



Thank you for your interest in Nebraska Methodist College's Master in Occupational Therapy program!

Nebraska Methodist College's Master in Occupational Therapy program combines the best of both educational environments with engaging online courses and rich face-to-face classes. Students enjoy the benefits of a community-focused curriculum, with multiple opportunities to develop entry-level practice skills in real-life settings. These experiences begin within the first semester!

If you are a compassionate person and foresee yourself making positive impacts on the individuals and communities you serve then NMC's program may be right for you. With a Master of Occupational Therapy degree from Nebraska Methodist College, you will be equipped to provide the tools to sustain a high quality of life, despite the challenges.

We look forward to working with you as you begin your journey to become a Nebraska Methodist College graduate.



Melissa S. Kimmerling

Melissa Kimmerling, EdD, OTR/L
Program Director
Master in Occupational Therapy
Nebraska Methodist College

NEBRASKA
METHODIST
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THE JOSIE HARPER CAMPUS

Master of OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Program Highlights

- On-campus and online hybrid format combines classroom learning, research assignments, lab work and fieldwork teaching formats in a six-semester, 24-month program. The hybrid design of the program allows students to maximize the use of their on-campus time through the purposeful selection of the course delivery method. Some courses meet face-to-face, others are fully online and many use a blended delivery method.
- Fieldwork experiences begin in the first semester, providing students with hands-on learning opportunities in rural and urban areas throughout the country.
- NMC's Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) program will enroll approximately 24-29 graduate students per year, assuring an acceptable faculty-to-student ratio for classroom, laboratory, outreach experiences and Fieldwork Level I and II experiences.
- The employment outlook for occupational therapists is good, with a job outlook of 18% higher than average job growth 2018-2028. 2018 Median pay is \$84, 270/ year (\$40.51/hr).

Curriculum

- In April 2019, [the decision to mandate the entry-level doctorate was reversed by the American Occupational Therapy Association](#). Occupational therapists may enter the field with either a master's degree or doctorate degree for the occupational therapists; both degree levels remain acceptable.
- The graduate MOT curriculum includes classroom, laboratory, outreach and Fieldwork Level I and Level II experiences. The hybrid program engages learners in the active, autonomous learning that occurs in the online environment, and in addition, students continue to have the benefit of weekly face-to-face interaction with instructors and peers on campus.
- The MOT degree addresses all relevant and purposeful content for success as an entry-level practitioner according to the current Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) standards for the master's degree.
- Graduates of the MOT program are eligible to sit for the National Board for Certification of Occupational Therapists (NBCOT) examination. After certification through NBCOT, graduates must also meet the licensure requirements for the state in which they choose to practice.

Application Deadlines

Deadline: October 1, 2020

Classes begin August of 2021

Program Admissions Criteria

Applicants are evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- BA or BS degree (or higher) in a related field from an accredited university or college
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 with a preferred math/science GPA of 3.25
- Fulfillment of program technical standards
- **No GRE required for admission**

Prerequisites

Prerequisites do not need to be complete at the time of application but must be finished prior to fall start date. It is preferred (but not required) that applicants have no more than three incomplete or in-progress prerequisites at the time of application.

Required Math/Sciences Courses:

- Human Anatomy with Lab (or combined Human Anatomy and Physiology I & II with Labs)
- Physiology with Lab (or combined Human Anatomy and Physiology I & II with Labs)
- One course of Biology or Physical Science with Lab
- Statistics
- One course of Kinesiology or Biomechanics

Required Psych & Social Sciences:

- 3 Psychology courses (must include general, developmental/lifespan and abnormal psychology)
- Sociology or Anthropology
- Speaking/Speech/Communication Course

Required General Courses:

- Medical Terminology
- Ethics, Theology or Philosophy

Program Application Process

To be considered for admission, the following items must be submitted to the Occupational Therapy Centralized Application Service (OTCAS):

- OTCAS application - www.otcas.org
- Two professional and/or academic references
- Personal statement and response to NMC MOT essay questions
- Resume
- Official transcripts from all colleges attended
- Observation hours are not required but highly recommended. We also recognize that observation hours are not readily available due to COVID-19.

Select qualified applicants will be invited to participate in an interview.

All applicants will also be required to meet the program's Technical Standards.

