

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [BOT] (10138003)

Department Occupational Therapy

Minimum duration of study 4 years

Total credits 506

NQF level 08

Programme information

The programme extends over four academic years, during which period a student receives clinical training as a student occupational therapist at an institution approved by the University.

Students must complete at least 1 000 hours' clinical practical work over the four years of study in order to register as an occupational therapist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa.

Admission requirements

Important information for all prospective students for 2025

The admission requirements below apply to all who apply for admission to the University of Pretoria with a **National Senior Certificate (NSC)** and **Independent Examination Board (IEB)** qualifications. ?[Click here](#) for this Faculty Brochure.

Minimum requirements			
Achievement level			
English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	APS
NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	
4	4	4	30

For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor. To make an appointment, send an email to carol.bosch@up.ac.za.

Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

Applicants currently in Grade 12 must apply with their final Grade 11 (or equivalent) results.

Applicants who have completed Grade 12 must apply with their final NSC or equivalent qualification results.

Please note that meeting the minimum academic requirements does not guarantee admission.

Successful candidates will be notified once admitted or conditionally admitted.

Applicants should check their application status regularly on the UP Student Portal at [click here](#).

Applicants with qualifications other than the abovementioned should refer to the International undergraduate prospectus 2025: Applicants with a school leaving certificate not issued by Umalusi (South Africa), available at [click here](#).

International students: [Click here](#)

A limited number of places are made available to citizens from countries other than South Africa (applicants who are not South African citizens), with those from SADC countries being given preference. Applicants who have multiple citizenships, including South African citizenship, will be considered to be South African.

Transferring students

A transferring student is a student who, at the time of applying at the University of Pretoria (UP) is/was a registered student at another tertiary institution. A transferring student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance. Students who have been dismissed from other institutions due to poor academic performance will not be considered for admission to UP.

Closing dates: Same as above

Returning students

A returning student is a student who, at the time of application for a degree programme is/was a registered student at UP, and wants to transfer to another degree at UP. A returning student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance.

- Students who have been excluded/dismissed from a faculty due to poor academic performance may be considered for admission to another programme at UP, as per faculty-specific requirements.
- Only ONE transfer between UP faculties and TWO transfers within a faculty will be allowed.
- Admission of returning students will always depend on the faculty concerned and the availability of space in the programmes for which they apply.

Closing date for applications from returning students is the same as the above

Note: Any deliberate omission of information, or false information provided by an applicant in the application may result in the immediate cancellation of the application, admission or registration.

Additional requirements

Also consult General Academic Regulations G1-G15.

Note: Each student in Occupational Therapy must apply immediately after admission to the first year of study, to the Registrar of the Health Professions Council of South Africa for registration as a student in Occupational Therapy.

Other programme-specific information

- i. Students who must repeat specific modules in the final year of study, must also acquire a certificate of work integrated learning attendance (fieldwork) and progress in Occupational Therapy 401, 402 and OCX 400 in the year of repetition, even if the section in the module(s) in question have already been passed in the unsuccessful year.
- ii. In the final year of study, examinations are compulsory in respect of all the modules presented by the Department of Occupational Therapy, as it is not possible to be promoted in any of these modules.

Examinations and pass requirements

Subminimum

In modules with a written as well as a practical and/or clinical examination, a subminimum of 40% is required in the written as well as the practical and/or clinical sections of the examination.

Examination after one semester

A final-year student who has failed one module but who has passed all other modules, may be admitted to a special examination in the module in question at the end of the first semester of the subsequent year, after satisfactory attendance at lectures and clinical work during the first semester.

Academic exclusion from further study

In accordance with the stipulations of the General Academic Regulations, a student must complete the degree programme for which he or she is registered within the prescribed minimum period of study plus one year.

