Doctorate of Occupational Therapy (OTD) Program

Orientation

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Orientation Agenda

Intended Outcomes

Program Data

Insights & Words of Wisdom

Program Overview

Coursework

Residency Expectations

NBCOT

OT Licensure

Intended Outcomes for OTD Graduates

- Leaders in clinical practice
- Possess specialized knowledge and skills
  - Clinical expertise
  - Applies evidence to practice effectively and systematically
  - Program evaluation
  - Quality improvement planning, process & implementation
  - Systems knowledge, systems change
  - Advocates effectively

- Pursues leadership positions in practice
- Develops new roles for OT in emerging practice areas
- Pursues faculty positions

USC Chan Doctors of Occupational Therapy

- 904 total graduates since 2001

- Approximately 90 new OTD residents enrolling Fall 2023

- 20 additional OTD residents continuing/active

OTD Insights

from the Chan Doctors of Occupational Therapy

In response to the question, "What were your most powerful learning lessons this past year?"

- Being able to ask questions
- It doesn't have to be perfect, it just has to get started
- Managing emotions
- Managing workloads and realistic boundaries
- Navigating disappointments
- To stop comparing myself to others

OTD Insights

from the Chan Doctors of Occupational Therapy

What helped you with your transition from a "student" identity to a "professional" identity?

- Mentorship: take advantage of the support of your mentors from the very beginning! Do not pass this up.
- Utilizing the network of professionals and network of support around me
- Experiences of success – seeing mini successes for myself along the way
- Receiving ownership of a project
- Being pushed outside of my comfort zone
- *Crucial Conversations* – invest in the text right away!

Words of Wisdom

from the Chan Doctors of Occupational Therapy

- "Nothing will go as planned."
- "Each journey is unique."
- "You cannot pour from an empty cup. Take care of yourself; engage in regular self-care."
- "Get weird during the OTD...do something outside of the box!"

Program Overview
and
Timelines

Four Leadership Tracks

- Advanced Clinical Practice

  Prepares clinicians with advanced knowledge and skills in a specialty area of practice

- Policy

  Prepares residents as executive decision makers, public policy advocates, or administrators with systems knowledge and leadership skills

- Research

  Prepares residents to be skilled in collecting clinical outcome data within practice and lead program evaluation efforts

- Pedagogy

  Prepares residents with teaching expertise and other skills necessary to become outstanding clinical faculty

OTD Academic Program Calendar
Fall 2023 Semester

- August 21 — Semester Begins
- September 4 — Labor Day
- October 12, 13 — Fall Recess
- November 10 — Veterans Day
- November 22, 23, 24 — Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 4 — Final Leadership Presentations of December 2023 Graduates
- December 13 — Last Day of Semester/Last Day of Residency

- Please note, there may be variations in schedule tailored specifically to your residency site service delivery needs.

- If you are simultaneously employed by your residency site, your work obligations may differ from the academic calendar.

- Please remain in close communication with Dr. Bream regarding your specific plans.

OTD Academic Program Calendar
Spring 2024 Semester

•	January 8	Semester Begins
•	January 15	Martin Luther Ling's Birthday
•	February 19	President's Day
•	March 10 -17	Spring Recess
•	April 29	Final Leadership Presentations of May 2024 Graduates
•	May 8	Last Day of Semester/Last Day of Residency
•	May 10	Commencement

- Please note, there may be variations in schedule tailored specifically to your residency site service delivery needs.

- If you are simultaneously employed by your residency site, your work obligations may differ from the academic calendar.

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OTD Academic Program Calendar Summer 2024 Semester

- May 15   Semester Begins

- May 27   Memorial Day

- June 19   Juneteenth

- July 4   Independence Day

- July 22   Final Leadership Presentations of August 2024 Graduates

- August 7   Last Day of Semester/Last Day of Residency

- Please note, there may be variations in schedule tailored specifically to your residency site service delivery needs.

- If you are simultaneously employed by your residency site, your work obligations may differ from the academic calendar.

- Please remain in close communication with Dr. Bream regarding your specific plans.

Additional Notes Regarding Calendar

- Please note, OTD residents who also work as graduate assistants or student workers are expected to work through the dates stipulated in their contract agreements, typically August 16, 2023 – May 15, 2024. Please also consult your Supervisor.