Admissions Contact:

(402) 354-6534

michelle.olson@methodistcollege.edu

Fall Semester, Year 1		18 Credit Hours
OTH 500	Foundations in Occupational Therapy	3
OTH/SCI 505	Advanced Anatomy and Applied Physiology + Lab	4
OTH 530	Therapeutic Measurement + Lab	3
OTH 520	Evidence-Based Practice for Community-Based Practice + Lab	3
OTH 529	Level IA Fieldwork: Community-Based Health and Wellness	2
OTH 580	Clinical Conditions and Pathology	3
Spring Semester, Year 1		18 Credit Hours
OTH 590	Strategies for Practice Success	2
OTH 515	Evidence-Based Practice for Psychosocial Dysfunction + Lab	3
OTH 539	Level IB Fieldwork: Community-Based Mental Health	2
OTH 585	Evidence-Based Practice in Neurorehabilitation + Lab	4
OTH 630	Research in Occupational Therapy	3
OTH 610	Evidence-Based Practice for Productive Aging + Lab	4
Summer Semester, Year 1		11 Credit Hours
OTH 540	Contemporary and Emerging Practice	2
OTH 640	Critical Reasoning in Occupational Therapy	2
OTH 628	Level IC Fieldwork: Adult/Elderly Populations	1
OTH 635	Research Capstone I	2
OTH 660	Assistive Technology and Environmental Modifications	2
OTH 730	Orthotics, Prosthetics and Physical Agent Modalities + Lab	2
Fall Semester, Year 2		17 Credit Hours
OTH 650	Evidence-Based Practice for Medical Model Practice + Lab	4
OTH 620	Evidence-Based Practice for Children and Youth + Lab	4
OTH 629	Level ID Fieldwork: Children and Youth Populations	1
OTH 735	Research Capstone II	2
OTH 740	Leadership and Management in Occupational Therapy Practice Settings	3
OTH 750	Occupational Therapy Practice Competencies	3
Spring Semester, Year 2		12 Credit Hours
OTH 780	Level IIA Fieldwork	12
Summer Semester, Year 2		12 Credit Hours
OTH 785	Level IIB Fieldwork	12

Total 88 Credits

Curriculum outlined is for the 2020 cohort.

The entry-level occupational therapy master's degree program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-4074 and its Web address is www.aotonline.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. Students must complete Level II fieldwork within 18 months following completion of the didactic portion of the program.

Nebraska Methodist College prohibits discrimination based on race, ethnicity, sex, color, religion, national origin, physical or mental disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation, pregnancy, gender identity, status as a U.S. Veteran, or other protected class, that adversely affects their employment or education as well as discrimination on the basis of sex in any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. The following has been designated to handle inquiries regarding NMC's non-discrimination policies: Chief Student and Institutional Success Officer at (402) 354-7259. For more information, please see NMC's Equal Opportunity/Non-Discrimination and Title IX—Sexual Misconduct policies at www.methodistcollege.edu.

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MASTER IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

PREREQUISITE COURSES AND DESCRIPTIONS

Completion of the following courses can be accomplished through enrollment (on campus or online) at an accredited university or community college. Prerequisites can be in progress when a student applies to the program; admitted students must complete all prerequisites before the program start date in August. Students must earn a grade of C- or higher in order to fulfill prerequisite courses. Please note that one course cannot be used to satisfy more than one prerequisite.

PREREQUISITE COURSE	SEMESTER HOURS	QUARTER HOURS
MATH/SCIENCE PREREQUISITES (PREFERRED M/S GPA 3.25)		
Human Anatomy with Lab Human Anatomy and Physiology may be taken as separate courses or as a combined anatomy and physiology course. If anatomy and physiology is offered as a two- or three-part sequence (i.e., A & P I and II), all courses in the sequence must be completed. Accompanying lab is required.	4*	6*
Physiology with Lab Human Anatomy and Physiology may be taken as separate courses or as a combined anatomy and physiology course. If anatomy and physiology is offered as a two- or three-part sequence (i.e., A & P I and II), all courses in the sequence must be completed. Accompanying lab is required.	4*	6*
Biology or Physical Science with Lab Any biology, chemistry, or physical science course is acceptable. Accompanying lab is required.	4*	6*
Statistics A one-semester course in general statistics is required. Any basic college-level statistics course will be acceptable. Business, psychology or biological science statistics courses are accepted.	3	4.5
Kinesiology or Biomechanics A one-semester, broad and introductory course in Kinesiology or Biomechanics is required; course must cover normal movement of the human body.	3	4.5

*If course has less than the specified number of credit hours, student will be asked to provide a syllabus to verify that the course had a lab component.

