introduction to Fieldwork <sup>†</sup>	1
OTD7110	Kinesiology <sup>†</sup>	4
OTD7130	Occupational Therapy Assessment and Theory Across the Life Span <sup>†</sup>	3
OTD7160	Human Conditions I <sup>†</sup>	3
OTD7170	Occupational Performance and Participation in Groups <sup>†</sup>	3
OTD7190	Research I <sup>†</sup>	3
OTD7210	Neuroscience	4

OTD7260	Human Conditions II	3
OTD8140	Healthcare Systems and Policy	3
OTD8215	Introduction to Capstone I	2
OTD8220	Research II †	3
OTD8235	Occupational Therapy Practice I	5
OTD8280	Level IA Fieldwork	1
OTD8310	Leadership and Advocacy	3
OTD8320	Research III	3
OTD8330	Theoretical and Clinical Reasoning in Context	3
OTD8345	Occupational Therapy Practice II	5
OTD8380	Level IB Fieldwork	1
OTD8395	Program Development and Grant Writing	2
OTD8420	Technology and Innovation in Occupational Therapy	2
OTD8455	Occupational Therapy Practice III	5
OTD8480	Level IC Fieldwork	1
OTD8520	Introduction to Capstone II	3
OTD8540	Contemporary Concepts in Occupational Therapy	2
OTD8560	Teaching and Learning in Occupational Therapy	2
OTD8660	Occupational Therapy Practice IV	5
OTD8720	Level ID Fieldwork	1
OTD9810	Level IIA Fieldwork	9
OTD9860	Level IIB Fieldwork	9
OTD9910	Doctoral Capstone Project	3
OTD9920	Doctoral Capstone Experience	10
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>115.0</b>

† These doctoral courses fulfill the bachelor of science requirements in the fourth year. Please note: The bachelor of science is not awarded until all doctoral-level courses applying to the undergraduate degree have been successfully completed.

The Johnson & Wales University entry-level occupational therapy doctoral (OTD) degree program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD 20814. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its web address is [ACOTEonline.org](http://ACOTEonline.org).

Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).

After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

Note: Students must pass MATH0010 Pre-Algebra or have equivalent placement scores to enroll in required math courses.

## Admissions Requirements

Please see a campus catalog for Admissions Requirements for this program.