- If students plan to enroll in electives outside of the Chan Division, in order to meet program requirements, those courses may adhere to a different registration calendar and, therefore, have different registration deadlines. Please consult the USC Schedule of Classes for all session details. https://classes.usc.edu/

Additional Notes Regarding Calendar

Final OTD Leadership Presentations

- The OTD Leadership presentations scheduled for the 2023-24 academic year are scheduled as **_remote_** events:

    - Monday, December 4, 2023

    - Monday, April 29, 2024

    - Monday, July 22, 2024

- It is expected that the OTD graduates attend the final leadership presentations in their entirety. The time attending this event is considered part of your residency obligation.

Learning Options for Coursework

- OTD Core Courses OT620 and OT621 are offered in an online format via zoom, typically synchronous

- OT686 Residency is conducted within a real-world context of clinical practice, research, policy/administration, or pedagogy. Residency will be completed 100% in context and does not meet regularly as a typical academic class.

- Pedagogy Residents typically engage in a monthly seminar, which also counts toward the residency obligation.

- The OTD Leadership presentations scheduled for the 2023-24 academic year are scheduled as remote events.

- It is feasible to reside out of area for the entirety of the OTD program

Academic Coursework

Options for OTD Course Plans

- Typical Course Plan

- Front-load Coursework

- Part-Time

Typical OTD Course Plan
Fall Semester Start

for individuals admitted with 'advanced standing'

Fall Semester 10 credits	Spring Semester 14 credits	Summer Semester 12 credits
OT 620 Current Issues in OS and OT (4 credits)	OT 621 OT Leadership (4 credits)	
	Elective (4 credits)	
OT 686 Residency (6 credits = 20 hrs/week)	OT 686 Residency (6 credits = 20 hrs/week)	OT 686 Residency (12 credits = 40 hrs/week)
10 total credits	**14 total credits**	**12 total credits**

Typical OTD Course Plan Spring Semester Start

for individuals admitted with 'advanced standing'

Spring Semester 10 credits	Summer Semester 12 credits	Fall Semester 14 credits
OT 620 Current Issues in OS and OT (4 credits)		OT 621 OT Leadership (4 credits)
		Elective (4 credits)
OT 686 Residency (6 credits = 20 hrs/week)	OT 686 Residency (12 credits = 40 hrs/week)	OT 686 Residency (6 credits = 20 hrs/week
10 total credits	**12 total credits**	**14 total credits**

Frontload Coursework Plan

for individuals admitted with 'advanced standing'

Semester I 14 credits	Semester II 12 credits	Semester III 12 credits
OT 620 Current Issues in OS and OT (4 credits)		
OT 621 Leadership: Contemporary Issues (4 credits)		
Elective (4 credits)	OT 686 Residency (12 credits = 40 hrs/week)	OT 686 Residency (12 credits = 40 hrs/week)

Part – Time Course Plan

- Customized plan, consisting of many variations suitable to your needs, such as one course at a time, part-time residency across 4 semesters, etc.

OTD Elective Options

- **Interdisciplinary Options are highly encouraged**
  - Courses must be at 500 or 600-level or higher
  - Courses must be taken for letter grade or credit/no credit

- **OS/OT Elective Courses within Chan Division**
  - Electives must be at the 500 or 600-level or higher
  - PP-OTD residents typically are not eligible for the PhD in OS courses
  - Residents may complete Graduate Certificates as part of their overall PP-OTD course plan

- **OT 790 Directed Research**
  - Develop own course with USC faculty mentor; devise customized learning objectives and identify tangible outcome / product of your learning activities
  - Typically taken for 1-4 units
  - Each unit equates to 2-3 hours per week (minimum) of effort

OTD Elective Options

- *Courses must be 500- or 600-level or higher*
- *Courses must be taken for letter grade or credit/no credit*

- **Interdisciplinary Electives outside of the Chan Division are highly encouraged**

- **OS/OT Elective Courses within Chan Division**
  - Residents may also complete one of the USC Chan Graduate Certificate Programs
  https://chan.usc.edu/education/lifestyle-redesign-graduate-certificate
  https://chan.usc.edu/education/sp-si-graduate-certificate

- **OT 790 Directed Research**
  - Develop own course with USC faculty mentor; devise customized learning objectives and identify tangible outcomes/ product of your learning activities
  - Typically taken for 1-4 units
  - Each unit equates to 2-3 hours per week (minimum) of effort

USC Interdisciplinary Elective Considerations

- OTD Residents may select interdisciplinary coursework from any school/division/department of USC. Popular course offerings among previous OTD residents have come from (but are not limited to) the following schools:

  - Price School of Public Policy
  - Preventative Medicine
  - Marshall School of Business
  - School of Social Work
  - Keck Medical School
  - Gerontology
  - Rossier School of Education*

  *Many courses available solely to Rossier Education Majors

Registering for Electives

- To register for Chan Division electives, please email Mr. Peter Wittrock at wittrock@chan.usc.edu.