Courses continued next page

PREREQUISITE COURSE	SEMESTER HOURS	QUARTER HOURS
PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSES		
General Psychology A broad and introductory course in General Psychology is required.	3	4.5
Developmental Psychology or Lifespan Development All acceptable courses must cover the lifespan from conception through death and cover social, cognitive, emotional and physical development.	3	4.5
Abnormal Psychology A broad and introductory course in Abnormal Psychology is required.	3	4.5
Sociology/Anthropology Any course from sociology or anthropology department is acceptable.	3	4.5
Speech/Communication Course A one-semester course focused on public speaking or communication is required.	3	4.5
GENERAL COURSES		
Ethics/Theology/Philosophy (also includes religion)	3	4.5
Medical Terminology A one-semester course in Medical Terminology is required.	1	1.5

*If course has less than the specified number of credit hours, student will be asked to provide a syllabus to verify that the course had a lab component.

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FINANCIAL AID

FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

Step

1



COMPLETE THE FAFSA

online at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)

NMC Code: 009937

- 2021-2022 FAFSA opens October 1, 2020

2



GOT QUESTIONS?

Contact your NMC financial aid representative for help.

Mark Araujo

Associate Director of Financial Aid

mark.arujo@methodistcollege.edu

(402) 354-7227

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is your NBCOT pass rate?

A: NMC's NBCOT pass rate was 93% for students in the program who graduated in 2019. NBCOT exam results and student outcome data can be found [here](#).

Q: What does "hybrid program" mean?

A: NMC's MOT program is hybrid, which means that we combine on-campus and online formats for classroom learning, research assignments, lab work and fieldwork. The hybrid design of the program allows students to maximize the use of their on-campus time through the purposeful selection of course delivery method. Some courses meet face-to-face, others are fully online, and many use a blended delivery method. Students should plan to be on campus at least 2-3 days per week for hands-on labs; much of the other coursework is posted online for students to access whenever and wherever they study best. iPads will be provided with an integrative protective case and keyboard, pencil, charger and a range of software tools- including a powerful notetaking app to support your learning efforts. These iPads will be available for you to use while you are a student at NMC.

Q: Where will my fieldwork sites be located?

A: NMC has a growing number of fieldwork contracts both locally and throughout the nation. Students likely will travel for Level I and Level II fieldwork, which begins in the first semester of the program. Students have four Level I fieldwork opportunities which are a minimum of 24 hours each, and in addition, there are two Level II fieldwork opportunities at the end of the program which are 12 weeks each. Students are responsible for travel accommodations if and when they travel for fieldwork. Fieldwork sites and schedules subject to change.

Q: Can I work during the program?

A: The rigorous pace of this full-time program makes any outside work inadvisable. MOT is a full time, hybrid program that takes place partially on NMC's campus. First year students start off being on campus roughly 10 hours per week for class, Monday through Thursday, plus any fieldwork, service or research requirements outside of this. The number of hours you will spend per week dedicated to the program (studying, homework, fieldwork, labs, etc.) will be roughly the credit hour total for the semester x 3. For example, if the semester has 15 credit hours we estimate about a 45 hour/week commitment to the program.

Q: What are the prerequisite course requirements?

A: Please see our degree guide on [pages 2-3](#).

Continued next page

Q: Do my prerequisites have to be completed prior to the application deadline?

A: No. You do not need to have your prerequisites completed prior to the application deadline. You should have some math/science prerequisite courses completed because we evaluate a math and science GPA based on NMC's prerequisites. We prefer for all prerequisites to be completed by the end of the spring semester before you would start the program with us in the fall.

Q: Do you require the GRE?

A: No.

Q: Do you accept older coursework?

A: If a class exceeds five years, we do encourage you to retake the course (especially for math and science courses, as they are foundational for success in your program) because information can change or be lost during that timeframe. If you still feel knowledgeable on the content, you can sign a waiver indicating that you understand the course information and we would accept the prerequisite credits. Additionally, you would be responsible for your success moving onto upper level classes.

Q: I think my course will meet a prerequisite requirement, but I'm not sure. How can I check?