- In accordance with the stipulations of the General Academic Regulations a year, semester or quarter mark of at least 40% is required for admission to the examination in all undergraduate modules in the University where year, semester and quarter marks apply.
- The final mark for a specific module in Nursing Science, Physiotherapy, Radiography, Occupational Therapy and Human Nutrition (at least 50% is required to pass) is calculated from the examination mark as well as the mark compiled from the evaluation of a student during continuous, objective and controlled assessment opportunities during the course of the quarter/semester/year. At least one formal assessment per module is set as the minimum norm, and students will be exposed on a continuous and regular basis to self-directed assignments in order to promote reflective learning.
- In the case of modules with practical components, students are required to also comply with the applicable attendance requirements with regard to acquiring practical skills before a pass mark can be obtained for the module.
- There are two main examination periods per annum. In respect of first-semester modules, the standard examination is in May/June and the supplementary examination is in July. In respect of second-semester modules, the standard examination is in October/ November and the supplementary examination is in November/December of the same year. Where students need to work additional clinical hours to be allowed to do a supplementary examination, the relevant head of department will determine the date of the supplementary examination.
- Only two examination opportunities per module are allowed. If a student fails the supplementary examination, the module must be repeated.
- A supplementary examination in a module is granted to students in the following cases:
 - If a student obtains a final mark of between 40%-49% in the relevant module at the standard examination and thus fails.
 - If a student does not meet the subminimum for either the written or clinical component of the standard examination, but still has an overall mark of at least 50% a supplementary exam will be granted.
- Students intending to sit the supplementary examination due to the reasons mentioned above, must register for the supplementary examination 24 hours after the results have been made public.
- If a student fails a module at the standard examination, the examination mark obtained in the relevant module at the supplementary examination will be calculated as the final mark. The marks obtained with continuous evaluation during the course of the quarter/semester/year will not be taken into calculation. If the student passes the module at the supplementary examination opportunity, a maximum of 50% is awarded as a pass mark to the module in question.

- A student who is prevented from writing the standard examination due to illness or other qualifying circumstances, may be granted permission by the dean to write a special examination in the particular module(s).
- If a student is granted permission from the Dean to write a special examination, the continuous evaluation mark, together with the examination mark obtained in the module in question at the supplementary examination opportunity, will be calculated as the final mark obtained in the module.
- In instances where students are unable to write the examination and supplementary examination as a consequence of a serious medical condition or an accident, such a student must apply for a special dispensation, with the support of the dean, to the Registrar, who will make a final decision.
- The School of Healthcare Sciences applies the General Academic Regulations, according to which a student requiring a limited number of modules (no more than the equivalent of four semester modules) to complete his or her degree, may in terms of faculty regulations, be admitted to a Chancellor's examination in the modules in question.

Promotion to next study year

Students in the first year of study who do not qualify for admission to the second year of study are automatically subjected to selection again.

- In modules with a written as well as a practical and/or clinical examination, a subminimum of 40% is required in the written as well as the practical and/or clinical sections of the standard and supplementary examination.
- The subminimum of 40% is required in modules with only a written component in the standard exam.
- The final module mark is calculated from the semester mark/ year mark and the examination mark in the ratio 60:40.
- The modules in the final year of study, the final module mark is calculated from the examination mark and the semester mark/year mark in the ratio of 50:50.
- A final-year student who has failed one module but who has passed all other modules, may be admitted to a Chancellor's examination in the module in question at the end of the first semester of the subsequent year, after obtaining a subminimum of 40% in the theoretical as well as the clinical component during the first semester.
- A final year student who has failed more than one module, has to register for the whole year to complete the modules in question.
- A student must pass in all the prescribed core modules of a specific year of study to be promoted to a subsequent year of study. A student can only be promoted to a subsequent year of study if the student has not failed more than two fundamental modules of seven weeks each per semester or one module of 14 weeks per semester. A non-negotiable prerequisite for admission to the final year of study is pass marks in all the core and fundamental modules of the preceding years of study. Refer to the programmes for fundamental modules in each discipline.
- A pass mark refers to a final mark of at least 50%.
- Modules with practical and clinical training credits cannot be passed unless all the prescribed clinical hours and practical activities have been completed to the satisfaction of the relevant head of department.
- The Chairperson of the examination moderating meeting may, after assessing the student's total profile, grant special approval to be promoted to the next year of study.
- Modules can only be taken in advance or repeated if it can be accommodated in the existing examination timetable.
- A student who must repeat a year of study may, with the approval of the Chairperson of the examination moderating meeting and the relevant head of department, be allowed to take fundamental modules of the

subsequent year, if he/she complies with all the prerequisites for the relevant modules. No adjustment to existing timetables will be allowed.