- Please always provide your student ID number when communicating with Mr. Wittrock.

- For external electives that need D clearance, please contact the specific school/division to obtain the D clearance.

- Some external courses are open solely to the school's own majors; some may require pre-requisites, and you may be able to petition to enroll in a particular course.

Residency

OT686 Residency Expectations

- OT686 Residency is conducted within a real-world context of clinical practice, research, policy/administration, or pedagogy.
- Residency will be completed 100% in context and does not meet as a typical academic class.
- Residents are obligated to complete all course requirements each semester as outlined in the OT686 syllabus.
- OT686 expectations will be self-managed by each resident via the OT686 Blackboard course site.
- The resident will meet regularly with their USC Faculty Mentor as part of their residency obligation. Typical frequency for mentorship sessions is 2x/month.
- The OT686 Course Instructor will also offer open office hours on a regular basis, and the OTD Program Director is available for 1:1's as requested.
- The Pedagogy Residents will also engage in a monthly seminar with Dr. Julie McLaughlin Gray.

OT686 Residency Expectations

- A residency site must be secured prior to the drop/add deadline of the first semester in order to enroll in OT 686 Residency units.

- Resident will complete all pre-requisite requirements of the residency site within the expected timeline.

- Resident is expected to complete the minimum number of residency hours within the specific start and end dates of each semester. (20 hours/week for 6 units; 40 hours/week for 12 units)

- Resident receives credit for the hours completed during the semester in which they are enrolled.

- Additional hours may be completed, however these hours cannot be credited to a previous or subsequent semester.

OT686 Residency Expectations

- Resident is expected to achieve performance expectations of residency site.

- Resident is expected to meet all academic obligations outlined in the OT686 syllabus, such as assigned readings, reflections, participate in seminar discussion sessions and open office hours.

- Residents are expected to be up-to-date with all communications from OTD Program Director and Instructors.

- Residents are expected to refer to OT686 Blackboard and the course syllabus frequently to ensure all expectations and deadlines are met.

- If terminated from residency, the resident will receive a grade of 'no credit' for the residency units that semester.

- A termination from residency may also result in termination from the OTD program.

OT686 Residency Expectations
Required Assignments & Documentation

- All assignments and required documents must be submitted in electronic PDF or word format to the OT686 Blackboard site. Hard copies, screen shots and/or photos of documents will not be accepted.

- ***When signatures are required***, please plan accordingly and allow your faculty mentor and residency site preceptor at least 2 weeks' notice in advance of the published deadline to ensure all necessary signatures are obtained and all assignments submitted ***by their published deadlines***. Course credit and degree progress depends upon this.

OT686 Residency Expectations
Final OTD Leadership Presentations

- The OTD Leadership presentations scheduled for the 2023-24 academic year are scheduled as **_remote_** events.

    - December 4, 2023
    - April 29, 2024
    - July 22, 2024

- It is expected that the OTD graduates attend the final leadership presentations in their entirety. The time attending this event is considered part of your residency obligation.

OT686 Residency Required Documentation
Academic & Residency Plan,
Verification of Residency Hours & Progress Report

OTD ACADEMIC AGREEMENT & RESIDENCY PLAN, VERIFICATION OF RESIDENCY HOURS & PROGRESS REPORT 2020-2021

	Name	Email & Phone Contact
OTD Resident		
Faculty Mentor		
Residency Site Preceptor		
Residency Site Location		

LEARNING GOAL[1]	STRATEGIES[2]	RESOURCES	SUCCESS INDICATORS	TARGET DATE	PROGRESS[3]

(Adapted from American Occupational Therapy Association (May 2003). *Professional Development Tool.* American Occupational Therapy Association, Bethesda, MD. Retrieved August 1, 2016 from http://www.aota.org/pdt)

Residency Units for Current Semester

☐ 6 units = 20 hours/week minimum standard
☐ 12 units = 40 hours/week minimum standard

End of Semester Verification of Hours and Approval Signatures:

Resident: _____ Faculty Mentor: _____

Residency Preceptor: _____ Date of Submission: _____

Submit electronic copy to OTD Program Director via Blackboard for OT 686 as per deadline outlined in OT686 course syllabus.

[1] Source: Can use AOTA Board Certification in Mental Health Criteria or some other advance practice framework.
[2] Some strategy options also taken from AOTA Board Certification process, e.g., formal learning, independent learning, program development, program evaluation, research, etc.
[3] This column completed ONLY at end of each semester.

