Post-Professional OTD Program
2022-23 Academic Year

Timeline, Coursework and Electives
Post-Professional OTD Program Calendar
Fall 2022 Semester

• The post-professional OTD program follows the USC Academic Calendar: https://academics.usc.edu/calendar/academic-year-2022-2023/

  ▪ Schedule: August 22 – December 14, 2022
  ▪ Holidays: September 5, 2022, and November 23-27, 2022
  ▪ Fall Recess: October 13 – 14, 2022

• Residents are expected to begin Residency the first week of the semester and continue through the final day of the semester, December 14.
Post-Professional OTD Program Calendar
Spring 2023 Semester

• The post-professional OTD program follows the USC Academic Calendar: https://academics.usc.edu/calendar/academic-year-2022-2023/

  ▪ Schedule: January 9 – May 10, 2023
  ▪ Holidays: January 16, February 20, 2023
  ▪ Spring Recess: March 12 – March 19, 2023

• Residents are expected to begin Residency the first week of the semester and continue through the final day of the semester, May 10.
Important Notes Regarding the Calendar

**Student Workers & Graduate Assistants**

- OTD residents who also work as **student workers or graduate assistants** are expected to work through the dates stipulated in their contract agreements.
- **Student Workers** typically follow the USC Academic Calendar.
- **Graduate Assistants** complete work obligations August 15 – December 15, 2022 and January 9- May 15, 2023, with no work obligations during Spring Recess.
- Please also consult your Supervisor with any questions.

**External Electives**

If residents enroll in electives outside of the Chan Division, 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.
Residency Site & CA OT Licensure

• Residency is the signature element of the post-professional OTD program

• Residency provides an in-depth contextual learning experience for the resident

• Residency site needs to be confirmed prior to the start of the program and/or prior to enrolling in OT686 residency units (unless they are front-loading coursework or customizing their course plan in another way).

• If the residency site is within the state of CA, the resident must obtain their limited CA permit/temporary OT license as soon as possible, if they are not yet licensed in the state of CA

• The resident cannot treat nor identify self as an OT until licensed in the state of CA
Faculty Mentor

- All residents are required to have a USC faculty mentor
- USC faculty mentor should be confirmed prior to the start of the academic program
- Residents completing internal Chan Division residencies will have their faculty mentor assigned to them
- Residents completing their residencies external to the Chan Division will need to identify a faculty mentor on their own
- Link to the USC Chan Faculty Directory with faculty bios: https://chan.usc.edu/people/faculty
Faculty Mentor

• Residents may reach out to a faculty mentor of interest via email to make the request. Please include some background information, such as your confirmed residency context and overall goals you have for your doctoral experience.

• Faculty mentors may include full-time teaching, administrative, or service faculty. (Research faculty typically mentor solely research track residents)

• Faculty mentors serve as your primary support person throughout the program.

• Because residents will have a Residency site Preceptor within context, the faculty mentors does not need to possess a similar area of expertise as the focus of your residency context, this is your choice.
Options for OTD Course Plans

• Typical Course Plan
• Front-load Coursework
• Part-Time
Typical OTD Coursework Plan – Fall Start

Individuals with a masters degree in OT are admitted with ‘advanced standing’ and complete the following 36 credits of coursework:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>Summer Semester</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 total credits</td>
<td>14 total credits</td>
<td>12 total credits</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Hours/week</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OT 620 Current Issues in OS and OT</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OT 621 Occupational Therapy Leadership: Contemporary Issues</td>
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Please note, the elective units may be taken during any semester of the program.
# Frontload Coursework Plan – Fall Start

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<tr>
<td>OT 620 Current Issues in OS and OT (4 credits)</td>
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Typical OTD Coursework Plan –Spring Start

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*Please note, the elective units may be taken during any semester of the program.*
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Customize a Part-Time Plan, if desired

- A customized plan of study is possible, which may consist of many options suitable to your needs, such as completing one course at a time, completing residency part-time across 4 semesters, aligning residency with the school calendar for those in school-based practice sites, to name a few.
OTD Elective Requirements

• The OTD degree requires 8 units of electives

• OTD residents admitted with *Advanced Standing* are required to complete 4 units of electives
  - Electives may be taken inside or outside of the Chan Division
  - Interdisciplinary electives are encouraged, so that you may customize your learning experience
  - Electives must be taken at the 500 level or higher
  - Electives must be taken for letter grade or credit/no credit
  - OTD residents encouraged to complete 600-level coursework
OTD Elective Options
Electives may be taken inside or outside of the Division.

• Elective Courses may be completed within Chan Division or external to the Chan Division

• Interdisciplinary Options are highly encouraged
  ▪ May choose elective courses from any department across USC
  ▪ Courses at 500 level or 600 level
  ▪ Must be taken for Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit

• OT 790 Directed Research
  – Participate in Chan research projects or independent study
  – Develop own course plan with USC faculty mentor; devise customized learning objectives and identify tangible outcome/product of your study
  – Typically taken for 1-4 units
  – Each single (1) 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 include (but are not limited to) the following schools:

- Sol Price School of Public Policy
- Preventative Medicine
- Marshall School of Business
- School of Social Work
- Rossier School of Education*

*Many courses available solely to Rossier Education majors

Please consult your Faculty Mentor regarding elective course recommendations, in consideration of your goals for the OTD program and residency.
Registering for an interdisciplinary elective

external to the Division:

• To obtain D clearance from a department external to Chan, you will contact that particular department to request it

• Some interdisciplinary electives require majors only to enroll and/or have required pre-requisites, however OTD residents may be able to petition to enroll in the interested course, if it aligns well with the goals of your OTD degree
Registering for an elective internal to the Chan Division:

- Residents should contact Mr. Peter Wittrock to obtain D-clearance to register for elective courses and also residency units (wittrock@chan.usc.edu)

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

- Mr. Wittrock will email you once you are cleared.
If you have additional questions:

• If you have registration or scheduling questions or need further information please contact Mr. Peter Wittrock at (323) 442-1861 or wittrock@chan.usc.edu.
  ▪ Please always provide your student ID number when communicating with Mr. Wittrock

• Please be sure to consult with your Faculty Mentor for guidance and recommendations regarding your elective course options.

• Following consultation with your Faculty Mentor, if you have further questions or need additional advisement, please contact OTD Program Director, Dr. Bream at (310) 251-8785, or at bream@chan.usc.edu