The following fundamental modules are relevant:

ZUL 119; SEP 119; SLK 110, 120 210, FSG 161, 162, 251, 252, 261, 262; ANP 210; GNK 286, MTL 180, ELH 121, 122, ANA 151, 152, 161, 162, AIM 111, 112, IHL 120, 210, 310, 413, RHC 300

Pass with distinction

The BOT degree is conferred with distinction on a student who has obtained a joint average of at least 75% (not rounded) in the core modules in OTX 401, OTX 402 and OCX 400.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 137

Choose between Sepedi SEP 119 and Zulu ZUL 119

Fundamental modules

Academic information management 111 (AIM 111) - Credits: 4.00

Academic information management 121 (AIM 121) - Credits: 4.00

Introduction to anatomy 151 (ANA 151) - Credits: 6.00

Anatomy of the limbs 152 (ANA 152) - Credits: 6.00

Anatomy of the torso 161 (ANA 161) - Credits: 6.00

Anatomy of the head and neck 162 (ANA 162) - Credits: 6.00

Academic English for Health Sciences (BNurs, BDietetics, BOH, BOT, BRad and BPhysio) 121 (ELH 121) - Credits: 6.00

Academic English for Health Sciences 122 (ELH 122) - Credits: 6.00

Physiology 161 (FSG 161) - Credits: 6.00

Physiology 162 (FSG 162) - Credits: 6.00

Basic emergency care 286 (GNK 286) - Credits: 5.00

Medical terminology 180 (MTL 180) - Credits: 8.00

Sepedi for beginners 119 (SEP 119) - Credits: 12.00

Psychology 110 (SLK 110) - Credits: 12.00

Psychology 120 (SLK 120) - Credits: 12.00

Academic orientation 110 (UPO 110) - Credits: 0.00

isiZulu for beginners 119 (ZUL 119) - Credits: 12.00

Core modules

Integrated healthcare leadership 120 (IHL 120) - Credits: 8.00

Occupational science 100 (OCX 100) - Credits: 14.00

Occupational therapy 100 (OTX 100) - Credits: 10.00



Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 120

Fundamental modules

Physiology 251 (FSG 251) - Credits: 6.00

Physiology 252 (FSG 252) - Credits: 6.00

Physiology 261 (FSG 261) - Credits: 6.00

Physiology 262 (FSG 262) - Credits: 6.00

Psychology 210 (SLK 210) - Credits: 20.00

Core modules

Integrated healthcare leadership 210 (IHL 210) - Credits: 8.00

Occupational science 200 (OCX 200) - Credits: 18.00

Occupational therapy 211 (OTX 211) - Credits: 10.00

Occupational therapy 212 (OTX 212) - Credits: 16.00

Occupational therapy 221 (OTX 221) - Credits: 12.00

Occupational therapy 222 (OTX 222) - Credits: 12.00



Curriculum: Year 3

Minimum credits: 129

Fundamental modules

Anatomical pathology 210 (ANP 210) - Credits: 10.00

Research methodology for healthcare sciences 300 (RHC 300) - Credits: 30.00

Core modules

Integrated healthcare leadership 310 (IHL 310) - Credits: 8.00

Occupational science 303 (OCX 303) - Credits: 19.00

Occupational science 311 (OCX 311) - Credits: 13.00

Occupational science 312 (OCX 312) - Credits: 16.00

Occupational therapy 311 (OTX 311) - Credits: 18.00

Occupational therapy 322 (OTX 322) - Credits: 15.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Fundamental modules

Research in healthcare sciences 400 (RHC 400) - Credits: 10.00

Core modules

Interprofessional health management 413 (IHL 413) - Credits: 5.00

Occupational science 400 (OCX 400) - Credits: 35.00

Occupational therapy 401 (OTX 401) - Credits: 35.00

Occupational therapy 402 (OTX 402) - Credits: 35.00

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.