Mentorship

Mentorship

- **USC Faculty Mentor:** serves as a key support for the resident throughout the program; provides guidance on professional leadership goals; offers guidance on academic matters, such as literature review, elective coursework selection, evidence-based deliverable(s) to name a few; approves final portfolio and presentation

- **Residency Site Preceptor:** considered an expert in the specific context of residency; provides mentorship and consultation specific to the work and functions within the residency context

- ***Faculty Mentor must be confirmed prior to the start of the first semester of the program.***

- *For those on the Research Track or Policy/Administration Track in the Chan Division, your faculty mentor and preceptor are typically one in the same.*

Mentorship Expectations

- The resident will engage in consistent mentorship sessions with their USC Chan Division faculty mentor and residency site preceptor. One-on-one mentorship sessions take the place of traditional in-class didactic sessions.

- At a minimum, residents should schedule monthly one-on-one mentorship sessions with their faculty mentor and residency site preceptor. It is typical for mentorship sessions to occur 2x/month.

- Residents are encouraged to facilitate joint videoconference calls between faculty mentor and residency site preceptor, to ensure effective communications and that all is progressing as intended.

- Residents themselves are the driving force of this mentorship relationship and are expected to take the lead in initiating all contacts to ensure the mentorship relationship is tailored to their individualized needs.

- **Required Text: Zachary, L.J. (2009). *The Mentee's Guide: Making Mentoring Work for You*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey Bass.**

Final Graduation Requirements

- ## Evidence-Based Portfolio
  Demonstrates the resident's knowledge of the evidentiary base that supports the residency experience

- ## Leadership Presentation
  Formal presentation summarizing residency experiences and evidence-based deliverable(s) to an audience of faculty, colleagues and community members

Detailed guidelines for the final portfolio and presentation are available on the OT686 Blackboard site each semester and for the duration of the program.

National Board Certification & State Licensure

NBCOT Requirement & CBOT Licensure

- Residents must pass and submit proof of the NBCOT exam by the end of fall semester

- Residents who do not submit proof of NBCOT will not be allowed to register for OT686 residency the following semester

- Residents on the clinical track who are starting residency this fall semester must submit CBOT temporary license as soon as possible

- May be some exceptions to this requirement for residents with international status and on the research, education, or policy track, if they have no intent of practicing in the U.S.

CBOT
Learning Application Activities

CBOT "Quiz"

You have just passed the NBCOT and are now applying for your California license. Which of your experiences should you list under Section V, work experience verification?

A. Your level II fieldwork

B. Your level II fieldwork and your residency, but not your position

C. Your level II fieldwork and your residency, as well as your position at the residency

D. All experience relevant to occupational therapy, including volunteer experiences

A. Your level II fieldwork

You have passed the NBCOT and are in the process of applying for your California license. Which of the following reflects how you may refer to yourself on your signature line?

A. your name, OT

B. your name, Occupational Therapy Doctoral Resident

C. your name, OTR

D. your name, OT Doctoral Resident

B. Your name, Occupational Therapy Doctoral Resident

You have recently passed your NBCOT and submitted your application for licensure to CBOT. Your residency site has been identified by the media because of an innovation that you were a part of. While interviewing you about your contribution, a magazine reporter mentions that you are an occupational therapist. What should you do?

A. Nod and smile, but don't say anything about it

B. Begin describing yourself as an occupational therapist since you have passed your NBCOT and will likely have your license by the time the magazine is published

C. Correct them, explaining that you have not yet received your license and so cannot describe yourself as an occupational therapist yet

D. Explain that you are an occupational therapist, but do not have your license yet

C. Correct them, explaining that you have not yet received your license and so cannot describe yourself as an occupational therapist yet

It is February and you have just signed up for your NBCOT exam. Meanwhile, you and your preceptor are also applying to a conference in the summer. The conference application asks for your credentials. Your preceptor encourages you to describe yourself as a licensed occupational therapist, because you will likely be one by that time. What should you do?

A. Describe yourself as a licensed occupational therapist

B. Describe yourself as a licensed occupational therapist if you are feeling pretty confident about passing the NBCOT

C. Do not describe yourself as a licensed occupational therapist

C. Do not describe yourself as a licensed occupational therapist

You have just passed the NBCOT exam and are so excited, and relieved. You go to post on Facebook. Which of the following would be acceptable to post?

A. After 2.5 years….. I'm an OTR!

B. So thrilled to be an occupational therapist!

C. Your name, OTR 😊

D. I passed my board exam!

D. I passed my board exam!

The End