A: Please reference [pages 4-5](#) for our MOT Prerequisite Courses and Descriptions guide which details course objectives and credit hour requirements. If you have looked this over and still are not sure whether a course is a good fit, please submit the course syllabus (not course description) to your Recruitment and Admissions Coordinator. After a course is submitted for review, it can take up to two weeks for a final decision.

The best way to obtain a syllabus is to either contact your professor or the registrar's office.

Q: How much does the program cost, and what about scholarships?

A: For financial aid information and NMC's FAFSA code, see [page 8](#). For tuition and fees, as well as a reminder of additional out-of-pocket expenses that students are responsible for during the program (i.e., fieldwork uniforms, travel accommodations, etc.), please visit our [MOT website](#) and click on the "Tuition & Fees" tab. NMC does not currently offer scholarships for the program.

Q: Can I take my prerequisites at NMC?

A: Prerequisite courses are not offered at NMC to prospective MOT students at this time. You may take prerequisite coursework at any other accredited community college or 4-year college or university. We accept courses taken on campus or online.

Continued next page

Q: When will I know if I'm accepted?

A: We review all completed applications in OTCAS at the OTCAS deadline of Oct. 1, 2020. We then select qualified applicants for an interview. You should know your admissions status 3-5 weeks after interviews are done and will find out via phone call and/or letter.

Q: Won't I need a doctoral degree to practice as an Occupational Therapist?

A: In April 2019, [the decision to mandate the entry-level doctorate was reversed by the American Occupational Therapy Association](#). Occupational therapists may enter the field with either a master's degree or doctoral degree for the occupational therapists; both degree levels remain acceptable.

Q: How and when do I get started?

A: NMC's MOT program only starts once per year in August. Please visit our [program website](#) for application deadlines. We strongly suggest that you begin working on your application in OTCAS as early as possible and submit no later than 3-4 weeks before the published deadline. This will allow time for OTCAS to verify transcripts and other submitted documents. Check out our NMC blog to read more about the application process: [Top 10 Tips for a Successful OTCAS Application](#)

Though we recommend that students complete job shadowing or observation hours prior to applying, we recognize that observation opportunities are not readily available due to COVID-19.

Q: Is NMC the right fit for me?

A: Let's find out! Contact our Recruitment and Admissions Coordinator to learn more about NMC and our MOT program: (402) 354-6534 or michelle.olson@methodistcollege.com. We also host [MOT Visit Days](#) every summer as an opportunity for you to learn more about our program. We would love to see you there!

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OTCAS

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where do I apply?

A: NMC only accepts applications through [OTCAS](#). We do not have an additional internal application or fee.

Before you get started, check out our NMC blog post: [Top 10 Tips for a Successful OTCAS Application](#).

Q: Where do I send my transcripts and application materials?

A: All application materials and official transcripts need to be sent to OTCAS: [Transcript FAQs](#). NMC will not accept your official transcripts directly for the program.

Q: I'm experiencing an issue with my application—can you help?

A: To receive assistance with your OTCAS application, please contact their customer service line at (617) 612-2860 or email: otcasinfo@otcas.org.

Q: If I haven't completed a prerequisite yet, what do I indicate on the application?

A: If you have not completed a prerequisite, we will ask that you indicate the intended course number, name and institution where you will be taking the course, as well as the start date. You can leave the grade blank, and it will let us know that the course is in progress.

Q: Can you tell me the status of my application?

A: NMC does not have access to your application until it is verified. You are responsible for monitoring and ensuring the progress of your application via OTCAS.

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Q: Do you require shadowing or observation hours in the application?

A: We recognize that observation opportunities are not readily available due to COVID-19. If you are able to shadow, we recommend, but do not require you do so.

If shadowing, keep a log of observation hours for your record and then enter this information into your OTCAS application to indicate how many hours and where you shadowed. We have no required number of observation hours.

Q: When should I submit my application?

A: The OTCAS application for NMC opens mid-July, and students will have from that time until the deadline to apply.

We recommend submitting your application 3-4 weeks prior to the OTCAS deadline to ensure that the verification process does not delay the review of your application materials. Take care of items out of your control first, such as requesting your official transcripts and professional references. Transcripts must be requested from the institution and sent directly to OTCAS. This process can take a few weeks and can cause a delay in completing your application in a timely manner.

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